

St Augustine's Parish School

NEWSLETTER No. 14 – Term 3 Week 8, 2019

Like us on

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HIGHLIGHTS

Busy Term

The highlight for this week has been our STEM Expo. Siena Hall has been re-imagined into a STEM extravaganza featuring interactive exhibits from Reception to Year 6 and including combined Playgroup and OSHC. The late night was Wednesday night and families were invited to come and participate in the myriad STEM activities that the children and their teachers had put together. These occasions do not happen at the click of fingers and we sincerely thank Catherine Morrisson and Jayme-Lee Sonneman for all of their after hours and weekend work constructing the space and working with all of the classes to achieve this magnificent result.

Pupil Free Day

On Monday 2 September the staff engaged in their annual Staff Reflection Day lead by Mary Camilleri. It was a thought provoking, and affirming day immersing ourselves deeper into the Catholic Identity of our school. One of our Strategic Directions is that we are 'Identifiably Catholic'. Everything we do is viewed through the lens of what it is to be a Catholic place. Many of those markers are obvious – Religious Education, prayer, going to the Church; but many others are not so obvious to everyone – our welcome; the value placed on the dignity of each individual, and our unofficial motto: "Be kind, be kind, be kind".

Fun Fair

Our \$2 Fun Fair was postponed from St Augustine's Day, Wednesday 28 August to Friday 30 August. The sun was out and it was a fantastic day. The money raised goes to support 'Catholic Charities', a local Adelaide charity supporting many good works helping people in need. <u>http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/charity-and-giving/catholic-charities/about-catholic-charities-</u> We raised \$1093.85.

Father's Day

Also on Friday 30 August we celebrated Father's Day with our annual breakfast followed by a beautiful Liturgy. The staff gathered at around 7.00am to begin cooking a massive breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausages, cheese toasties and toast. You could smell the BBQ as you drove down Commercial Road and this encouraged many Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, Stepdads and Foster Dads to come through the gates with their children and into the Hall for breakfast. While the temperature outside was very cold, the warmth of the Hall and the food meant that we fed well over 300 hungry people. It was a wonderful morning and the Hall was packed with families having a picnic breakfast and staff running backwards and forwards replenishing the food. We thank all of the staff and families for making this Father's Day celebration a memorable one for all the best reasons.

Father's Day Liturgy

The Liturgy that followed was hosted by the Year 1s and included a storybook, and photos of fathers of the Year 1 students as well as the Gospel Reading of the Prodigal Son. It was wonderful to see the number of Fathers who stayed and participated in the Liturgy showing that the sense of participation and community is very strong. Thank you to the Year 1 team for their hard work in preparing for the Liturgy.

Conference

Also in Week 7 Kerri and Georgia attended the Australian Primary Principals' Association National Conference in Adelaide. The keynote speakers were experts in the fields of leadership, motivation, positive education and strategic planning. It was very affirming to hear that many of the activities that we engage in at St Augustine's were promoted as state of the art actions for successful schools. We heard from Glen Cooper from Coopers Brewery about strategic planning and the power of effective advertising. It was interesting to hear how the David and Goliath attempted take-over of Coopers was averted by strategic thinking, loyalty and visionary proactivity. Jenny Williams, a psychologist and past teacher, talked about the power of positive education in achieving positive outcomes for individuals and groups. While Dan Haesler challenged us to consider the context of individuals and groups in our decision making and working and connecting with people in teams. To say that we were exhausted by the end of the Conference was an understatement but everyone agreed that it was a rich and challenging opportunity that gave us much to think about and bring back to our schools.

Sad News

The school community was deeply saddened to hear that Chantel Newell, mother of two girls in our school, lost her long and courageous battle with Cystic Fibrosis. The school has been supporting the girls and the family as a whole throughout this very difficult time. We will continue to be there to support the girls and their Dad as well as other relatives who attend this school. We pray that Chantel finds peace in God's care and her daughters feel God's love and presence during this time.

Blessings and Peace, Georgia Dennis, Kerri Dent & Phillis Johnston











AMAZE YOURSELF! LEARN TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT!

Learning Through Music provides fun and educational instrumental music lessons which are during school hours at the school, once a week.

We are looking at providing drum lessons in Term 4, we also have places available for guitar.

To join in Term 4, complete an enrolment form available at the Front Office and return to Learning Through Music via post or email or return to the Front Office

Phone the office on 0401 398 120 or email info@ltmusic.com.au for more information.



	CAN		
Term 3 Week 9: 16 September - 20 September		Term 3 Week 10: 23 September - 27 September	
Monday	Rosie & Toni	Monday	Rosie & Toni
Tuesday	Judith	Tuesday	Judith
Wednesday	Inger & Sally	Wednesday	Inger & Sally
Thursday	Alex & Estrella	Thursday	Alex & Estrella
Friday	Estrella & Sally	Friday	Estrella & Sally





ST AUGUSTINE'S MULTICULTURAL SEWING GROUP starting TERM 4

People from multicultural backgrounds will be coming together in Term 4 to learn how to sew, practice English and make new friends.

To get our group started, we are looking for donations of the following items for sewing and craft activities please. We've already received a few donated sewing machines!

- Fabric, ribbon, buttons, lace curtains (to make produce bags)
- Scissors, pins, needles, crocheting hooks, knitting needles
- Cardboard and coloured paper

Thank you

Margaret Hayman Community Hub Leader

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

Volunteers are an important part of our school community and assist in enriching and extending children's' learning opportunities.

There are new laws for organisations in South Australia where people work and engage with children.

Some of these changes which commenced on July 1 2019 are:

- <u>Clearance Validity Period</u> Working with Children Checks (WWCC) will be valid for 5 years
- <u>Under 18 year old applicants</u> Exemptions no longer apply to all Under 18s. Only under 14s will be exempt from requiring a WWCC
- <u>Lapsed Clearances no longer apply</u> Applicants who do not have a current clearance will not be permitted to volunteer
- <u>Over 80 year old volunteers</u> Over 80 year olds will need a Working with Children Check to volunteer

Please contact the Front Office should you have any questions regarding the changes to volunteering at St Augustine's.