



Newsletter

Enriching Spirits - Educating Minds



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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8th March 2018

Week 7

Term 1

From The Principal's Desk

You have most probably heard the story of the two students who went skiing over a weekend and were having such a good time they decided to stay an extra day and not to complete their important homework quiz which was to be part of their final assessment results and was to be handed in on Monday.

They decide to tell their teacher that they had got a flat tyre, the reason for them not coming back to school until Tuesday and therefore needed to do the homework quiz at a rescheduled time.

Hearing their story, the teacher agreed that it really was just bad luck and of course they can complete the quiz later on in the week.

At the appointed time, the teacher greets them and places them in two separate rooms to take the quiz.

The questions on the first page are worth 10% and were quite easy. The two students grow confident, sure that they have gotten away with fooling their teacher.

However, when they turn to the second page, they discover that they really haven't. The only question on the page, worth 90%, read: "Which tyre was flat?"

Homework can be tricky. (Not as tricky as these blokes made it, though.) It's sometimes difficult to get the balance right between busy work and meaningful learning. At Sacred Heart School, homework in all Year levels is seen as a necessary part of our children's education.

You would most probably be aware that many of our classes are now using a homework grid which is to be completed fortnightly. This comprises of important activities that need to be completed daily including reading, learning spelling and number facts.

The grid then also includes options where children can choose from a myriad of activities pertaining to work that they are doing in class or work that may be done at home. For example, our Year 6s this week, had a session with our federal member for Capricornia, Mrs Michelle Landry, a homework activity may involve researching her background and important initiatives she has instigated in our electorate. The grid may also include children sharing with their family what they are learning, them assisting with preparing dinner in the evening or having some quiet time listening to a type of music they have been learning about or investigating the art work of Vincent Van Gogh from their school art studies.

Our homework grid is about concentrating on the basics, allowing for choices, having links between school and home, sticking to a deadline (children need to have their homework completed by a specific day either Thursday or Friday.) and our teachers providing their children with meaningful feedback and encouragement. Hopefully, you will find some time to chat with your child/ren about their homework, too.

Finally, educationalist and parenting 'guru', Mr Michael Grose has some wonderful ideas about homework. Food for thought.

1. Establish homework time and stick to it each day.
2. Put the onus back on your children to take responsibility for their work. Ask children at the start of a homework session to state how much homework they will do. At the end of the session, check it to see if it matches with their intentions as well as yours.
3. Homework is as much a time management issue as anything else. Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently. Have a set time limit, which they should stick to. There is little point slogging away once they become frustrated or tired. Give them an egg-timer or use a clock and get them to work hard for small chunks of time. A little work each night is more productive than packing it into one weekly session.
4. Help children decide the best time to do homework and then encourage them to stick to those times.
5. Establish a good working environment for students. Make sure they have a quiet, well lit, well ventilated area away from distractions. A table or desk makes a good workspace, although don't be surprised if they spread work all over the kitchen table. Some kids hate to be stuck away in their rooms and prefer to work at the kitchen table and can do so productively. Others are easily distracted and work in short bursts. Work out what is best for your child.
6. Use the motivating factors of technology. The Internet and other forms of electronic learning are quick, convenient and give access to huge amounts of information.
7. Encourage children to get organised. Help them think ahead to plan their homework around extra-curricular activities. Assisting children to become organised is perhaps the best way parents can help at home.
8. If you are helping with a particular task, keep your explanation simple and practical. If you become frustrated or upset and the atmosphere becomes tense – stop helping.
9. Be realistic. Don't expect to solve all homework difficulties. When in doubt send a note to your child's teacher letting him or her know the problem. The teacher will appreciate this good communication.
10. Communicate any concerns. If you have concerns about how much or the difficulty of homework your child is set, contact the teacher and arrange a time to discuss your worries.

All the best

Mr Max Martin

NAPLAN Online

Our children in Years 3 and 5 will be undertaking NAPLAN testing online in May for the first time. NAPLAN online brings many advantages, including a design that offers test items tailored to students' knowledge and ability.

We will also be participating in a national coordinated practice test on Monday 26th March. This is an excellent opportunity to fine tune any technical and logistical needs, as well as familiarise students and teachers with the online testing process.

Parents and carers of students in these NAPLAN year levels will need to be aware of important information relating to privacy, which can be found on the NAPLAN Online Queensland website: (<https://naplanonline.qld.edu.au/getting-ready/parent-information>).

Parent requesting withdrawal from testing: Withdrawals are intended to address parental concerns such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. Parents/carers wishing to withdraw their child from the practice test must sign a 'Notice of Parent Withdrawal' form by Monday, 19th March. A request form is available from our school office.

UNSW Competition

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are again being offered. ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 2–12 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. UNSW certificates are awarded for each year level as follows: High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants. Distinction to the next 10% of entrants. Credit to the next 25% of entrants.

The entry fee per student is as follows: Digital Technologies 8th May \$9.90. Science 29th May \$9.90. Spelling 13th June \$13.20. Writing 14th June \$19.80. English 31st July \$9.90. Mathematics 14th August \$9.90.

