



St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

Term 3, 8th September 2020. No 18

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

A BIG HELLO to all our Students, Parents and Friends of St Matthew's,

We as a Staff at St Matthew's were expecting, as you probably were too, that we (Students & Staff) would all return hopefully together in Term 4, but unfortunately it is not to be. It is what it is and as we have done already we will work to the best of our abilities to work through this. I know we all are looking forward to the school holidays so that we can all (Students, Parents and Staff) have a break from Distance Learning. There is less than two weeks to go so hang in there. As I said at an Assembly a few weeks ago, "Let's not worry about the things we can't do, but enjoy the things we can."

Please find below the latest correspondence and update from the Executive Director of Catholic Education Melbourne. It is a summary of what the Premier Daniel Andrews stated on Sunday:

"The Victorian Government has released its plan for easing coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions. It includes the following decisions about school operations. All schools will continue to provide remote and flexible learning for the remainder of Term 3, except specialist schools in rural and regional Victoria, consistent with current settings. These changes remain subject to the advice of Victoria's Chief Health Officer:

First week of Term 4, 5-9 October

Remote and flexible learning will continue for all students, except in specialist schools in rural and regional Victoria.

Onsite supervision for children of permitted workers and vulnerable students will continue to be provided consistent with existing guidelines.

Schools in Metropolitan Melbourne from 12 October – return to onsite learning

Students in Prep to Grade 2 return to full-time onsite schooling. The existing remote learning program will not continue for these year levels. Remote and flexible learning will continue for all students in Grade 3 to Year 10, other than for children of permitted workers and vulnerable students.

Dates to be confirmed, subject to health advice

*All students from Grade 3 to Year 10 in Metropolitan Melbourne will continue with remote and flexible learning. **A date for the return of these year levels to face-to-face learning will be subject to further health advice.** During the staged return, Outside School Hours Care will be available to students attending for on-site supervision and progressively for the relevant year levels returning to on-site learning.*

Term 4 onsite arrangements – school staff

School staff will be required to attend school at times when they are delivering onsite learning or supervision, including the allocation of additional classes as required consistent with the current agreement. At all other times, they should continue to work remotely where possible.

Further guidance for schools

The following will be provided to schools later this week:

- communication materials for parents and carers, including advice on the benefit for almost all students in remaining with their age-peer group*
- guidance on priorities for Term 4, including changes to administrative tasks normally undertaken in Term 4 and reporting student learning attainment.*

This next stage of school operations both contributes to the continuing efforts to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and maximises the learning of our students. It requires again the flexibility, adaptability and resilience that have been demonstrated so well by our schools, which has been recognised by parents and carers in our Catholic school communities. Further consultation is also occurring with the Department of Education and Training on Semester 2 assessment and reporting expectations.

I look forward to providing you with the materials referenced above as soon as possible in order to provide clarity about the term ahead, and to indicate the support that will be available.”

Yours sincerely

Jim Miles

Executive Director

Catholic Education Melbourne

PREP CULTURAL CUISINE:

Wow! How good were our little Prep Chefs with all the cultural cuisine last week. Such a variety and so accomplished in presenting and explaining. Well done Kids you did a marvellous job and many thanks to the Parents for all their assistance in helping with the presentation and filming. I know Miss Lyons and Miss Piscitelli were blown away by all your great presentations. Congratulations to everyone on your Great Family Efforts!!!! Also a big thank you to Mrs Howden (our Religious Education and Learning Diversity Leader) for putting this video all together. It took a mountain of work. Well done Mrs Howden!!!

FATHERS' DAY PHOTOS:

How about the wonderful Visual Introduction, how good was that? Once again, many thanks to Mrs Howden for using all her expertise in putting together such a beautiful video for Fathers' day. This year's video was the largest it has ever been in my seven years at St Matthew's. Congratulations and thank you to all our students and their Dads who participated through their photos. They were certainly lovely photos. Some of the staff commented that they found the photos quite an emotional experience. So once again to everyone concerned, Well Done!!!!

I hope all our Dads had a great day on Sunday and that your children really showed how much they really love you, not just by their gifts but also by their actions.

Once again please keep safe, well, enjoy the company of your loved ones and don't forget to Keep Smiling. We will get through this and please take care everyone!

Kind Regards

Bob Brown

Principal



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

PRAYER FOR OUR DADS

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad
Amen.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

ST MATTHEW'S FEAST DAY

Dear Families,

Next Friday 18th September we will be celebrating the feast day of our patron saint, St Matthew. During the week the students will be learning about the life of St Matthew. Join us for a day of online celebration next Friday. The movie will show you all the great things that have been planned for this day!

