Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

I am currently reading through your child’s mid-year reports. It is always so rewarding to see the academic and social growth of young children in a 6 month period. The half yearly school reports will be sent home on Thursday 23rd June. The written reports form one part of the reporting process regarding your child’s strengths, areas of improvement and ways that we (staff, parents and students) can work together. Reporting is formative in its nature, and thus explores ways that the school, in partnership with the students and parents, can develop ways to improve each child’s learning.

The reporting process is an integral part of teaching and learning. Therefore reports are based on a range of assessment practices and evidence such as teacher observations, annotated student work samples, tests, portfolios, exhibitions and presentations. These practices along with the Student Report enable regular monitoring of student learning and ongoing constructive feedback, with the intention of improving student learning over time. Students are an important part of this process as the learning we wish to improve is theirs!

The Student Report should be supported by parent-teacher-child interviews and other communication; both written and verbal in conjunction with school based processes. Parent-teacher-child interviews are another form of reporting and an excellent opportunity for parents, teachers and students to meet. By asking questions and gathering more detail about the information provided on the student report, you have an opportunity to become more involved in your child’s learning and provide support where needed. Our coming interviews will be held in the first week of Term Three on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th of July.
News From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Last week I was fortunate in being able to attend the Australian Primary Principals Conference. There were many good presenters who challenged, inspired and spoke passionately about education in today’s context.

One particular lecture, however, stood out to me more than others as I could relate to it being both a parent and a school principal. Death, divorce, financial struggle, student friendships, bullying, homework, social lives and work pressures are just some of the critical/stressful times faced by families and in particular adults on a daily basis. During these times in our lives how we respond in front of our children will shape their learning. The lecturer explained that it comes down to one important thing; ‘attitude’. The only thing we can control during stressful times is our attitude. If we have a positive, cool, calm and collected demeanour that will be reflected in the children around us; if we become irrational, emotional, or angry this behaviour will also become evident in our children.

On reflection, as a dad with young children and with the many children entrusted to our care, teaching resilience in stressful times and portraying a positive attitude gives our children the best learning for the future challenges they may face.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Christmas in July Disco

Our Parents & Friends Committee have organised a disco to finish the term. The theme of the disco will be ‘Christmas in July’ and will take place in the last week of Term on Wednesday 22nd June. Our P&F will organise hot dogs for dinner and it is sure to be a fun night for everyone. A note will go home with the newsletter with more information and dinner order forms.

Lightning Premierships

Last week all Grade 3-6 children travelled to Newborough to compete in the Winter Sports Carnival. Teams competed against Newborough East, St Mary’s, South Street, Elizabeth Street and Newborough Primary School. Teams had a great day out in the windy weather and enjoyed the friendly competition and good sportsmanship. Netball, Volley Stars, Soccer and Football all were very competitive and enjoyed that winning feeling. Below are some 3/4M reflections from the day

On the 3rd of June, 2016 St Kieran’s participated in the Lightning Premierships. Some of the sports were Footy, Soccer, Volley Stars and Netball. I played Footy and it was close. We won the first game and the second but not the third. We won the fourth. After all the games all the schools got together to hear the scores. St Kieran’s came runners up which is second. All the schools played fair.

By Joel Boyes Grade 3/4 M
On Friday the 3rd of June I played football at the Racecourse. Well I will tell you about my goal. I was playing in Half Forward Flank. It was the second quarter. The ball was in the air. Someone from our team torped it and then kicked it inside the 50 metre arc. I marked the ball, and I had it in the box. I lined up for the kick and I bombed it! It went in the goals!!! I celebrated and yelled, ‘yay’!!

By Ethan Bush Grade 3/4 M

CONNECTING THE ST KIERAN’S PARISH

Year 5 Pilgrimage Mass

On Tuesday the 7th of June, Grade 5 students went to Mass at the Cathedral in Sale. Once there, we celebrated Mass together with a number of other primary schools from our Diocese. The music and singing were wonderful with the choir from St Patrick’s in Pakenham leading. Bishop Pat invited us to take a look around the Cathedral at the conclusion of Mass and challenged us to work out why the carpet has sandals depicted in it. We also had a look at the Bishop’s chair and in particular the crest at the top of it. We then had a look at the choir loft.

Caritas Australia

During the first half of the year St Kieran’s raised $674.50 for Caritas Australia. Caritas has written to the school to thank our families for our generous donations.
First Eucharist Reflections

On Sunday the Twenty Ninth of May I had my First Communion. I felt happy because I knew that I was a step closer to the example of Jesus. After the Communion we all had a morning tea with cake, party pies, biscuits and drinks. After the morning tea it was time to go home and everyone was happy. By Angelina Muirhead Grade 3/4 M

On Sunday the 29th May was my First Communion. On the day I got the bread and the wine for the first time. After the mass we had a morning tea and I ate lots of party pies. The morning tea meant coming together and sharing a meal and seeing friends. I enjoyed it! By Leigh Effenberg

Contact Us

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THANK YOU

A big thank-you to Christine Luke and Keith Williams Real Estate Moe, for the donation of old signage. We have already made use of the materials and it will come in great use for various projects around the school!