Further information is available at <https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/> [Click here to access the registration form](#). Please return the form and entry fee to school by Monday 19th March.

Years 4 to 6 Swimming Carnival

Our Years 4-6 Swimming Carnival will take place this Tuesday 13th March at the Cooee Bay Aquatic Centre.

All children will come to school as normal on the carnival day. Classes will be bussed to the pool with their class teacher. The events will commence at 9:15am.

Children may wear a sun safe shirt in the colour of their sporting house. Closed in school shoes must be worn to and from school. Children may bring thongs or sandals to wear at the pool.

Please ensure your child has their hat, water bottle and lunch packed to bring to the carnival. Our children will not be accessing the canteen at the pool.

You are invited to come along and show your support on this day. At the conclusion of our carnival, all our Years 4, 5 and 6 children will be returning to school by bus.

If you have any queries regarding the swimming carnival please contact me at school on lisa_list@rok.catholic.edu.au or on 49336288.

Following is a timetable with approximate times for events:

8.50am	Year 4 to 6 children leave school by bus.
9.15am	100m freestyle 9-12 years
9.40am	25m freestyle 9-12 years
10.05am	25m backstroke 9-12 years
10.30am	25m breaststroke 9-12 years
10.55am	50m freestyle 9-12 years
11.25am	50m backstroke 9-12 years
11.50am	50m breaststroke 9-12 years
12.15pm	50m butterfly 9-12 years
12.40pm	Relays if time allows
1pm	Presentation of age champions and winning house
1.10pm	All children bussed back to school.

Cross Country

Sacred Heart School Cross country carnival will be on Tuesday, 27th March (Week 10). This annual event is a great carnival where all the students are invited to participate.

Our school carnival also doubles as selection trials for our Sacred Heart Cross Country team (10, 11, 12 year olds).

Parents are most welcome to join us throughout the morning. Prep to Year 3 will run in their year levels (girls' and boys' races), while students in Years 4 to 6 will run in age groups. The following is a timetable for the day with approximate times our students will be running:

8.50am	Prep & boys and girls born 2006 (12 years)
9.20am	Year 1 & boys and girls born 2007 (11 years)
9.50am	Year 2 & boys and girls born 2008 (10 years)
10.10am	Year 3 & boys and girls who are 9 years old in Year 4.

Please remember: Bring hats and water bottle, apply sunscreen, wear coloured house shirt (optional), wear/bring comfortable runners

Place ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions in each race.

We will have our last training session on Tuesday 20th March. The training session will start at 7.15am and go to 7.45am. Preps, Yrs 1, 2 and 3s are welcome to attend under parental supervision. Students from Years 4 through to 6 do not require a parent to attend.

As part of the morning training sessions, the school offers breakfast to everyone attending training from 7.45 – 8.15am. Breakfast will include cereal, fruit and juice and cost \$2 per person. We appreciate parents assisting with breakfast and serving if you are available.

If you have any queries about our cross country please contact Mr Martin. There is no cross country training next week (Tuesday 13th) due to our swimming carnival. Thank you.

Years 1 to 3 Physical Education Lessons

This term in Physical Education lessons, the students in Years 1, 2 and 3 have been focussing on being in control of their bodies. We have been discovering how our bodies react to different types of movement activities. This week, we have designed our own activities that make our 'hearts beat quickly' and 'hearts beat slowly'. Next week, we will take turns at having a go at the activities the students have designed and created.



Parent -Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews will be held across the school from Monday 23th April to Thursday 3rd May, next term, with each interview being 20 minutes. Bookings for these interviews will open at 3pm on Monday 19 March. These bookings will close to parents on Monday 16 April at 3pm. Access for bookings is available during those dates via <https://206shy.rok.catholic.edu.au/parentlounge> . Not all teachers will offer interviews on the same days nor for exactly the same time period.

New parents were sent an access username and password earlier this term and continuing parents will have the same one as last year. If you have forgotten either of these please contact Marg Kershaw at the school office 49 336288.

Available times for individual teachers will appear when you log in to the booking site. Only one time slot is to be selected per child. If you would like to have a longer interview time please see your child's class teacher and arrange this at a time suitable to you both.

Some teachers may have interviews prior to school on any of those days and/or some teachers may have made individual arrangements outside of the times above. These arrangements will be emailed to you from your child's classroom teacher. If you have any questions regarding the interviews, times, or booking an interview please contact our school office.

Sacrament Preparations

Congratulations to the children who began preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday evening. Preparation will continue on the following Saturdays: March 10th, March 24th and April 21st. Candidates and their parent/ caregiver need to attend these sessions commencing at 5:15pm, followed by Mass at 6pm. Thank you.

Mini Vinnies Easter Egg Raffle

Our major Project Compassion fundraiser is the annual Easter egg raffle. Donations of Easter eggs can be brought into your child's class or our school office. In the final few weeks of term, these will be organised into prizes and tickets sold. The draw for the raffle will take place at the final school assembly this term. All proceeds will go to Project Compassion.

