

St Augustine's Parish School

NEWSLETTER No. 13 – Term 3 Week 7, 2020

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ABSENTEE PHONE: 8182 7915 OR ABSENTEE SMS: 0407 664 190 STUDENT BANKING every Wednesday PLAYGROUP every Monday, Tuesday & Friday (9.00am – 11.00am) OCCASIONAL CARE every Wednesday (9.00am – 11.30am)



























	DIARY DATES
i 4/9	PUPIL FREE DAY
i 25/9	TERM 3 ENDS (12.30PM)

HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Families and Friends of St Augustine's Parish School.

Term 3 has proven to be one of our busiest as we have learned to adjust to the ever-changing landscape of a COVID world. While we in South Australia have been very fortunate to have avoided the 'second wave' the potential for all that to change very rapidly is never far from our consciousness. For this reason we have been very careful and conservative about access to the school and all but Reception and Playgroup parents are being asked to remain outside the school fence for the time being. We were able to conduct very successful Learning Conversations with families coming onto the site albeit in small numbers and using physical distancing and COVID hygiene practices on all occasions.

On Thursday 20 August we hosted the Salisbury Parish Team day focussing on the topic of Ecological Conversion. We were challenged to consider the importance and significance of 'conversion of heart' in our care for God's creation. Ecological conversion is more than environmentally sustainable actions. Pope Francis's encyclical "Laudato Si" calls us to recognise our moral responsibility for those most affected by our lack of sustainable practices.

St Augustine's Day (28 August) was somewhat different to our usual way of celebrating. Michael Mangan, liturgical composer of world renown, helped us celebrate our special day with two concerts. He included some of our most favourite songs of his: "Hearts On Fire" and "Holy Spirit Rock". We were immensely grateful and blessed to have Michael travel from Queensland. Normally St Augustine's Day is our fundraiser for Catholic Charities. All children were invited to make a gold coin donation for the Michael Mangan concert.

Wakakirri will be filmed at the Shedley Theatre in Week 9 and a USB will be created and shared with the families of children taking part in the performance.

Our teachers are working hard on their STEM projects for the STEM Expo in Week 8. The theme of the 2020 Expo is "Deep Blue: Innovations for the future of our Oceans. Catherine Morrisson and Jayme-Lee Sonneman are busy constructing the space for all of the exhibits.

We enjoy a strong relationship with UniSA and currently have five preservice teachers in the classroom and a group who are involved in the PE lab. All preservice teachers are doing well and teachers are very impressed by their professionalism and knowledge. The children have really enjoyed having them in the classrooms.

Four boys from Year 5 have submitted exhibits to the Oliphant Science Awards. Three boys created online games looking at Ecology and the fourth entered a photographic exhibit. Thank you to Dave Cottrell who supported the boys in this work and at the competition sites.

The small room at the end of Siena Hall has been converted into an Allied Health room and the dentist will be the first group to use this space. The location gives easy access to Administration and keeps the services well away from general learning areas for privacy and confidentiality. Special thank you to Sonya Oldfield for her interior design and curtain making.

As this very busy term nears its end, all the children and staff are looking forward to a very well deserved break.

Blessings and Peace, Georgia Dennis & Kerri Dent.

AUSSIE BREAD TAGS FOR WHEELCHAIRS

Ms Pahl and her class are collecting Bread Tags for Wheelchairs and would love your help.

They can be any colour. Please send them to Ms Pahl's class.

Thank you so much for your help. For more information please follow the link:

https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/





Fees to reduce across all Catholic Diocesan Primary Schools

The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools has announced that it will make Catholic education more affordable by lowering the school fees of every Catholic diocesan primary school in 2021 under its *Making Catholic Education More Affordable* initiative.

The exact level of fee reduction in each diocesan primary school will vary from school to school to take into account their circumstances and the needs of their families.

Our school is working with Catholic Education South Australia to finalise our fees for 2021 and these will be released in the coming weeks.

There is more information about the initiative in the letter sent from the Chair of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools to families this week and on the Catholic Education South Australia website at <u>cesa.catholic.edu.au/fee-reductions</u>.



Throughout Semester 1 and 2, the Year 6 cohort has been doing 'Foodie Fridays', where they have been trying a variety of fruits and vegetables to expand their understanding of flavours and texture, and learning about sustainable food practices.

We have been tending to our community garden, preparing the garden beds, sowing seeds, planting seedlings and harvesting fresh produce for cooking.

As a group, we have made pumpkin soup, cookies, sweet and savoury tarts, tomato and basil bruschetta, and fresh herb salad. It has been fantastic to see our Year 6's challenging and expanding their food choices throughout the year.

Simone Dajeman, Nick Skewes, Bernadette Zerafa - Year 6 Teachers

