



St Theresa's School Albion



Newsletter, August 22nd 2020



Hello Everyone,

It's been a while between newsletters but now we're back and we hope that you take some time to explore the newsletter with your family, especially in these times when we are unable to gather at school. The stories and articles we are sharing are helpful and the children's home learning work is creative and inspiring. It's also a great way of catching up on school news. I think this photo sums up our lives at the moment....everything is upside down and a little confusing....but we keep going, we do our best, we have a laugh and most of all, we're grateful that our community is well and working hard for us.

We're all in this together!

Parent Meeting Wednesday Night 26th August from 6pm-7pm



Last week, 15 of our parents joined Marie and Greg in a Google Meet to discuss how everyone was feeling about COVID and the return to remote learning. Equally important was the discussion around the ways that we can continue to improve this mode of learning for all and we were also looking for feedback regarding the format of our recent parent/teacher interviews. The insights we gained from the Meet will be the heart of staff meeting discussions going forward.

But don't worry if you missed out....we are holding another Google Meet this Wednesday evening from 6pm-7pm...so please join us! meet.google.com/kdu-wedh-mon

Best Bee Award.

Even though we are remote learning this term, we have decided to continue with the Best Bee Award. Plenty of children have been doing an outstanding job with their learning so the winner of the Term 3 Best Bee Award will be announced in the next newsletter! It might be you!!!

*For parents doing remote learning:
"Parents: What we are being asked to do is not humanly possible. There is a reason we are either a working parent, a stay-at-home parent or a part-time working parent. Working, parenting and teaching are three different jobs that cannot be done at the same time. It's not hard because you are doing it wrong, it's hard because it's too much. Do the best you can." (Emily W King)*



A Message From Our School Captains : Finn & Steph

Hello everyone, it is your School Captain, Steph.

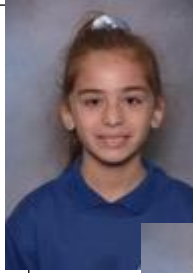
I hope you are all doing well. During remote learning. I have been going for walks with my family and dog.

I have also been sketching, keeping in touch with my cousins by facetimeing them and cooking with my mum.

Keep positive and stay safe, we will get through this.

Hope to see you all soon!

-Steph.



Hi everyone, It's Finn, your School Captain,

I hope all is well at home with your family. It's been tough staying at home, not going anywhere and not being able to see all your friends and family, but we've done it before and will beat it again.

If you're getting bored at home there are things I've been doing like playing board games with your family, going for a walk around a local park and playing sporty games, like I've been playing basketball.

Okay, stay safe and have fun.

Bye

NEWS FROM OUR REMOTE LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Lily Clarke



I picked this photo because it has my whole family in it and it was our first overseas holiday together in Bali.

I love this photo as I love my family very much and it was the best holiday ever!

Logan Lee

This special photo is taken in Sovereign hill. We went looking for gold. There are my mum and dad, my sister and me!

I like this photo because we are wearing old clothing and we got to pretend that we lived in Sovereign hill.

And I look so cool!



PREP & P/1 CE : SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING : SHOWING GRATITUDE

Families were asked to show things that they are grateful for. Sharon's Preps showed their favourite photos of their families and Erin and Carla's children spoke about the best people they know.

Lucy

I am thankful for my friend Lily because she has a fun imagination and we always like playing the same things. She is a special friend because we can sometimes read each other's minds and we do everything together.



Gurfateh



She is nice and she is my older sister and she is very kind and helpful and I love her so much in this world. We always fight, play and laugh together and she also helps me with my school homework.

Luke Rodjak

My mother is a special person. She is kind. When I need help she always come to me and ask what is wrong. She cooks my favourite meal sometimes. When I feel sad she is always there to comfort me. I am thankful and grateful of my mother because she loves me unconditionally.



LIAM

I am grateful to my family because they help me with everything and are always there for me.

They are special to me because they make me happy and love me a lot. I love them too.



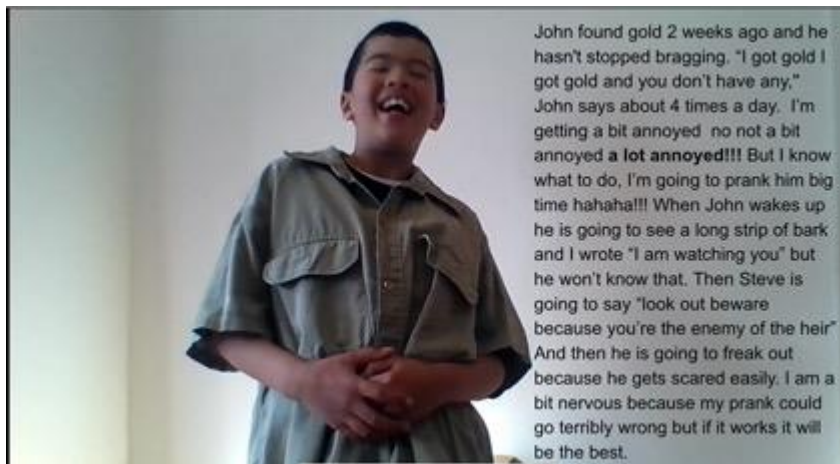
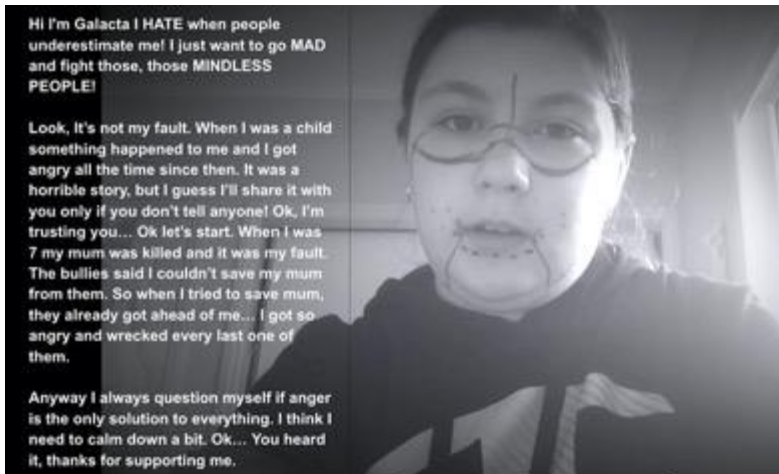
ITALIAN with Sharon