Mrs Howden

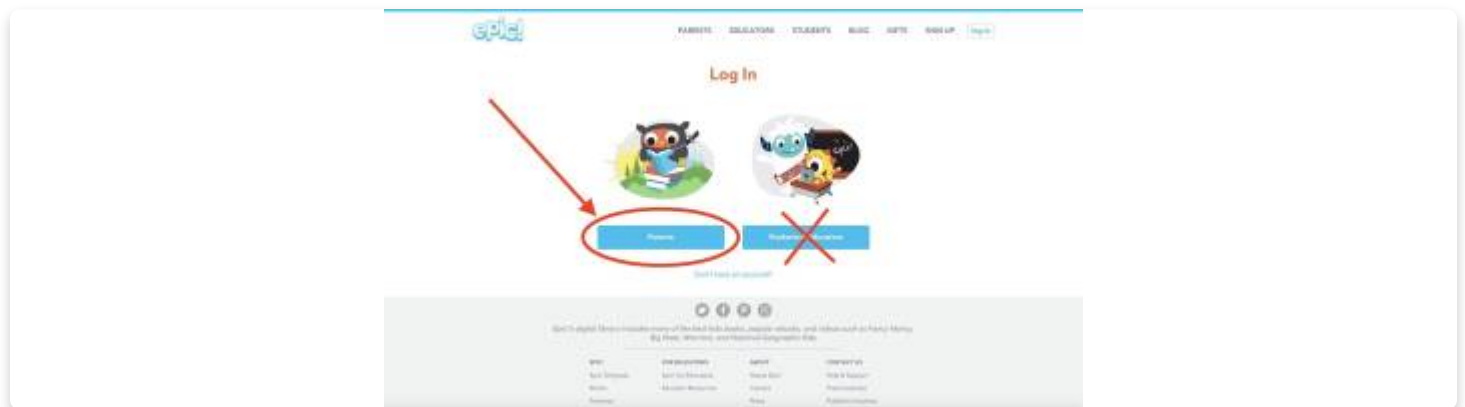
RE Leader

CELEBRATING ST MATTHEW'S FEAST DAY MOVIE!

<https://vimeo.com/455708439/bd1eaaa117>

Have a look at all the great things that will be happening on Friday 18th September to help celebrate St Matthew's feast Day! Thanks to Mrs Howden for our movie preview!

LITERACY NEWS



EPIC BOOKS

Most teachers at St Matthew have allowed their students access to Epic School during school hours—Monday through Friday, 7 am to 4 pm —using just the class code. There is free access to thousands of high-quality books loved by students grade 6 and under, including grade-specific, high-interest topics across languages and genres.

However, EPIC has changed its availability for students outside of school hours.

Students now have access to Epic Free after 4 pm, Monday through Friday, and on weekends for up to **2 hours every week**. The time limit resets every Monday so that students can enjoy after-school reading every week and fulfil their daily 20-minute reading goals. The selection of books is limited and does not include audiobooks and learning videos.

There is no option for a school subscription to extend this availability and parents will need to pay a subscription for an extended use of EPIC for more than 2 hours weekly. If your children are already using Remote Student Access, there will be no change to how they log in. Parents should visit www.getepic.com/sign-in and enter the same parent email and password that was used to set up their Parent account. It is important to recognize that you will have access to the complete reading history, but a smaller library of books than you did with Remote Student Access.



SUNSHINE ONLINE

username: **stmatthews** password: **reading**

The school pays for an annual subscription to Sunshine Online. You do not need to pay or subscribe. Sunshine Online is a digital literacy program. It has been designed to help children aged 4 to 10+ learn to read and develop the skills needed for continuing reading independence and success. The program also uses maths stories to develop skills and understandings in early numeracy.

Sunshine Online features over 650 ebooks (most of them animated) along with 1000 fun, interactive activities and games. Students are engaged and don't even know they are learning. They are just having fun! Each student is able to work at their own pace and at an appropriate level with success and achievement being the motivation for more!

The teachers may suggest that your children focus on a particular easy or instructional level and complete the follow-up activities after each ebook.



MRS PENGELLY'S VIRTUAL LIBRARY

A place where you can sit back and enjoy listening to stories! Mrs Pengelly is regularly adding links and stories to her library, so make sure you keep checking. If there is a story attached to a book, you will see a hand displayed..... otherwise it's coming soon!

[Mrs Pengelly's Virtual Library LINK](#)



WUSHKA

In the coming weeks and Term 4, some teachers may be trialling a new cloud-based school digital reading program called Wushka.

Teachers can set Readers for homework and students can continue to read after school 24/7.

The reading boxes are carefully levelled and have highlighted text and narration, useful for guided reading. A student's classroom teacher selects appropriate reading levels, reading groups and school readers for both school and home, ensuring students progress at the appropriate pace and build strong reading skills. The extensive selection of over 600 fiction and non-fiction levelled readers are stored in Wushka's coloured digital reading boxes. Every levelled reader is supported by an online comprehension quiz and printable teacher support material including lesson plans and assessment and progress tracking. Teachers can easily manage and track reading groups for at school, and at-home reading.

[WUSHKA LINK](#)

Well Being



R U OK? Day

Thursday 10th September is R U OK? Day. It's time to reach out to others and ask the question, R U OK? I don't think there is more of an appropriate time than now.

Song: [TOGETHER IT'S OK!](#)



ARE U OK? POWERPOINT

Please view this power point that explains the importance of checking in with each other.

