



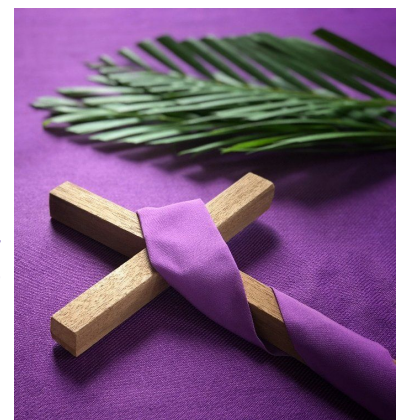
Our Lenten Journey

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent offers us all a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we've done and failed to do, and to be generous to those in need.

Taking some time to get ready for Lent will ensure that we aren't going to miss the first week or two of Lent, because we are just getting started. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, but we want to be ready to really take off on that day, rather than just beginning to think about Lent on that day. Part of what makes a holiday or a special event so special is the build-up to it.

Before we get to Ash Wednesday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?" This question may require that I slow down a bit and listen to my inner spirit. For example, even if I'm very busy, I realize I'm hungry when I hear my stomach start "growling." "What am I going to be doing on Ash Wednesday?" Too often, Ash Wednesday is like every other day, except that I manage to get to church and get ashes on my forehead. Is there anything else I can do on Ash Wednesday? How will fasting and abstaining happen for me, for my family on that special day?

It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We can give God more of a space to touch our hearts if we begin to establish some simple patterns. We could wake up each morning, and for something like a half a minute to a minute, stand by the edge of our beds, and just ask the Lord for the grace to let this day be one in which I long for the beginning of Lent. Perhaps we need to ask for specific helps or graces to get ready to begin Lent. Whatever we try to say, our Lord can understand the Spirit trying to speak through our simple words. And all it takes is the time to find and put on our slippers. And each night, in the days ahead, we can practice giving thanks to God before I go to bed. This simple pattern, in the morning and evening can stir our spirits to look forward to and prepare for Lent, as a season of grace.



May our Lord bless us all on this journey ahead.

Source: <https://info.franciscanmedia.org/lent-and-advent>

Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at school next Wednesday at 12:00pm.

You are most welcome to join us.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

From time to time there will be instances where you will want to raise a concern or a complaint with us. We encourage you to contact the school to talk about your concerns, as most problems can be solved quickly.

Our school's approach to handling concerns and complaints is based on our commitment to:

- providing a safe and supportive learning environment
- building positive relationships between students, parents and staff
- providing a safe working environment for staff.

It is usually best to discuss your concerns with your child's teacher first. They know your child and are best placed to help you. Also, it's best if you let them know about your concerns as early as possible.

The first step is to make an appropriate time to meet with them or phone the school and ask for an appointment with the teacher.

If you are not happy with the result, or if you do not feel it is appropriate to talk to them, phone and make an appointment to discuss your concerns with your child's Village Learning Leader or another member of the school's leadership team. Of course I am also available to talk with you.

You may bring a friend or relative to be your support. If you need an interpreter, we can arrange that, just ask beforehand.

Most issues can be resolved quickly and informally to everybody's satisfaction simply by talking to the teacher concerned.

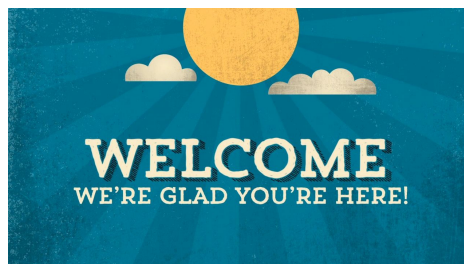
Occasionally more serious or complex complaints require investigation. These can take a longer time to resolve. If this happens, you will be informed of the progress and the result of your complaint by phone or in writing at regular intervals until the matter is resolved.

Please be aware that it is never acceptable or appropriate to approach a child of another family to raise concerns or complaints.

Welcome to Good Samaritan

During the past two weeks we have had the pleasure of welcoming the following children and their families to our school community:

- *Saemon and Yousif Aolo*
- *Sarah Al-Hasqayal*
- *Yona Attallah*
- *Rosemary and Stavro George*



- *Haneen and Nawar Hisa*
- *Saara Shetye*
- *Marwel, Naireen and Noorhan Shraqatah*



Best Wishes,

Paul Sedunary

PAUL SEDUNARY

Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Family Learning Conversations

Next week Family Learning Conversations will be held over Thursday and Friday. I encourage every family to take up this opportunity to meet with your children's teachers. Our Family Learning Conversations provide a rich opportunity to discuss how the children in your family learn and highlight the important role of the family and the community in this learning.



What you know about your child together with what they know about themselves enables our staff to be better equipped to design learning that suits your child's interests, talents and personal learning needs. It is also an opportunity for you to get to know your child's/children's teachers and develop a learning partnership with them. The strength of the learning relationship between the student, family and staff enables your children to be successful learners. We call this special learning relationship *Learning by the Power of 3* or *Learning³*

This year we the conversations will explore your family's HOPES and DREAMS. Further information, including how to book an appointment time will be sent home on Monday.



