



OLW NEWS 2021

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Dear Parents & Families,

Thank you to all the families who have participated in Parent – Teacher Interviews over the past couple of weeks. The staff have really appreciated the opportunity to chat with you about your child's progress and how they are managing Learning from Home. Although interviews concluded last Friday, staff are always happy to be available at any time to support your child's learning and growth.

NAPLAN 2021 RESULTS

Naplan results were released to schools last Tuesday and I am pleased to inform families that Victoria was the number 1 performing state across all assessment areas in Naplan in the primary sector and OLW continues to perform well above the Victorian average in all areas. In fact, 2021 saw our students rise to a new level by achieving the school's best performance in Naplan since its inception in 2008!

This is an outstanding achievement for our students and a great recognition for their efforts, despite the challenging circumstances over the past 18 months. None of this would have been possible without the outstanding work of families in supporting their children in their learning during the extended Learning from Home periods. This achievement is also a credit to the work of the staff who use best practice models to continually strive to inspire and support the students to be the best they can be, no matter what challenges we are faced with.

We know that sometimes life at home can be extremely difficult with parents juggling work and keeping their children engaged in their learning, but the reward for your effort can be seen in the performances of our students.

As we had informed families last year, we know that our assessments on return to school showed that on average our students learning had progressed by more than the number of weeks in lockdown due to the structure of our model and the development of new resources to support our students,

such as our Learning Channel, to support and enhance our model. Two independent studies conducted after the Learning from Home extended periods have further validated the achievements of students using this type of model using evidence-based strategies. We will continue to conduct assessment activities once onsite schooling resumes this year to ensure that learning and gains made during this time are consolidated and extended.

The Naplan 2021 Student Reports will be posted out to families later this week.

SCHOOL FEES

School Fee Accounts are normally due to be settled by September. Please note that the due date has been extended again this year until November for families that may require additional time to settle their account. We are aware that some activities may not be able to go ahead when onsite schooling resumes and therefore accounts will need to be adjusted. We will have to wait for government guidelines on what activities schools can undertake once onsite schooling resumes, based on the level of restrictions for activities.

For families that have already settled their account, they will receive a credit or refund for any activities not undertaken, depending on their year level.

In the transition to the new MACS model of finance and governance for all Catholic Schools, there has been a couple of occasions where payments made by parents during the transition phase did not appear as credits on school fee accounts. Therefore, I would strongly encourage all families to check their account statement and contact the school office if there is a discrepancy so that it can be rectified.

MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS FOR FAMILIES

Matthew Jones, our School Counsellor, will be running two online sessions each Monday to support families during this lockdown. These sessions are group sessions for parents to join in dialogue

with Matthew as he presents strategies around some particular aspects that may be affecting families at the moment. These sessions are not structured as individual counselling sessions or group therapy, they are designed to provide strategies, advice to support the great work of our families.

Session Times are:

10.30am – Year 3 – 6 Parents

11.30am – Year Prep – 2 Parents

September 6 Topic

Managing anxiety and low mood during lockdown

Meeting Link:

<https://meet.google.com/jib-yhyo-hbt>

Sessions will be about 30 minutes in duration with time split between a presentation of information and discussion. We have structured the sessions around the junior school and the senior school as the content and discussion may be slightly different between the two levels, but you are welcome to attend either of the sessions, and no pre-registration is required. Login details for the Sessions with Matthew are included in this newsletter and are the same for each session, each week.

Families who are not able make either of the session times due to work commitments will be able to access a pre-recorded version of the content from our OLW Learning Channel each Wednesday, by following the link which will be forwarded through SkoolBag.

Any families that would like to access previous sessions can also follow the link below to view a pre-recorded copy of the content presentation for each session.

August 23 Topic:

Strategies to assist with managing the household during lockdown

<https://youtu.be/0qFxmP1yVG0>

August 30 Topic:

Keeping things 'normal' for children during lockdown

<https://youtu.be/Zimm1xS7B4A>

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Our next School Advisory Council Meeting is an online meeting this Wednesday September 8 at 7.00pm. Minutes and Agenda have been distributed through our school app and a meeting link invitation was forwarded to members last week.

WEEKLY PHOTOS

Don't forget to keep sending through some photos of your children engaging in their learning or activities over the week to be compiled into our weekly video. Last week we had some great shots of students engaged in activities outside and in the local parks thanks to the fantastic weather. Our videos are compiled each Friday morning, so if you can send your pictures through to either the classroom teacher or directly to me before Thursday evening, then they will appear in the that week's video compilation. Otherwise, they will be held over to the following week. Thank you to those who sent through some photos last week, we hope you enjoyed the videos!

Stay safe!

Kevin Burke

WORD OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to everyone who found out that gratitude means 'the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness'.

Our word for this week is:

CENTUPLE

Find out it's meaning and origin and see if you can add this word to your vocabulary over the next week!



Google Meet

Sessions with Matthew

Meeting link: <https://meet.google.com/jib-yhyo-hbt>

Meeting code for iPad & tablet users: [jibyhyohbt](#)

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| Years 3 - 6 | 10:30am - 11:00am |
| Years P - 2 | 11:30am - 12:00pm |

DAREBIN BASKETBALL

HOLIDAY CAMPS

From beginners to elite level players, the Darebin Basketball Association has camps suited to your needs.

- Professionally designed programs
- Fun learning environment
- Free T-Shirt and tones of prizes
- Guest coaches

DOMESTIC REGOS

Want to get started in the game of basketball. Register you and your mates into the Darebin Domestic teams and get playing.

- Local games every Saturday
- Free uniform (this season only)
- Getting active and learning the game
- Coach and player development
- Term 4 start



For more information please visit the
website or email DBA at
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