



St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

Term 4, 21st October 2020. No 21

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, WARM WELCOME BACK to all our students, parents and members of our Parish School community,

It was very obvious that on Monday of last week, 12th October that there were many happy students returning to school at St Matthew's. As I stood by the front doors and greeted them as they came through the front gates it was like it was the first day of school in February. I have never seen so many happy, smiling faces as they were talking to siblings or some friends from their grade levels. As I said "Hi, Welcome back", they either smiled even further or said "Hi, you too Mr Brown," or both. One student even said, "You are finally back Mr Brown."

I noticed that those parents I did see at the front gates looked extremely happy too and very relieved that their children were back at school. If I thought the students and parents were happy you should have seen the teachers, Learning Support Officers and our Administration Staff. They couldn't wipe the smiles off their faces. They missed their students and one another as well. Your children, their students had been at home for 15 weeks, if you count both lots of holidays. That is a first that we certainly do not want to ever experience ever again.

So please abide by the restrictions when dropping off and picking up your children. Please keep the entrances clear and wait on the crosses, an extra number have been painted, that are spaced 1.5 metres

entrances clear and wait on the crosses, an extra number have been painted, that are spaced 1.5 metres apart. Parents also please make sure you have a mask on and are wearing it properly, covering both your nose and mouth. Together let's keep St Matthew's PS and all our students, parents and staff safe.

WE ONCE AGAIN ASK: ARE YOU MOVING?

We now know of a couple of families that are moving to live in other suburbs some distance away and their children will be attending a school around the corner from where they live. If you are leaving St Matthew's could you please let us know as soon as possible via email or a phone call to school as we are in the process of finalising Grades for 2021. As was stated two weeks ago some grades are full and we have had some enrolment inquiries regarding these levels so we need to know who is staying and who will be leaving so that we can finalise all grade levels for next year.

BOOK WEEK – SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

In case you missed what Mrs D'Amato sent home on our Skoolbag App this is what went home yesterday:

Hooray! It's Book Week and our Scholastic Book Fair has arrived. There are so many exciting new books on the shelves just waiting to be looked at and purchased. Each class will have the opportunity to look at the books at the Book Fair and will have the chance to fill out a WISH LIST. Once they bring the wish list home, you can order the books online and then return the wish list to school with the receipt number on it. Please DO NOT send any money to school. Have a quick look at the short video that explains the wish list. Later this afternoon we will share the first of our 'snuggle up and read' books. You might like to get cosy on the couch and listen to a story from the Book Fair. We can't wait to celebrate Dress Up day on Thursday. Parents, we promise to take lots of photos and share them on Skoolbag app. Please click on the link below to find out how to order your children's Book Week books

<https://vimeo.com/470067981/ccbde89312>

Governance, RFI (Request For Information) & ICON Administration package

The Archdioceses of Melbourne, Sandhurst, Ballarat & Gippsland, Catholic Education Melbourne and Catholic Schools (Primary & Secondary) throughout these Archdioceses of are all undergoing a large amount of change at the moment and throughout the coming year 2021.

Governance & RFI are two initiatives of the Archbishop of Melbourne the Most Reverend Peter Comensoli. You may not know this, but Victoria currently is the only state in Australia where the Parish Priest is in charge of the school. Even though I am the Principal and in charge of the school, he actually is in charge of me, which means he is in charge of the school. When Governance is changed and commences on 1st January, 2021 Father Boy will be in charge of the Spirituality of our school. Under the direction of the Archbishop via the Archdiocesan Board of Management via Catholic Education Melbourne I will be as Principal still in charge of running the school. In Father Boy's defence he has always let me run the school. As long as he has been kept well informed he has been happy for the Leadership Team and myself to continue to run the school in a professional manner and to a high standard. So really for St Matthew's nothing will change within the school, but the structure of the hierarchy outside the Parish and school will. This has come about as a result of the Royal Commission and also the Archdiocese of Melbourne and Catholic Education needs to become a Corporation so that

we receive Federal and State funding.

RFI (Request For Information) is a process, our Bursar Natalie Moreira and myself are currently working through with Catholic Education Melbourne for the Archdiocese where there are 95 categories which we have to take into account for both St Matthew's Parish and St Matthew's Primary School. Most are applicable, some are not. This is very time consuming and I am so glad that we had all documentation archived officially in 2014.

ICON (Integrated Catholic Online Network) is a new administration package being introduced periodically to all schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Our Administration Team – Natalie Moreira, Almoza Chahoud and Lina Fieschi along with both Carmela D'Amato and myself are all currently having training, during school time and after hours, to become familiar with this program. This transition is currently very in depth and very time consuming, so please be patient if all of us are not accessible at times. It will, when fully operational, hopefully make all our administration procedures far more accessible and efficient for us all.

