

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

www.stjorbost.catholic.edu.au

4 - 8 Raymond Street
PO Box 314, Orbst VIC 3888
Phone: 5154 1289 Mobile: 0428 032 636
Email: principal@stjorbost.catholic.edu.au



Principal: Mrs Marie Dodson
Parish Priest: Fr Michael Willemsen

Friday December 4th, 2020

"Where Learning and Friendship Grow"

Dear Families

Given all the challenges we have faced together, I can't believe how quickly this year has gone!

The children only have 8 more days of school for the year! They are still very busy and working well but we are making sure there is more than the usual amount of fun being had as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. I can't wait to hear the Christmas radio play that the senior children have written and the whole school is working on!

By the end of next week your child should have brought home all of their work and belongings. The only things they will need at school are their hats, drink bottles and pencil cases. Hopefully, students will be able to bring their reports home on Monday 14th December to allow time for discussion with teachers if you have any questions.

The last three days of term will be our most exciting. See details in this Newsletter.

We are excited that Father Michael will be able to join us and celebrate Mass for graduation. The recent decision to relax the rules has enabled this to happen. We are grateful for Father's commitment, leadership and flexibility and look forward to celebrating Mass together at last.

Please take a little time out to think about, and perhaps say a prayer for, all those who are suffering in any way at the moment. I have heard many stories of people with health issues, personally or for family members or friends. It has been a tough year, one that is taking a toll on so many. I pray for God's blessings on each and every one of you as you prepare for Christmas and see this year out.

I apologise for not being able to have a family get-together this year. Our family tea, and the children's performances, at the end of the year are always a highlight. I hope that by the beginning of 2021 we will be able to return to our usual schedule of having parent helpers in the school and social gatherings for our community.

Kind regards

Marie

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Monday 14th December: Excursion to the movies, lunch at Lions Park and games at Eastern Beach in Lakes Entrance (as long as Covid restrictions still allow and there are not other people there!) Please check the permission note to make sure that children have everything they need for the day.

Tuesday 15th December: Final Mandarin and PE lessons for the year AND special Christmas craft activities

Wednesday 16th December: Graduation Mass and Presentation in St Colman's Church at 9.30am and Transition to 2021 for Year 1-5 students

All students will finish for the Year at 3.15pm



Dates to Remember

Mon 7 th	11am Hands up Change the Story
Mon 14 th	9.15am Excursion to the Movies & Beach – Lakes Entrance

Calm – Confident – Curious – Caring – Creative

Summer Festival of Community Art Exhibition

Next week classes will walk to the Exhibition Centre to view the Art Section only (not the Photography Section) of this exhibition. Critical art appreciation is one facet of the students' curriculum. It is always good to see what other artists are creating.

They will walk directly from school to the Exhibition Centre, view the works and return to school. Each group will be accompanied by a teacher and Learning Support Officer.

Please contact the school on 5154 1289 if you do not want your child to participate in this excursion. Arrangements will then be made for them to work with another group while their classmates are offsite



GRADUATION ARRANGEMENTS

- Parents of Year 6 students will receive an invitation. Please let us know if you are coming as soon as possible so that we can make sure we are within Covid guidelines.
- All students and staff will attend.
- We also expect the parishioners who go to Mass every Wednesday will be in attendance.
- Other parents can ring the office and leave their names and contact numbers if they would like to attend. We will check numbers, talk to Father Michael and let you know if the church is able to accommodate you safely.
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, graduate students will return to the playground to say their farewells to the younger students. Parents will be provided with morning tea (venue still to be confirmed).
- Graduates will join their parents at morning tea and a special morning tea will be provided at school for all the other children.

Please remember, adults will need to wear masks and maintain social distance.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY INTENSIVE SWIM PROGRAM

2021- Morning Classes

Cost – 5 lessons for \$55 – Book Online, (you will be contacted regarding lesson times)

One week program. One group lesson each day.

Incentive for swimming in this program are:

- Having a lesson each day for a week enhances confidence and ability in swimming.
- Lessons will be same time each day.
- Child/children will be grouped into age/level ability.
- During swimming lessons, teachers work on numerous safety skills alongside general technique of strokes.
- Program is Swim and Survive program.