In P/1/2 we have been learning about the Weather and Seasons. Here are some fantastic pieces of work from Harper, Akucjang and Logan



PERFORMING ARTS with Jane

The Yr 3-6 students have been flexing their creativity muscles at home to develop characters and monologues. They have recorded their monologues and Jane is so impressed with the amount of effort the children have put into bringing their characters to life. Here are some examples from Aleksandra, Sena, Lucas and Alex.



SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

Have you checked out the SEL Blog lately? You will find it via the school website under Class Blogs. There are some interesting ideas and picture story books to help you explain COVID and all the changes it has forced upon us to your children. There is a story about staying inside and another that explains wearing masks. The latest addition is "Where is the Green Sheep" (Coronavirus edition). Just click on the link and have a listen.



<https://www.facebook.com/100008042978228/videos/2782963405315065/>

The Victorian Principal's Association (VPA) recently published a newsletter which had a lot of great ideas for parents and carers to help you support your child's mental health and wellbeing. Please have a look, it's full of really useful tips and advice.

Wellbeing Resources for Parents and Carers

Remote and flexible learning can be challenging for both students and parents. A number of resources have been developed for parents and carers to help them support their child's mental health and wellbeing. Topics include:

- Looking after your child's wellbeing including fun and easy activities and conversation starters that help parents to develop cultivate positive coping, problem solving, stress management and help seeking skills in their child
- Looking after your child's mental health including information on when and where to get support
- Keeping your child active and healthy eating
- Being safe online.

These resources can be accessed here: [Managing screen time, health and wellbeing](#) and translated versions will be available shortly.

GOOD NEWS!

We have a new baby to welcome to our St Theresa's community. A big hello to Marcus Christopher Nguyen, who was born on the 5/8/20 and weighed 3.07kg. His big brother, Patrick Nguyen in Prep S is stoked at having a baby brother and he has been a really helpful big brother. Congratulations Ling and William, we wish your beautiful family much happiness and hope that we can meet Marcus as soon as we are able.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The following pages have information that may be of interest to you :

1. Parenting programs offered by MacKillop Family Services. Being a parent is one of life's most important jobs. MacKillop Family Services offer parenting courses via zoom meetings, to give parents positive strategies to help raise healthy, happy children. You can view the courses and the dates for them via this link. <https://www.mackillop.org.au/programs/parenting-workshops>
2. Information from St Aloysius College regarding Year 7 enrolment 2022 (see flyer)

2022 Enrolments Are Open

Contact Jodie McLeod at
mcleodj@aloysius.vic.edu.au
for further information.

Limited places available
for 2022 in all year levels.



St Aloysius College, North Melbourne | www.aloysius.vic.edu.au



I'd like to end this newsletter with a prayer that was included in Fr Barry's Parish Newsletter last weekend. I especially like that it reminds us to continue to be hopeful and be grateful for what we have.

A Prayer for Hope and Gratitude

Lord, I don't have answers right now. None of it makes sense. It feels unjust. I look up and wonder, "How? Why?"

But in the midst of tragedy I remember times gone by. When You pulled me through and made good on Your promise to walk each painful step with me. I remember how You met me in that place of breaking. Where dreams were shattered and another day's breath felt impossible.

You took my shattered pieces collecting them in Your loving hands. You knew I'd need the time as a part of the healing. Allowing the shattered within me and trusting You to hold the pieces while I grieved (*Col 1:20-22*).

Then piece by piece You built something different. A new creation. A new spark of hope. Hope that says tomorrow's breath will come. Hope that says laughter will return and joy will flow through my heart again. It will not replace the sorrow. It will not replace the loss. Yet, boldly it will live alongside the pain in a way that far surpasses my understanding (*Phil 4:7*).

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Thank You for holding the shattered pieces and creating something new. Thank You for the gift of hope (*Rom 15:13*). And thank You for filling my heart with the weapon of gratitude in the midst of pain.

Lord, please keep my eyes firmly locked on You. Make me see beauty and blessing. Surround the ache in my heart with Your joy. Bring laughter back to my spirit. Let my hope, gratitude, and joy be a witness and conduit of Your power and love (*Ps 71:15-16*).

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Enjoy the rest of the week everyone!