Have a great week and hopefully once the wet weather predicted for the next few days has subsided we can experience some more great Spring weather. If you barrack for the Tigers or Cats, may the best team win. Take care everyone.

Kind Regards

Bob Brown

Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday 23rd October: Grand Final Day public holiday. No school

Monday 2nd November: Report Writing Day. No school

Tuesday 3rd November: Melbourne Cup Day. No school

Wednesday 16th December: Last day for Students



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus,

We ask for Your help as we begin this final term.

Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.

Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this term brings.

Open our students' hearts and minds to their friends and their teachers.

Give them a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with their studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help them to be attentive to their teachers and let them experience Your presence with their friends.

Jesus, inspire us all to do our very best for the remainder of this year.

Amen



LEARNING AND TEACHING

LEARNING FOCUS FOR TERM 4

This term, the focus for learning in our classrooms is mainly focusing on revision of Literacy and Numeracy skills. Alongside that our year levels will be unpacking some big questions also.

Preps: Staying Alive

Understandings:

Why does the weather change in each season?

What do living things need to stay alive?

Do all animals live in the same place?

Year 1: How can I be a self manager?

Understandings:

- I can take care of my belongings
- I can get myself ready for learning
- I can organise my belongings
- I can be independent
- I can set a goal

Year 2: How can I be a collaborative learner? Many hands makes light work

Understandings:

- We can work with others on shared goals
- We can be part of a constructive team
- We can listen to each other
- We can understand how our behaviours affect others

Year 3: How can I be a good researcher?

Understandings:

I can formulate questions and locate and use a wide range of sources

I can locate and use a wide range of information to investigate a problem

I can think critically about the information I choose to help with my problem

<p>others.</p>	<p>I can acknowledge my sources.</p>
<p>Year 4: Whose story is it?</p> <p>Understandings:</p> <p>What was life like for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?</p> <p>Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?</p> <p>Why did Europeans settle in Australia?</p> <p>What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?</p>	<p>Year 5: How and Why has History Shaped our Present?</p> <p>Understandings:</p> <p>How did significant events that shaped the Australian colonies affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and migrants?</p> <p>How did significant development and events influence the Australian colonies?</p> <p>How do historical sources help us to understand how and why history has shaped our present?</p>
<p>Year 6: What is my role and responsibility as a citizen?</p> <p>Understandings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is 'democracy'? • What are the key values of Australian democracy (for example, freedom of election and being elected; freedom of assembly and political participation; freedom of speech, expression and religious belief; rule of law; other basic human rights) • How can we (students) apply democratic values in familiar contexts • How does the electoral process work? 	<p>Many year levels have booked or are booking various incursions to support the learning that is occurring across year levels. So far the grade preps have two incursions booked with Zoos Australia to help them with their inquiry.</p>

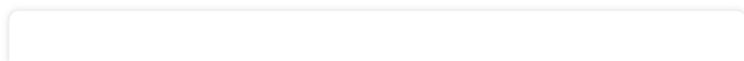
Mrs D'Amato

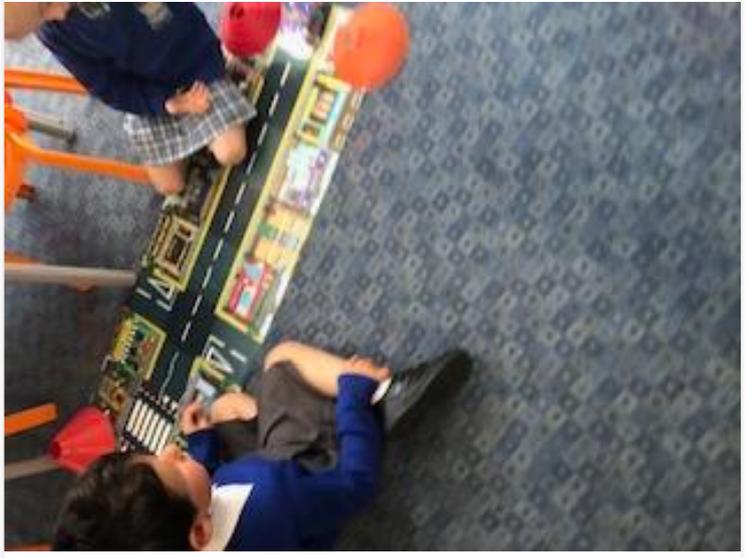
Deputy Principal/Learning and Teaching Leader

MATHEMATICS

PREPS AND BLUEBOTS!

This week in Mathematics the prep students explored maps and directions using our Bluebot robots. They used the everyday language of location and direction, such as 'between', 'near', 'next to', 'forwards', 'towards' and were able to guide the Bluebots around an obstacle path.











GRADE 2 NEWS

The grade 2 students have written thank you letters for all the essential workers at John Fawkner Hospital, Royal Melbourne Hospital and Broadmeadows Police Station. We have chosen these three establishments as we are connected to them through our student and parent community.