Enrol online:

Find a form

Recreation Centres

Swim Lesson Enrolment Form-Orbost

eastgippsland.vic.gov.au

Financial Hardship - 2021

Financial Hardship Application Forms for the 2021 school year are now available from the general office, reminder that they are to be **returned to the school office asap**. If you are not a Health Care Card holder but are facing financial hardship please see Marie to discuss fee payment options.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Past applications will roll over from 2020. Anyone who is now eligible (holder of a current HCC) may apply. Please see Julie in the office for an application form.

PRAYER



Loving God, you call out to us in the wilderness of our lives that we straighten our minds and hearts to live by your love. Give us your Spirit to guide us into the ways of Jesus that we may know in our lives his joy and his consolation. We ask this in his name confident that you will hear us.

East Gippsland Shire Summer Reading Club



East Gippsland Shire is pleased to announce that the Summer Reading Club is once again taking place at East Gippsland Shire Library these summer holidays.

At East Gippsland Shire Library, Summer Reading Club activities will run from 1 December 2020 to 31 January 2021.

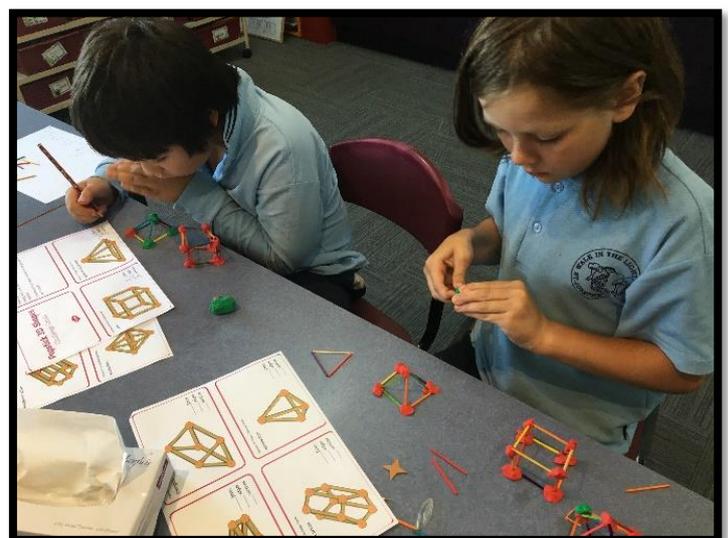
Registration is FREE! When participants register at our library they will receive a reading log which allows them to collect small prizes as they read.

To encourage participation in the Summer Reading Club, I invite teachers and library staff to promote this program to students and parents as they enquire about holiday activities. Information about the Summer Reading Club could also be included in your school newsletter.

Copies of the reading log / registration form is available from school office.

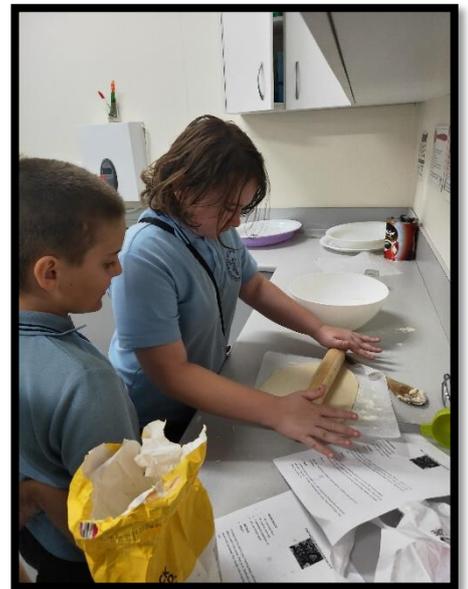
For more information on this year's Summer Reading Club please contact Jane Wembridge on 5152 4225 or by email to [janew@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:j anew@egipps.vic.gov.au)

Colman Math Class





Experimenting with rocks to make paint



Making Christmas Decorations with Salt Dough

