

# ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

[www.stjorbost.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjorbost.catholic.edu.au)

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Principal: Mrs Marie Dodson  
Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen

Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> 2020

*"Where Learning and Friendship Grow"*

Dear Families

Many thanks for working with us to plan for our new stint of remote learning. The teachers are working long and hard to make sure that the children are supported in their learning without asking too much of parents. We understand how difficult it is to balance home learning with everything else that needs to be done. We will touch base regularly to check that you are coping and know what to do. Don't forget that it is our job to teach the children. We ask that you supervise and let us know if there are any difficulties. Please email or ring us if you have any questions, concerns or need a debrief!

This Saturday is the feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. In 2010 Mary MacKillop became Australia's first saint. She could have been speaking to us in our current circumstances when she said:

*'Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let love guide you in all your life.'*

St Mary MacKillop knew what it was to bear troubles joyfully. An industrious and educated young woman, she began her teaching in her teenage years to support her family, even opening schools in her early 20s. She carried her love of teaching and serving the poor throughout her life. She was a founder of the Sisters of St Joseph, the order of sisters who were the first teachers at our school.

As we face struggles in our lives, may we remember St Mary MacKillop's unwavering courage and let love be our guide.

To maximise learning for everyone, could you please make sure that your children focus during their online learning times. The sessions are not long so if the children could stay in front of their devices, with their cameras switched on, listen to their teachers and join in the conversations in turn it would be a great help to everyone.

Have a wonderful weekend

Marie

## Invitation for Parents

**To:** Live on-line event

**Presented by:** Dr Adam Fraser

**Topic:** How parents can help their children be more resilient and have a functional relationship with struggle and failure

**When:** 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Title:** Striving Schools for Parents and Community LIVE

**More Information:** Ask any of our classroom teachers.

Remember to mark the date and time on your calendar You will receive an exclusive event link on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

## Dates to Remember

*Breakfast Program offered daily before school between 8.30 – 8.45am*

Tues 18<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Dr Adam Fraser-Parent Session

*Calm – Confident – Curious – Caring – Creative*

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## COUNSELLING OPPORTUNITIES

It seems that we are all coping with one thing after another.

Therese Kearney, Catholic Care, rang to say how disappointed she is not to be able to travel to Orbost to catch up with us all. She is still available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for counselling either by phone or in Zoom conferences. Just give her a call on 0400 783 342 or book an appointment by calling 1800 522 076. This is a free service. Please take advantage of it.

## INVITATION



Catholic School Parents Victoria, invite you to complete the following Remote Learning Family Survey. The survey is designed specifically for parents/carers to provide feedback on your experiences during remote learning at home during Term 2, 2020.

Your valued feedback will provide Catholic School Parents Victoria and the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Sale with information to form future discussions and sharing of parent perspectives with key decision makers.

Your feedback is valuable to inform us of the impact on student learning and wellbeing as well as the strengthening of relationships and learning between home and school.

Click on the link to complete the 10-minute survey Wednesday 12 August 2020:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSPVRemoteLearningFamilies>



### Prayer

Loving God, often in our lives we feel as if we have battled against the wind and the waves and we feel weary to our bones. May Jesus come to us across the waters of our fears and doubts, and filled with his Spirit, may we continue to believe even in the midst of the most difficult situations. We ask this in Jesus' name confident that you will hear us..

## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S DAY



Celebrations were moved forward due to return to remote learning.

Students and staff acknowledged the Indigenous people before they engaged in activities that focused on Indigenous culture, including dancing, face painting and track making. There was a buzz in the air. We were delighted to welcome Dominic Preston back to our school, just in time to celebrate his culture with us.

Many thanks to the staff who managed to rearrange their programs so that the kids could have such a great day together before returning to remote learning.

Congratulations to the children on their participation and demonstrated appreciation of our Indigenous families and their culture.