[Download](#)

Wellness Wednesday

Don't forget about taking some time out each day without any devices. Make Wednesday afternoon a Wellness Wednesday! Have a look at the attached photo for some great ideas!

This Wellness Wednesday you might also like to do an activity based on THREE LITTLE ROCKS. The 'Three Little Rocks' is a strategy that helps us to achieve a few things on those days that we really don't feel like doing anything. They come from an article titled " How to handle a bad day". See the attached power point that has the article included as well as some great ideas for setting our own little rocks. .

[Download](#)

Wellbeing Calendar for September

September 2020

Theme of the Month:
Growth Mindset

and emotional
MAKE SOCIAL ^ LEARNING STICK **TODAY**

Help Your Child Build a Growth
Mindset One Day at a Time

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 (C) MakeSocialLearningStick.com		1 Focus on the process, not the outcome.	2 Praise your child for their effort.	3 Teach your child that mistakes are part of learning.	4 Talk about a mistake you learned from.	5 Ask your child how it felt to see the outcome of hard work.
6 Instead of saying "Good job", say, "You worked so hard on that!"	7 Model trying something new today.	8 Talk about something new you learned today.	9 Instead of saying "You are so smart," say, "You have great ideas!"	10 Tell your child that you believe in them.	11 Ask your child to share their opinion or ideas for something you are working on.	12 Talk about the joy of learning something new.
13 Encourage your child to be happy for other's accomplishments.	14 Start a family "idea jar."	15 Teach your child about the brain and how it works.	16 Say "I see how hard you are trying."	17 Encourage collaboration and making a plan together.	18 Talk to your child about what a strategy is and how they can help.	19 Practice calming strategies for when things get harder/stressful.
20 Teach and model positive self-talk such as "I can do this."	21 Set goals and break them into smaller chunks together.	22 Try a new cooking recipe with your child.	23 Brainstorm with your child to come up with a new game.	24 Tell your child a story of how you overcame something.	25 Read stories about characters trying hard at something.	26 Ask your child how to turn a negative situation into a positive.
27 Look up inventions that were born out of a mistake.	28 Brainstorm a new invention together.	29 Keep a journal/record of cool things learned each day.	30 Help your child notice what gets in their way.			

VISUAL ARTS

Great Works of Art!

Visual Arts

Congratulations to all the Students who continue to participate in Visual Arts Online Distant Learning.
Thank you for being so creative!

This term the students are experimenting with natural materials and ingredients discovering how Science and Art can go hand in hand. Keep up the great work!

Grade 1

Enjoy viewing some of the beautiful artwork created by the Grade 1 students. The students were busy exploring the features of natural leaves to create a beautiful butterfly.





Book Club

[Download](#)

Community News



Lorne St Kindergarten Enrolments

If you have a younger child who is ready to attend Kinder in 2021, Lorne St Kindergarten are taking enrolments. Please see the attached flyer for details.

[Download](#)

Secondary School Enrolment Flyers

Please find attached flyers from various schools regarding enrolments for 2021 and 2022.



Penola Catholic College

[Download](#)



BR. PETER COLE SCHOLARSHIP (PARADE COLLEGE – PRESTON)

The Br. Peter Cole Scholarship was created to honour a great man and to acknowledge his connection to the Preston area. Through the generosity of the College Foundation, we are pleased to offer a limited number of academic scholarships into the Altior Gifted and talented program at our Preston Campus, a reward and acknowledgement of the boys who have achieved exceptional academic outcomes in Year 5. Applicants must have a confirmed enrolment in Year 7 Preston for the applicable year.

[Download](#)



Pascoe Vale Girls College

[Download](#)



Mercy Catholic College

[Download](#)



Simonds College

[Download](#)

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ONLINE WEEKEND

If you are spending time together, but feel the distance between you ...

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND A WEEKEND IMPROVING YOUR COMMUNICATION IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

This VIRTUAL Weekend gives couples the chance to sleep in their own beds and check-in on kids or animals during meal times.

Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing!

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Couples from regional areas may find this option ideal.

Next weekend is on 9-11th October 2020.

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

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

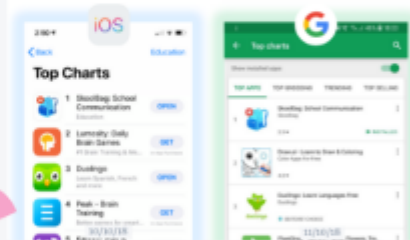


SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

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.

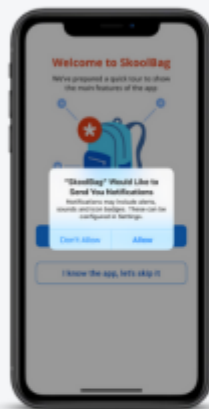
3. Add your School

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



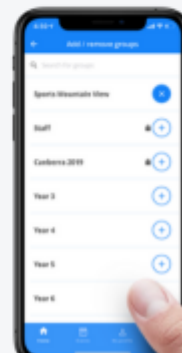
4. Allow Notifications

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.





St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

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