



Newsletter / 29 October

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Wow what an amazing couple of weeks we have had. We have welcomed two new students to our community, Ryan and Adam have joined us for the remainder of the year. They have recently come from Montpellier, France and before that Birmingham, UK. I have been impressed about how welcoming all the students have been and how easily they have fitted into our small community.

Feast Day was a wonderful celebration beginning with Mass and I was so impressed by the reverence shown by all the children. Such a good start to an uplifting day. Then we had activities which each child participated in, making triptychs of St Benedict's, bookmarks and rock art as well as learning how to play bocce. Our day concluded with a visit from Danny the Magician. What fun we had. There were some amazing tricks performed – Danny was able to change his pet pigeon to his pet rabbit with some magic – probably more amazing was that the rabbit sat quietly amidst all our laughter and noise.



Book week was a wonderful time to immerse ourselves in the new books in the library. Reading is so important as it is the foundation of all learning. Our book week parade was a wonderful way to draw that week to a close and, as it was my first book week ever, I was impressed by the wonderful costumes that each child wore – thanks to parents and caregivers for your creativity. All the students enjoyed the performance of one of the shortlisted books, *Hello Lighthouse*, and the teachers added some live action with some additional props. You can watch the video of the book being read [here](#). It is about 5 minutes in length.

This week we also had the STEM workshop using small planks of wood. This is a key part of the curriculum and focused on construction, problem solving, resilience, physics and fun. All the students enjoyed this workshop and their constructions were amazing. To see them be so respectful and appreciative of each other's construction was heartening.





Looking Forward

We will hold a Melbourne Cup sweep on Friday for the children – no cost – and there will be small prizes. They will receive a horse number on Friday as horses are not confirmed till Saturday evening.



On 11 November we will have a brief Remembrance ceremony around the flagpole at the front of the school at 10:55-11:05. This is our opportunity to remember all those who were involved in conflicts across the world. There are small items for sale from the RSL – they are available at the school office starting Wednesday 4 November.

School Assembly and other routines

We will be having a whole school assembly at the start of each Monday. Term 4 means everyone needs to wear a school hat at break and sport times so please ensure your child brings their hat to school each day. Phys Ed is scheduled each Wednesday, and Sport is each Friday. Friday Meditation will begin on 30 October.

Summer uniform

With the weather being so cool of late we have not insisted on the move to summer uniform until now. Starting next week, 4 November, we would like to see everyone in their summer uniform please.

Reflection

Our reflection this week are excerpts from Pope Francis' recent Encyclical Letter (3 October, 2020). entitled *Fratelli Tutti*. (You can read more [here](#)). Pope Francis writes of the message of his namesake, St Francis of Assisi, who enjoined his followers to accept and love each other as this is important aspect in every community. Here are some excerpts and one of the prayers that Pope Francis concludes the letter with:

1“FRATELLI TUTTI”. [1] With these words, Saint Francis of Assisi addressed his brothers and sisters and proposed to them a way of life marked by the flavour of the Gospel. Of the counsels Francis offered, I would like to select the one in which he calls for a love that transcends the barriers of geography and distance, and declares blessed all those who love their brother “as much when he is far away from him as when he is with him”. [2] In his simple and direct way, Saint Francis expressed the essence of a fraternal openness that allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person, regardless of physical proximity, regardless of where he or she was born or lives...

*8. It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women. “Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together”. [6] **Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all...***

A Prayer to the Creator

*Lord, Father of our human family,
you created all human beings equal in dignity:
pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.
Move us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.
May our hearts be open
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
and shared dreams. Amen.*

Blessings to each one of you and your families.