Project Compassion

This week, we bring to you a story from Australia. Evangeline is strengthening Aboriginal culture, while making a living for herself and creating opportunities for her community. Featured in Project Compassion 2016, Evangeline was employed by the Caritas Australia supported Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation and quickly rose to the role of Senior Arts worker. Her work at Djilpin Arts has supported the organisation's growth from a multimedia project to a contemporary arts and culture centre. An example of excellence in Indigenous tourism, it's now a key employer for young people in the remote Northern Territory community of Beswick (Wugularr).

You can learn more about Evangeline and her story here - click on the link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=HB3UDI3J5t0



Prayer assembly

Thank you to 2W for their prayer assembly today focusing on the Prodigal Son and our need this Lent to offer and ask for forgiveness. Next week's prayer assembly will be prepared by 2MT and will remind us of the virtues displayed by St Patrick. Please join us next Thursday at 8:35am.

Youth Mass

The Saturday evening mass on March 17th at 6pm will be a youth mass. Students from the four Catholic schools on the Capricorn Coast will be involved, providing music and assisting with various parts. Please come along and join in the enthusiasm of our youth. If you wish for your child to be involved, contact Mrs Mary O'Donnell.

Just Action Day

Next Wednesday, 15 representatives from our Year 6 will attend the Just Leadership day at St Benedict's Catholic Primary School.

Caritas Australia runs Just Leadership days to engage students with social justice issues and to encourage them to be just leaders. Students will identify local, national and global issues of justice and actively engage in a process that helps them recognise they have the resources and the responsibility to work for change. Mrs Jenkinson will accompany our Year 6s.

Student Awards

Prep	Maycie Clarke, Charlie Campbell, Max Atkins, Amira Mitchell, Ruby Deasy, Jai Ray
Year 1	Riley Hildebrandt, Connor Strenzel, Dayna Cook
Year 2	Jasmine Smith, India Hawkes, Thomas Sweeney, Harry Wilczek, Alyssa Belz, Lennix Bone, Georgia Crane
Year 3	Archie Gleeson, Hannah Wallis, Ruby Svenson, Aria Dooley, Charlie Palaret, Cooper Sweeney, Brydie Somerville, Chloe Kleinhans, Bridie Finning
Year 4	Harleigh Williams, Amber Johnson, Nicholas Eaton, Mikayla Broom, Grace Vaughan, Thomas Brown
Year 5	Ella-Maree Robinson, Cooper Shaw, Jessica Gleeson, Charlie Kidd
Year 6	Alija Stone, Izabella Elliott, Eva Bird, Kelsie Bennett

Altar Serving Roster

Please ensure, if you are rostered on, to arrive 15 minutes prior to the commencement of Mass and inform Father Matthew that you are there to assist. Thank you. **Sacred Heart Church:** Saturday, 10th March 6pm: Vicky Brieffies, Samuel Hooper. Sunday, 11th March 9am: Daniel Hutchinson, Michael Hutchinson **Mary Immaculate Church, Emu Park:** Sunday, 11th March 7am: Charlie Kidd

Capricornia Sporting Achievement

Congratulations to Jane Power from Year 6 who has been selected in the Capricornia netball team following trials held last weekend. This is a wonderful achievement and we wish her all the best at the state titles to be held later this year.

Young Artist Featured In Art Magazine

Congratulations to Taylor Timperson who was recently featured in an art magazine 'The Art of the Egg Shell'.
Link to ['Young Artist'](#)

Year 6 Discovery Days at St Ursula's and St Brendan's Colleges

As part of our Year 6s' transition into secondary school in 2018, all our Year 6 children will be attending a discovery day at St Ursula's for the girls and St Brendan's for the boys. This Year 6 Discovery Day will be held on Thursday 15th March.

The St Brendan's day will commence with all Sacred Heart boys being collected from school at 8.30am by bus. The day commences at 9am. They will be returned to school by 2.45pm. Boys need to wear their normal school uniform with hat and bring a water bottle. Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

For St Ursula's day, our girls are asked to have their own transport to the College, arriving by 8.30am, assembling in the Ballygriffin Hall. They need to wear their normal school uniform with hat and bring a water bottle, note book, pencil case. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. Families are asked to collect their children at 3pm.

If you are unable to transport your child to and from St Ursula's, contact our office so arrangements can be made. We are more than happy to assist in this regard.

Our Year 6 teachers will also be at both Colleges at times during the day and will be on the St Brendan's bus for the trip to and from school. On this day, the children will be involved in a myriad of educational activities in Physical Education, Science, Arts, Robotics and Manual Arts.

Whether your child is attending St Ursula's or St Brendan's or not in 2018, this experience will provide them with a very worthwhile opportunity to see how a secondary school operates and to ask questions etc.

I ask that you complete the permission form which was brought home by your child this week and return it to Sacred Heart by Friday. This assists with organising catering and buses. If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Visit By Our Member For Capricornia

On Monday this week, our Year 6s spoke with Ms Michelle Landry, our federal member for Capricornia on a plethora of topics from life as a politician, mining, Barnaby Joyce and railway tracks. Thank you to Ms Landry for taking the time out of her busy schedule to visit Sacred Heart School. It was a worthwhile session.

