



30.04.20

From the Principal

Mother's Day

As I sit to write this week's Newsletter I am very conscious that next Sunday is Mother's Day here in Australia. This year it happens to fall in the middle of the Coronavirus and so it will be a very different Mother's Day. Mother's Day also happens to fall in the month of May, a time when the Catholic Church focuses on Mary the Mother of God.

Mother's Day dates back to the times of the ancient Greeks, when Rhea, the mother of the gods, was honoured with a special festival. In the seventeenth century England celebrated 'Mothering Sunday' on the fourth Sunday in Lent.

Over the centuries Mother's Day has evolved with the purpose of honouring mums around the world. In May 1914 President Woodrow Wilson made the official proclamation that Mother's Day would be a national holiday in the United States, to be celebrated annually on the second Sunday in May. Mother's Day is still celebrated around the world although at various times during the year. In Australia we continue to recognise the second Sunday in May as a special day for our mums.

As Christians we have a devotion to Mary, as she is a model we can all understand, but more importantly she is a model for us in our everyday life. She was a woman of simplicity who accepted God's will and was prepared to abandon her own selfishness and place herself at the disposal of God.

When I look back on my own childhood I remember the many sacrifices my mother made for me. She was always good at making sure we didn't get carried away with ourselves and that we maintained a focus on family and friends. Sunday will certainly be very different this year in the De Tullio house as we won't be able to get together, but I am

Important Dates

Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)

Monday 8 June

Last day of Term 2

Friday 3 July



sure we will find a way to say thanks, and even if it might be through a glass door, mum will know she is loved.

To all of our mums and grandmothers at Star of the Sea I wish you all a very special day on Sunday. It is not difficult to look around our school and see the great work you do in so many areas. In classrooms, LAP, Parents and Friends, Canteen, Library, Uniform Shop and sports coaching; we are indeed fortunate to have your support and hard work! I hope you are all spoiled this weekend and that you have an opportunity to relax and enjoy your family at home.

Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder that Parent/Teacher interviews will begin next week. Due to COVID-19 instead of face to face interviews, teachers will be contacting you by phone. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held over Weeks 2 and 3. All parents will have received a link to the website and booked a time. Interviews are always an important time to catch up on learning goals and to make plans and set targets for the rest of the year.

Please be ready and available on time for your interview.

Stella Maris Building

How wonderful was it to see the faces of the children as they entered the new Stella Maris Building and classrooms. The reactions were priceless and made the wait worthwhile. Thank you to the staff who worked incredibly hard on Monday to move eight classrooms and be set up ready for day one. A magnificent effort!

We can't wait to show you around when parents are allowed back in the school.

We hope to take possession of the ground floor Music Room, Multi-Purpose Room and courts in two weeks' time.

Enjoy the weekend ahead and stay safe.

Joe De Tullio

Recent News

12.05.20

Star of the Sea Mother and Friend



Loving, devoted and caring mother of Lockie Martin (Year 5P) and Peter and James Martin.

On behalf of the Star of the Sea School Community we pass on our prayers and condolences to Nigel Martin, the boys and Maria's family at the sad passing of Maria. Maria bravely and tenaciously fought cancer for quite some time but sadly lost her battle on Monday morning.

We pray that God will give Nigel, Lockie, Peter and James the strength to endure such a loss and we know that Maria will always watch over them with her loving care.

May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace and may God's perpetual light always shine on Maria.

Amen

12.05.20

Riley's Anzac Day fundraiser

It was wonderful to see the nation supporting ANZAC Day on Saturday albeit very differently this year. There were moving stories of street memorials and online tributes. I have heard many stories of Star of the Sea students who have a proud reputation of supporting the local Henley Beach RSL ANZAC service.

This is one worth sharing. Riley Wakely-Young from Year 2BR held an ANZAC Day fundraiser on Saturday. She raised \$234.15 for the Semaphore and Port Adelaide RSL Club by holding a bake sale. She invited neighbours and some of her friends to drop by (social distancing of course!) via some flyers and posters in her street, to buy ANZAC biscuits and cupcakes.

Chloe Reid dropped by and donated a batch of cookies to sell. April Daniels and Lexi Perry also came to support Riley.

The girls had so much support, everyone they invited came by, some donating up to \$20 each for a few bickies. Riley shared a picture of the stall with the RSL Club and received a call from the Club President on Sunday. He has invited Riley for dinner when the RSL reopens so she can then present her donation to the club.

The donation will cover 3 months of internet for the club, and this will support local veterans with their government affairs.

What a heart-warming story of kind actions and a reflection of the amazing little humans being taught the value of service to others at Star of the Sea!



12.05.20

From the Aprim



Star of the Sea School has been full of joy and smiles this week, even if a few mums had tears in their eyes as their children skipped into school. It has also been exciting catching

up with our friends and families who are still home. However, things are different, and I hope that you are faring well at this time.

Vinnies has reached out to us as the food bunker at our church is EMPTY. There are many people in need, some who have never found themselves in this situation before. That must be very daunting indeed. So over the next couple of weeks we will join with our Parish to make hampers to acknowledge Catholic Education Week and 'Love in a Bag.' I know that I could share some items from my pantry that might be useful to others, although my home made self-raising flour was not a success.

If you have Project Compassion Boxes or Small Change for Big Change bottles please send them back to the front office. Do not worry if you have misplaced yours or it only has a small amount; every thought counts.

"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of mothers."

St Therese. Happy Mother's Day next week,

Stella Foley

APRIM

14.05.20

Sports Update

Welcome back to a very quiet Term 2 with regard to Sport. At this point in time we are still unsure of what sporting programs will take place this term. Refunds will be made as we become informed of what is happening. Should there be refunds for your child's sport, I will inform families by email how this will occur. Please do not contact the office for refunds at this time, as the policy is still the same, once registered there are no refunds. However, in this unprecedented situation, all refunds will occur once we receive official notification from the particular sporting organisations.

SPORT DATES FOR Term 1, 2020

SACPSSA Swimming Carnival – Reschedule date TBA

Metro SAPSASA Swimming Carnival –Reschedule date TBA

Star of the Sea School Sports Day – Reschedule TBA

Term 2, 2020

SACPSSA Netball Carnival - TBC

These are the dates that have been set so far so mark them in your diaries!

Please note Athletics carnivals will be held in Terms 3 & 4.

Kristen Victory

Sports Coordinator / Teacher

COVID-19 Kids – what if?



This week I received the following words of wisdom from a friend and thought it worth sharing with you. The words are from a School Principal. I can't love it enough. I hope you enjoy the message.

When people say kids are going to be 'behind' I say, behind what?? Not each other- they're all in the same boat. Only 'behind' the age expectations of a curriculum that currently has limited context due to these extraordinary circumstances. They are ahead on so many other more important fronts I say.

What if instead of "behind" this group of kids is advanced because of this?

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, and they love to express themselves in writing.

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own backyard and sitting near a window in the quiet?

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation is the one to learn to cook, organise their rooms, do their laundry, and keep a well-run home?

What if they learn to stretch a dollar and to live with less?

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home?

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers, health professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, cleaners, aged care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered at home?

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life, who has a fine sense of empathy and care and concern for fellow humans.

What if he or she truly learns what really matters in all this...