Ms Caroline Sheehan
Acting Principal



Please remember to bring your school hat

Diary Dates

	Term Four		
Week 4	26 October	STEM Construction Workshop	All students will join in a STEM construction activity in the Parish Hall 11:30-1:00pm
	30 October	Melbourne Cup sweep	
Week 5	2 November	School closure day	
	3 November	Melbourne Cup Day (public holiday)	
	5 November	Hat parade	Each student will decorate a hat and join in the fun of a hat parade
Week 6	11 November	Remembrance Day	Liturgy at 11:00am
Week 7	20 November	Word for Word National non-fiction festival	each class will join an appropriate online event
Week 8			
Week 9	29 November	First Sunday of Advent	
Week 10	6 December	Second Sunday of Advent	
	11 December	End Term 4 – school closes	11:00am Thanksgiving mass followed by brief assembly to conclude at 12:30pm
	13 December	Third Sunday of Advent	

Calendar event still to be confirmed:

- Sacraments – Reconciliation and Confirmation
- Swimming at PLC
- Shrek's Swamp film development, production and premiere screening
- Year 6 Graduation events
- Transition days to new schools
- Italian day
- Watch a Movie at Reading Cinemas (hopefully)

Religious Education

Sunday November 1st, All Saints

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes

Gospel Reflection

Saints are sometimes regarded as 'Catholic superheroes'. Stories of miraculous and remarkable deeds abound, though more in the vein of conversions and cures than speeding bullets and tall buildings. But to get caught up on the Saints of the stained glass windows is to overlook the vast majority of saints. You see, a saint is anybody whose soul is in heaven. The Church celebrates a certain number of Saints whose lives provide a glimpse of God for the rest of the Church. But there are many, many more saints whose glimpse of God was only ever experienced by their family, friends and those with whom they worked. The feast of ALL Saints is an opportunity to remember and reflect on the lives of those saints who've been known and loved by just a few and whose sphere of influence was such that they will never be recognised as Saints by the universal Church.



Today's gospel, the Beatitudes, from the Sermon on the Mount describes perfectly those 'lower case s' saints we celebrate on this feast day. The Beatitudes are sometimes referred to in parallel with the Ten Commandments. However, the Beatitudes are not 'rules' or 'instructions' for life as the Commandments are. They are more in line with a strategy that today we would call 'positive reinforcement'. They celebrate those who respond to God's call through particular attitudes towards life and towards others. Jesus presents them to the disciples and the crowd as images to inspire imitation. They're not hard and fast rules for life, but attitudes for life; the Be-Attitudes, so to speak. Those who live with these attitudes in this life are to be celebrated – 'Happy are you' – for they will be saints. They will be welcomed into communion with God in heaven.

Scriptural context – Kingdom Attitudes

Unlike the Ten Commandments, which describe the rules for life on earth for the ancient Jews, the Beatitudes describe the character or attitudes of people of the Kingdom of God. Like the many Kingdom parables that appear later in this gospel (esp. chapter 13), the Beatitudes present an image of what the Kingdom is like without an explicit explanation of the Kingdom. By praising and honouring the attitudes of the Kingdom, Jesus paints a picture of what life could be and should be like if we choose to live in the **Kingdom of God**.

Living the gospel – Calling on the Saints

Saints play an important role in the devotional life of many Catholic people, but it is a role that causes some confusion for other traditions. Whilst all prayer is directed to God, sometimes that prayer may be directed through one of the Saints or a Saint is called upon to pray on behalf of the petitioner. Images of people kneeling before statues of Saints has led to a misconception that Catholics pray to Saints, rather than to God through the Saint. The Litany of the Saints, with its 'Pray for us' response, calls on the Saints to intercede for us.

Have you thought? – Making Saints

Despite media reports that the Church, or the Pope, has 'made' a person a Saint, the Church is quite clear that what it does is recognise a person as a Saint, not make them a Saint. This is what happens through the process of canonisation; a person is 'formally recognised' as a Saint by the Church. We might say that it is God who makes Saints, not the Church. The Church formally recognises the saintliness of particular people partly to provide inspiration and example to others. The Church tells the stories of its Saints to keep alive their inspiration.



November 2nd is All Souls Day. The Church recognises this day as a day to commemorate those who have died. All Souls Day always follows All Saints Day.