Grade 2 Book Week Activity

Here's a sneak peek at a book week activity that the grade 2 students are working on. We can't wait to show all the activities that the classes are taking part in in next weeks newsletter!

"In Year 2 we created our own Curios Creatures for Book Week." 2IW

Well Being

October Wellbeing Calendar

The one thing we all need to be doing daily whether in the midst of a pandemic or not is...**CHECK-INS!**

In order for us to work on emotional regulation for ourselves and our children, we need to become more aware of how we are feeling. Daily check-ins are a perfect way to do that.

Check in with yourself each morning and see how you are feeling. Rested? Anxious? Excited? Make sure to give yourself compassion and care throughout the day. Can you go on a walk, read, connect with a friend, take a nap, do something specifically for YOU today?

Check in with your child each day and ask them how they are feeling. Ask them what they are looking forward to or worried about. Ask about their highs and lows of the day or something that went well or not so well. Use a 5-point scale to identify their feelings with 5 being the best ever and 1 being the worst.

Once you identify how they are feeling, ask them if they might want to learn a new strategy for the times when things are hard or they are sad or disappointed.

Identifying how a child feels and modelling this yourself is a great way to build awareness, emotional IQ, and connection, which are the most important things for protecting our children right now. For daily tips, check out this month's Calendar.....

October Wellbeing Calendar

October 2020

and emotional

MAKE SOCIAL ^ LEARNING STICK **TODAY**

Theme of the Month:
Emotions

Simple activities to help your child become aware of emotions and how to manage them

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 <p>(C) MakeSocialLearningStick.com</p>		1 Put photos of emotions on the refrigerator to refer to.	2 Talk about your feelings with your child.	3 Check in & ask your child how they are feeling.
4 Help your child rate how big their feelings are... small, medium or big?	5 Help your child understand emotions by making a collage.	6 At night, talk about the highs and lows of the day.	7 Make a list of things that bring happiness.	8 Make a list of things that bring sadness.	9 Introduce a new emotion word today.	10 Pick one emotion to notice and talk about today.
11 Read a book & talk about how the characters feel.	12 Teach how to look at faces & bodies to identify emotions.	13 Talk about the emotions of characters in movies.	14 Act out different emotions & have your child guess the emotion.	15 Role play how to manage uncomfortable feelings.	16 Make a book of photos of things that bring your child joy.	17 Validate your child's feelings.
18 Model how <i>you</i> manage emotions.	19 Encourage your child to say kind things to themselves.	20 Teach your child how to do a body scan.	21 Help your child become aware of sensations in the body.	22 Be an emotion detective by identifying emotions in others.	23 Help your child identify emotions in themselves.	24 Talk about emotions related to Halloween.
25 Pick what emotion they want to draw or carve on their pumpkin.	26 Teach your child a new breathing strategy.	27 Discover places in the house that bring comfort and calmness.	28 Identify things that trigger uncomfortable feelings.	29 Talk about how to manage uncomfortable feelings.	30 Ask your child "What went well today?"	31 Let your child know that all feelings are okay.



Guess The teacher Competition!

How did you all go with the Guess the teacher competition? Remember to email your entry forms to Mrs Annie Torres : anniet@smfawknernth.catholic.edu.au OR bring them to school on Monday 12th October. we have attached the photos again with the template and a list of teacher's names to help you out.

GOOD LUCK!



Guess the teacher Photos

[Download](#)



Names

[Download](#)



Guess the teacher template

[Download](#)

A background image of a library bookshelf with various books of different colors and sizes.

LIBRARY NEWS



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](#)

Returning Library Books

Last term, the students had the opportunity to borrow some library books to take home during Distance Learning. Can ALL library books please be returned on Monday.

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

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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

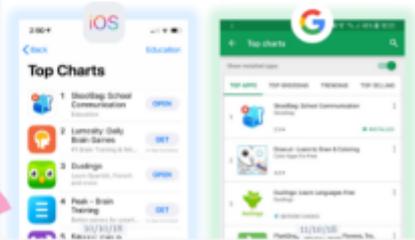
SkoolBag

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.

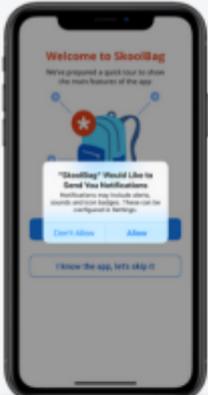
3. Add your School

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



4. Allow Notifications

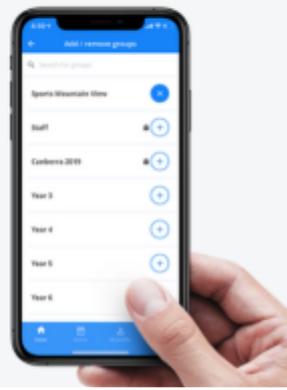
Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

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

SkoolBag 



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