



St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

Term 2, 10th June 2020. No 10

Parish Priest: Fr Florentino (Boy) Galdo

School Principal: Mr Bob Brown

Deputy Principal: Mrs Carmela D'Amato

RE Leader: Mrs Helen Howden

School Email: principal@smfawknernth.catholic.edu.au

School Phone: 0393595423

Dear Students, Parents, Staff and Friends of St Matthew's,

Hello Students Parents, Staff and Friends of St Matthew's,

It is great to have everybody, Prep to Grade Six, back at school. It was great to see the Prep to Year 2 students return to school on the 26th May, making that 9 weeks since they had been at school and it is now eleven weeks since the Year Three, Four, Five and Six students ventured off early on their holidays. It seems like an eternity since you were all last here and I am sure it feels like that for many students, parents and staff.

Once again, my sincere thanks to everyone for your patience, perseverance and hard work throughout your time at home throughout the Pandemic. I don't think anyone will ever forget the year 2020. Remember to keep those hands washed constantly, keep social distancing in place, stay at home if you can and follow the latest regulations from the government. Hopefully we have all passed through the worst of it and come out the other side better for it. Do the right thing and remain positive and I believe we will get through this.

SO WELCOME BACK ONE AND ALL!!!

CLEANING AND SANITISING:

Each evening after school, Claudette and Charlie our two Cleaners clean all the toilets, Junior, Senior (upstairs and downstairs), Disabled and Staff with disinfectant and sanitiser, sanitise all light switches and on and around all door handles, tables, chairs, benches and vacuum all carpets and mop with disinfectant all vinyl areas in readiness for the next day.

The following procedures will continue to be implemented at St Matthew's:

High-touch surfaces, such as entry and exit points, shared surfaces including chairs and desks, benchtops, hand sanitising units will continue to be cleaned at regular intervals throughout the day with a detergent solution or detergent/disinfectant wipes.

- Children and staff to sanitise hands regularly
- Children and staff to wash their hands before eating and after eating.
- Eating spaces to be wiped at least twice during the day and at the end of the day using disinfectant wipes
- All drinking taps are out of bounds (Yellow Caps to be taped on)
- Students bring their own Drink bottles to school everyday. These need to be thoroughly washed at home every night.
- Tables and chairs to be sprayed and left to be dried overnight at the end of every day
- Outside door handles to be sprayed and left to be dried overnight at the end of every day
- Students to sanitise hands before each specialist class
- Students to sanitise hands before entering the classroom
- Students to sanitise between all hands on activities

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WHILE WE HAVE BEEN AWAY?

During the time of Distance Learning, you may not know that there were still some students coming to school. Most weeks there were 30 students in attendance at school across the week because their parents were essential care workers, some full time and others part time. On behalf of our school community can we sincerely thank these parents for their services. We were so glad we could help you so they could help us.

While I have been working from home, Mrs Carmela D'Amato with Natalie and Almoza in the office and our School Leadership Team (Mrs Howden, Mrs Carfi, Mrs White, Mrs Torres and Mr Yacoub) led the school so that it ran like clockwork even though there may have been challenges at times. The classroom teachers, together with the LSO's volunteered further additional time to come into school to supervise the students at school to make sure they received the assistance they needed. I am so grateful and proud to be the Principal of such a committed and dedicated staff. Congratulations Ladies and Gentlemen!

Even though our Canteen has been closed our Canteen Manager, Anna El Khoury cleaned and disinfected the interior of the whole school from top to toe ably assisted by our Grounds & Maintenance Man Bruno Fornaro. Now Bruno, when he hasn't been helping Anna has been a bit busy:

- Repairing and repainting all walls of both the Ground floor and First floor of the Senior building.
- Sanding and repainting all the metal green park benches in the Junior yard.
- Installing swivel lids on all yard rubbish bins so the crows and magpies can't pull food or wrappers out.
- Sanding and re-staining the first of 7 picnic tables in front of the canteen and then placing in each of the 4 corners a small flag representing the 28 nationalities within our school. As each table is completed 4 new flags will be added. Keep an eye out for the next completed table.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS:

You may notice that new Shade Sails have replaced the old stained and torn ones in front of the canteen. The Parents and Friends Association fundraising through the second half of this year will go towards paying for this.

The Junior Boy's toilets have been deep cleaned, the electronic flushing sensors have been repaired and a wind-driven ceiling fan is yet to be installed. This will certainly continue to assist it in remaining a lot fresher.

STILL TO COME:

While we have been away the artificial turf on our oval, soccer field, running track, basketball/netball court, quiet area and around our adventure playgrounds has been overrun by moss and weeds.