Mary Brooks
Religious Education Leader

Learning and Teaching

Senior B News



Book Week fun!

It was fabulous to see all the Senior B students dressed as book characters for our parade last Thursday. They enjoyed the *Hello Lighthouse* incursion during the day and voted on their favourite picture book from the ones we had access to. The serial book that I am reading to them 'The Little Wave' won the Book of the Year: Younger Readers. Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers from the middle to upper primary years. Ages 8-12 years.



PLANKS workshop

'The flexibility of our PLANKS' rectangular prism shape and Green Hat Workshop's philosophy of self directed, play-based learning, provides opportunities for all abilities to participate and to challenge themselves at their own level, enabling participants to simply stack towers of impressive height or to create sophisticated cantilever bridges, 3D shapes and more.'

The PLANKS incursion on Monday for STEM (Science, Mathematics, Engineering, Technology) was also fabulous! It was great to observe the students creating collaboratively and assisting each other when towers became very tall or to help rebuild when constructions collapsed. Here are some of the constructions created by the Senior students.



What else have we been learning?

In Mathematics students have just completed a unit of work about angles and are beginning a unit about volume, capacity and mass. The students have been practising their note taking and summarising skills in writing. They watch BTN (Behind The News), take notes while watching to identify key words and main ideas and then draw all this together to write a summary about a particular segment. The Senior students are continuing the Confirmation program in Religious Education. Our Science focus is all about recognising and identifying adaptations animals and plants make to ensure survival in certain environments and what adaptations may occur due to a change in environment. Now that the students have returned to the classroom we are able to complete the Social and Emotional Learning topic of Stress Management. The next topic is 'Help Seeking'. Through the Inquiry unit 'Culture' the students continue to explore how we are affected by multicultural Australia and what migrants brought to this country that we have now adopted as part of our way of life. The final Inquiry for the year is based around 'Change' which links to our Science and Social and Emotional Learning foci. This will also include some discussion and activities around transitioning to new places.

Congratulations to Noah and Jordan who were the Senior B 'Student of the Week' recipients at assembly on Monday. Enjoy the extra long weekend and the lessening of restrictions. Continue to be safe and careful. November 1st and 2nd (Sunday and Monday) are the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls respectively. Personally, I often use these days to reflect and pray to those whom I love that have died and to my favourite saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop. I hope you find some quiet time to reflect on your own personal needs sometime over the long weekend.

*God Bless,
Ms Mary Brooks
Senior B Teacher*

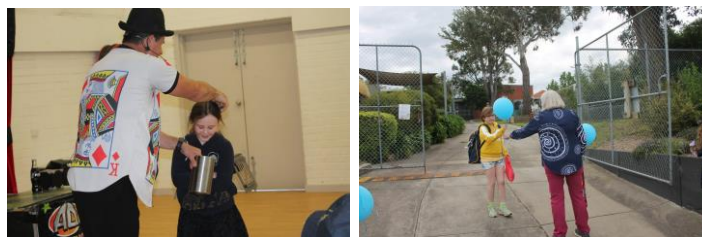
Middle School News

Welcome back to Term Four. It is so wonderful to have the children back at school, seeing their interactions with each other and the positive attitude they have towards their learning. Thank you again to our amazing parents who gave us so much support during remote learning.

During the last two weeks we have enjoyed some special events that we have celebrated together as a school community.

We came together to celebrate St Benedict's Day. We celebrated Mass together online, participated in four activities in multi-age groups, ate cake together and had a sausage sizzle (thank you Daniel) for lunch. The highlight of the day was the magician's performance. Our students were dazzled by the tricks and laughed (and groaned) at his jokes. The day was a celebration of St Benedict and our amazing community.





Our Book Week Celebration/Parade Day was enjoyed by all. Our student's dressed up in their favourite book character. During the day we enjoyed an incursion - a performance of *Hello Lighthouse* written by Sophie Blackall. This book was shortlisted for the Australian Picture Book of the Year. Thank you to Mrs Hamilton and Ms Brooks for preparing the props that were used during the online performance. It was a great day that celebrated 'all things books'.