Best Wishes,

Helen Smith

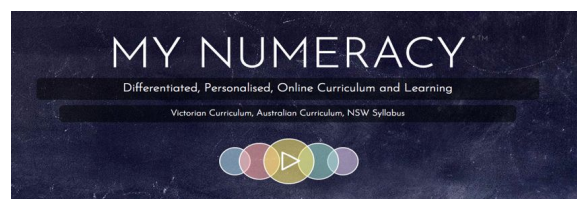
HELEN SMITH

Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, LEARNING AND TEACHING

Numeracy

This year we have introduced a new and exciting online learning platform called *My Numeracy*. *My Numeracy* is designed to help children learn important numeracy skills and understandings in a fun and engaging way. The best part about this program is that you can access this at home and use it with your child.



During next week's Family Learning Conversations, our school STEM Leader, Paul Smith, will host regular information sessions about how you can use *My Numeracy* at home. More information about how to book in for a information session will be sent home on Monday.



Don't hesitate to contact our STEM Leader, Paul Smith (psmith@goodsam.catholic.edu.au), should you have any questions about this program

Italian

The children have made a great start to learning Italian and are already using it throughout the school. Words that we've been learning so far include:



*BUONGIORNO (HELLO),
ARRIVEDERCI (GOODBYE),
GRAZIE (THANKS),*

*PREGO (YOU ARE WELCOME)
PER FAVORE (PLEASE).*

Don't hesitate to contact our Italian Teacher, Roberta Smarrelli (rsmarrelli@goodsam.catholic.edu.au), should you have any questions about the Italian program



Best Wishes,

Leanne Murray

LEANNE MURRAY

Deputy Principal, Learning and Teaching

NOTICES

Fundraising 2020



Thank you to the Good Samaritan Community for your continued support in our fundraising efforts last year. The money we have raised will go to help purchase shade cloth in the school yard for the children.

In Term 1, we will have an *Easter Raffle* and are asking parents for donations of Easter Eggs, baskets & gifts for the raffle prizes. These can be dropped off to the school office. Tickets will come home soon.



Please return tickets by Monday 23rd March. The raffle will be drawn on the last day of Term, Thursday 26th March.



Our *Annual Mother's Day Stall* will be held on *Friday 1st May*. Children can bring money to purchase a gift for mum, grandmother or special women in their life. Gifts are priced from \$2.00-\$10.00. If you are able to help on the day please contact Rosa via the School Office. Many hands make light work!!

Thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts! Every cent we raise goes directly to supporting the children.

Uniform Shop

A reminder that the Uniform Shop is now open each week of the school term at the following times:

Monday 2:30 - 4:00pm

Wednesday 8:30 - 10:00am



ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE?

It's important for us to have your current contact details and personal information.

If anything has changed (phone number, address, emergency contact, employment details, living situation, etc.), please pass the details on to the School Office as soon as possible.

School Shoes



A reminder that school shoes must be **totally black** in colour - no other colour is to be visible. Here are a few examples of acceptable school shoes:

COMING UP THIS TERM:

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday 24 Feb A	Year 5 St John First Aid incursion	Year 6 St John First Aid incursion	No School for Foundation 1200pm Ash Wednesday Mass	Family Learning Conversations 9am-8pm	Family Learning Conversations 9am-1.30pm
Monday 2 Mar B		7:00pm First Reconciliation Family Workshop	7:00pm Family Workshop: Supporting Learning at Home F-2		
Monday 9 Mar A	NO SCHOOL TODAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL TODAY STAFF SEMINAR	SCHOOL PHOTOS Children must wear full school uniform (no sport uniform)		
Monday 16 Mar B	Year 5 Mt Evelyn Camp Bus leaves at 8.00am	Year 5 Mt Evelyn Camp St Patrick's Day Excursion 7:00pm School Advisory Council	Year 5 Mt Evelyn Camp		
Monday 23 Mar A	Year 6 Phillip Island Camp Bus leaves at 8.00am Easter Raffle tickets due back today	Year 6 Phillip Island Camp 7:00pm Celebration of First Reconciliation	Year 6 Phillip Island Camp	LAST DAY OF TERM 1 Easter Raffle drawn today	NO SCHOOL TODAY STAFF PLANNING

OUR LADY'S PARISH MASS TIMES

For more parish news visit <https://www.our-ladys.org/>

Saturday	9:15am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
	6:30 pm	Our Lady's Craigieburn
Sunday	8:00am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
	9:30am	Good Samaritan
	11:00am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
	6:00pm	Our Lady's Craigieburn
Monday	No Masses	
Tuesday	9:15am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
Wednesday	7:00pm	Good Samaritan
Thursday	9:15am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
Friday	9:15am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
1st Friday	7:00pm	Our Lady's Craigieburn

Reconciliation

Saturday	10:15am	Our Lady's Craigieburn
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COMMUNITY NEWS



Catholic Education Today

Published each term, Catholic Education Today celebrates the faith, life, achievements and culture of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

You can access the latest issue by clicking [here](#).



2020
Science Laboratory Refurbishment

TERM ONE DISCOVER MERCY *Open Days*

Meet our Principal, explore the facilities and chat with our students and staff at our first open days for 2020.

Saturday 29 February - 10.00am
Monday 2 March - 9.30am and 6.00pm

Presentation and tour will take approximately 90 minutes
Book your sessions online or call 9319 9299
mercycoburg.catholic.edu.au

Applications for year 7 2022 now open

CRICOS 02271



Instrumental Music Lessons
On School Campus!



Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons typically during school hours
- Only \$18.50 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824 E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au

E: office@goodsam.catholic.edu.au W: www.gsroxburghpark.catholic.edu.au T: 9308 6177