ST KIERAN’S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 2 – We nurture the faith and wellbeing of our school community, inspiring minds through the joy of learning

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**JULY**
- 27 - SOUP DAY
- 29 - SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

**AUGUST**
- 8 - COMBINED MASS WITH ST MARY’S
- 8 - P & F MEETING 3pm
- 17 - BOOK WEEK PARADE
- 15 - School Board Meeting 7.30pm
- 19 - SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
- 20 - BOGAN BINGO IN THE HALL
- 31 - FAMILY LIFE GRADE 1/2

**September**
- 7 - FAMILY LIFE GRADE 3/4
- 14 - FAMILY LIFE GRADE 5/6
- 15 - FOOTY DAY DRESS-UP
- 16 - LAST DAY OF TERM

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**Message from the Principal**

**Child Safe Schools**

The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a central and fundamental responsibility of Catholic education. Catholic schools are committed to strengthening practice for the protection of children in line with the Victorian Government child safety reforms.

The Victorian Government’s 2012–2013 Betrayal of Trust Parliamentary Inquiry found that more must be done to prevent and respond to child abuse in all organisations working with children. The Betrayal of Trust report highlighted gaps and inconsistencies in child-safe practices in organisations and recommended immediate steps for the safety of children through the introduction of a comprehensive set of child-safe standards.

On 26 November 2015, the Victorian Parliament passed the Child Wellbeing and Safety Amendment (Child Safe Standards) Bill 2015 (Vic.) to introduce the Victorian Child-Safe Standards into law.

Preventing and responding to child abuse requires a whole of community response to bring about broad cultural change. To this end, the Victorian Child Safe Standards apply to a broad range of organisations that provide services for children, including schools, churches, sporting clubs and youth services.

For our school, these child-safe standards represent holistic education and organisational preventative measures in ensuring the safety of children and young people.

Ministerial Order No. 870 prescribes specifically what schools must do in order to comply with these Child Safe Standards. This Order makes clear the deliberate actions that schools must take to ensure the care, wellbeing and protection of children and young people. There are seven minimum child-safe standards with an overarching principle of inclusion which applies to each of the Standards.

The intention of these new Child-Safe Standards is to make organisations, including schools, consider and address child-abuse situations and risks in an integrated and proactive fashion. Our staff have commenced working towards implementing these standards and associated policies. Soon a number of policies/documents will be loaded onto our school website to ensure our school community is involved in creating a child safe culture at St Kieran’s.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

INSIGHT SRC ANNUALISED SURVEYS

Each year, schools across the Diocese are required to survey students, parents and staff as part of our annual reporting requirements. The purpose of the survey is to provide valuable information that can be used in planning and accountability processes for 2017 and beyond. It also enables a focus for reflection, evaluation and improvement and informs the development of the school’s Annual School Improvement Plans. This year’s survey will be open online from Tuesday, 19th July until Friday, 29th July. Staff and students from Years 3-6 will complete the survey over the coming week. To ensure this balance of views, it is critical that parents have the opportunity to also have their say. Forty parents will be randomly selected to participate in the surveys. Selected families can either complete the survey online or via a paper copy. The survey should only take about 30 minutes. A copy of the survey information and material will be sent home with the eldest child of the family selected today with the newsletter. Completed paper surveys are to be returned to the Office sealed in the “Confidential” envelope provided by Thursday, 28th July. If you are selected and choose not to participate please inform us and send the survey back so we can allocate it to another family.

Soup Day Next Wednesday

Our Parents & Friends will be organising a soup day next Wednesday 27th July for the students. The cost of the pumpkin soup and roll will be $2. Money to be sent on the day in an envelope with child’s name and grade.

Advance Notice Regarding Book Week Dress-up and Breakfast 2016

Some people have requested more information in relation to dress up day for Book Week. This will take place on Wednesday 17th August and will begin with a breakfast at 8am. All money raised from the breakfast will go towards our library. This year the theme is - Australia: Story Country. Children will be asked to come dressed as famous Australian book characters, or characters from books by Australian Authors, or famous Australian people who have become part of our Australian Story.

Some ideas could be Blinky Bill, Dingo from Wombat Stew, some of the girls from the Australian Girl Series such as Alice, legendary heroes such as Ned Kelly, Sunday Chutney by Aaron Blabey, characters from Possum Magic, the Green Sheep, characters from poetry such as Mulga Bill etc.. You could make head bands, masks or accessories rather than have a total dress up. Please remember that you do not need to purchase a costume. Costumes can be put together from bits and pieces with a little creativity. It is all about having fun together and enjoying books. Please don’t make this a stressful time for families.
School Closure Day Next Friday 29th July

A reminder to all families that next Friday is a school closure day. The St Kieran’s staff will be attending a Religious Education Reflection Day at Lumen Christi in Churchill with the other Catholic schools in the Valley.

Worm farms

Thank you to Peter Collins, Sustainability Education Officer at Latrobe City, for donating two worm farms to our school community. They will provide an excellent source of free organic fertilizer for our school garden. They are located behind the garden shed. We will be using our fruit scraps from Monday munchies and Playgroup as food for the worm farms. Ollie and Alexia are pictured feeding the worms food scraps and cardboard.

Thanks to Opal Pizza

A big thank-you to Rick and Tammie Prestipino from Opal Pizza for donating pizza bases for the 5/6s end of term pizza making. The children had a great day, learning science facts about cooking and measurement. The yummy pizzas were enjoyed by students and staff.
Bogan Bingo Fundraiser

Please start to organise your tables and friends for Bogan Bingo held on Saturday 20th August. Our Parents & Friends have worked so hard to organise auction items, spinning wheels, coin toss and prizes for the big night. Please refer to the advertisement below for more details and phone numbers.