This week we enjoyed a STEM incursion that had a focus on engineering. We learnt that if we angled our planks, our structures would be more stable. We created some amazing structures, worked collaboratively with others, witnessed spectacular collapses of structures, remained focussed for nearly two hours and thoroughly enjoyed our learning experience. Thanks for organising this experience Ms Sheehan.



In Religious Education our focus is still our Eucharist Preparation with an emphasis on the different parts of the Mass. In Science, we are learning about the life cycle of a plant, we are discussing stress and different ways/activities we can use to manage it, and in P.E. we have been practising our tennis and badminton skills.

We are going to begin a unit about fractions in Maths. In Art, we are creating hats to wear next Thursday to celebrate Oaks Day with a hat parade.

Keep looking after those sunflowers. The sunflower crown is looking great on Mrs Michael!

Kind Regards

Jane Michael and Maryann Hamilton.

Junior School News

Hello Parents,

I hope you are enjoying having your child back at school and the new freedoms announced this week. The children have been working well since returning to school and enjoying some fabulous 'special days' and incursions. The children looked great for the book week parade. I hope you were able to log in and watch the parade on-line. We also had an on-line performance that day, of one of the nominated books, *Hello Lighthouse*. The children fully engaged with it and were able to discuss and write about what they enjoyed.

On Monday we had a fantastic incursion organised called Planks. I'm sure you heard all about it over the dinner table. Our art session this week will be all about designing a hat for our Oaks Day hat parade next week. For those of you who don't understand this reference it is all related to the Spring Racing Carnival. Next Tuesday is the Melbourne Cup so the school will be closed on Monday. The children will come home with a horse number on Friday. This is called a Sweep Number. The children who pull the horse numbers of the first 3 winning horses of the Melbourne Cup will win a prize. Thursday is Oaks Day which is traditionally Ladies Day, a day of beautiful fashions including hats.

Thank you to those who have already sent photos in to support the beginning of our unit of work on Change. The baby photos are gorgeous and will be also used for a 'guess the baby' competition.

Stay well and enjoy the term.

Regards,

Deborah





L'Italiano per Tutti (Italian for everyone)

Buongiorno,

It is great to see how the children are settling back into school routines. Thank you, again, for helping with work sent home during our time of Remote Learning.

Learning a new language is fascinating, especially when we find connections with the language/s we already know. There are many of these between Italian and English and we are taking notice of these in our studies. Some examples are -

<i>italiano</i>	Italian
<i>incredibile</i>	incredible
<i>campione</i>	champion
<i>fontana</i>	fountain
<i>vulcano</i>	volcano
<i>capitano</i>	captain

These similarities make understanding a text (comprehension) easier because the children can 'guess' what the word means. They are encouraged to do this when reading any type of text.

The next step is for them to develop the skill of distinguishing between the Italian word and the English word. This will also help their spelling in both languages and their pronunciation of the Italian words in particular – if they can say and hear the differences, then they should be able to tell which is which.

Arrivederci,

Signora Smarrelli

Community News



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Community News



CLASSROOM CUISINE...SERVICE RESUMING!



MENU – TERM 4, 2020

Order ONLINE until 8.30am on the DAY LUNCH IS REQUIRED.
Please see Website 'Order Now' page for Days we deliver to your School!