Three things have attributed to this:

1. No students constantly running and trampling on these areas eleven weeks,
2. Copious amounts of rain each week,
3. Plenty of sunshine. Apparently many schools throughout Melbourne have experienced exactly the same thing.

During the holidays all these areas will have to be sprayed and some four to six weeks later they will come back to rejuvenate the turf. We look forward to these areas looking pristine again.

CANTEEN & ADVENTURE PLAYGROUNDS:

The Canteen is currently closed for the remainder of this term and the Adventure Playgrounds are out of bounds for the remainder of this term. This may seem over the top to some parents and yes it may seem we are being overly cautious, but the safety and health of your children, our students, is priority number one for us while your children are in our care. I would rather err on the side of caution than regret we didn't do enough to protect your children later on.

Hopefully if all progresses well over the next thirteen days at school leading up to the holidays, plus the two weeks of holidays we may be able to reverse these decisions. We will keep you posted via our Skoolbag App.

The Prep to Two students have settled back in well over the past two weeks so over the next thirteen days may the Year Three to Six students do the same so that we can all take a well deserved holiday

break for surviving Term two.

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Jessica and Fabian Mazzone on the birth of their baby girl, Skylar. Both Baby and mum are doing well.

Take care everyone, it is wonderful to have you all back safe and sound.

Bob Brown - Principal.

What's been happening?



Our canteen tables before....



Our canteen tables after....

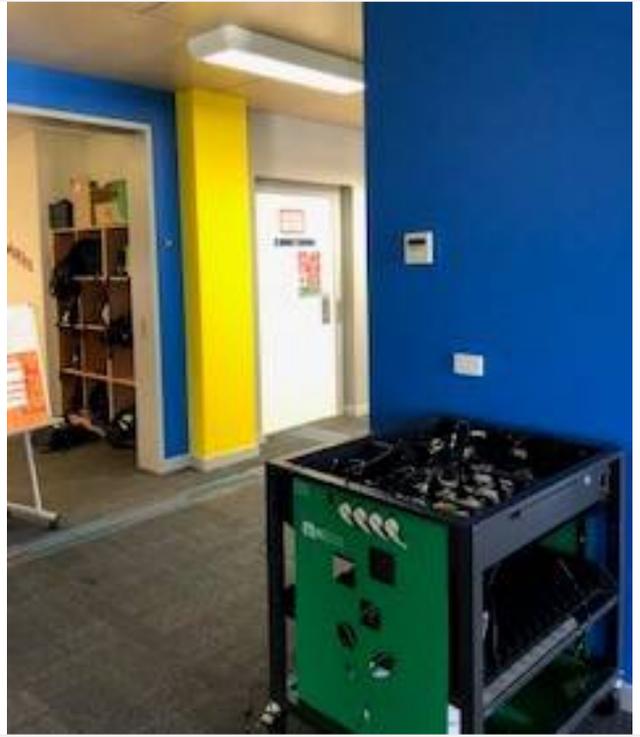


Welcome Back Everyone!



Freshly painted seats!

Innovative bin lids!



Freshly painted walls!



Freshly painted walls!



Freshly painted walls!





Freshly painted walls!



Welcome Back Everyone!



Welcome Back Everyone!



New Shade Cloths!



A Prayer for our world

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.”

At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with the families of those who are sick. As they worry defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Footy Day



ST MATHEW'S

Parents and Friends Association

FOOTY DAY

Thursday 11th June

Come Dressed In your favourite AFL footy teams.

GOLD COIN DONATION



All money raised will go towards new shades sails for the school

Please note: There will be no footy food available on the day, therefore you will need to bring your lunch on the day.



[Download the SkoolBag App](#)

The SkoolBag app is the easiest way keep up with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all school communications.

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed

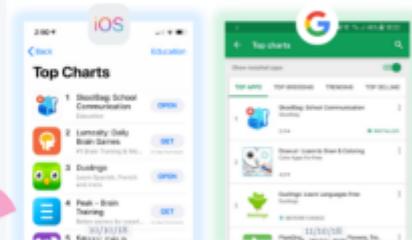


SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

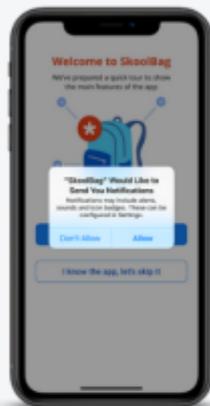
3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



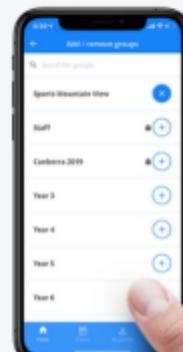
4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.





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