LUNCH ITEM ONE

SALADS

Greek Style Salad with Feta and Olives (V, GF)
Pic(k)nic Box – Vegetarian (V, GF)
Pic(k)nic Box with Ham (GF)

SAVOURY MUFFINS

Zucchini, Pea & Mint Homemade Muffin (V)
Pumpkin & Feta Homemade Muffin (V)

SUSHI

Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (2)
Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (2)
Avocado Hand Rolls (2)
Cucumber Hand Rolls (2)
Vegetarian Hand Rolls (2)

BAKERY

Cheese and Bacon Roll
Cheese and Vegemite Scroll (w/m)
SCROLL with Ham & Cheese
Semi Dried Tomato and Olive Scroll
Topped with Only Cheese Roll

PITA PIZZA'S

Margherita Pita Pizza
Ham and Pineapple Pita Pizza
Fresh Tomato and Italian Herb Pita Pizza
Spinach and Feta Pita Pizza

SANDWICHES, ROLLS & WRAPS

Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce and Cheese Sandwich
Gluten Free Ham & Cheese Sandwich (GF)
Cucumber & Ham Sandwich (GF)
Vegemite Sandwich
Mild Salami and Salad Roll
Roast Beef, Fruit Chutney, Cheese and Lettuce Roll
Cheese and Salad Roll
Wholegrain Cheese and Tomato Sandwich
WRAP (GF) Ham and Salad
GF Vegemite & Tasty Cheese Sandwich
Chicken and Salad Roll

LUNCH ITEM TWO/THREE

FRESH FRUIT & VEG

Fresh Fruit Combo
Freshly chopped Strawberries & Grapes
Apple with Lemon Juice, Brown Sugar & Cinnamon
Freshly chopped Watermelon
Celery & Carrot Sticks with Sultanas
Chopped Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum
Whole Fruit – Banana
Lightly Steamed Corn Wheels with Broccoli
Sugar Snap Peas, Beans & Cherry Tomatoes
Edamame (Lightly Salted)
Freshly Chopped Orange Segments
Cherry Tomatoes with Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers

BAKED GOODS

Choc Chip Cookie
Finger Bun with Sprinkles
Hedgehog Slice
Choc Cup Cake (GF,DF)
Blueberry Muffin

YOGHURT

Strawberry Chobani Yoghurt
Blueberry Chobani Yoghurt
Plain Chobani Yoghurt
Passionfruit Chobani Yoghurt

DIPS & CRACKERS

Tzatziki Dip with Rice Crackers
Avocado Dip with Rice Crackers
Spring Onion Dip with Rice Crackers

POPCORN/SNACKS

Popcorn, Lightly Salted
Popcorn Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted
Lightly salted Fav'va Beans

DRINKS

Apple Juice
Orange Juice
Full Cream Milk
Nippy's Chocolate Milk
So Good Soy Milk

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www.classroomcuisine.com.au

Classroom Cuisine delivers to St. Benedict's on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.



TERM FOUR, WEEK 4 NOTICE



YEAR 7, 2022 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS

Don't get left behind.
To download an
application form for Year
7 2022, visit salesian.vic.edu.au/enrolment/apply/



YEAR 7, 2022 SPORTS ACADEMY APPLICATIONS

Year 7, 2022 Sports
Academy applications close
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visit [salesian.vic.edu.au/
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academy-program/](https://salesian.vic.edu.au/learning/enrichment-programs/sports-academy-program/)



VIRTUAL INFORMATION EVENING FOR FUTURE FAMILIES

Addressed by Principal
Mr Robert Brennan and a
junior and senior student,
our Virtual Information
Evening for Future Families
is a tailored presentation
to prospective families
providing key educational
and transition material,
including a high-level
understanding of our
values and educational
approach.

Register your attendance
for 12 November via
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WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

Families rated their
virtual information
evening experience 98%.

*"Great presentation from
all, very informative and
well presented. Especially
the students' speeches
were fantastic, nice to hear
from current students their
thoughts and opinions."*

Thurs 12 Nov



DIGITAL JOURNEYS OF YOUNG PEOPLE: EXPERT ADVICE

In our 'Digital Journeys
of Young People: Online
Safety, Behaviour and
Impacts' educational video,
University of Melbourne
Associate Professor
Shanton Chang shares his
advice on supporting our
children to find a balance
in the digital space.

To watch, visit
youtu.be/LGqw-CgwLQU



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