



St Peter's Lutheran School

News Bulletin - Friday 12th February 2021

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From the Principal

Hi everyone, I hope that you have all had a wonderful week. The weather has kept us cool in the mornings and then warmed up in the afternoons. It's looking as though for our swimming carnival in 3 weeks' time we may have more consistent temps which will be perfect. Don't forget that you are all invited along to our Swimming Carnival on Wednesday the 3rd March. We will head down from around 10:00 and will be returning to school after lunch. Please encourage any relatives or family friends to come along and support our students.

Our P&F welcome BBQ is on this Friday the 12th February from 5:30pm at the 'Pines' down on the bank of our beautiful Wimmera River. All food will be provided free of charge, BYO chairs and drinks. Thank you again to the P&F members that are organising the food for this get together.

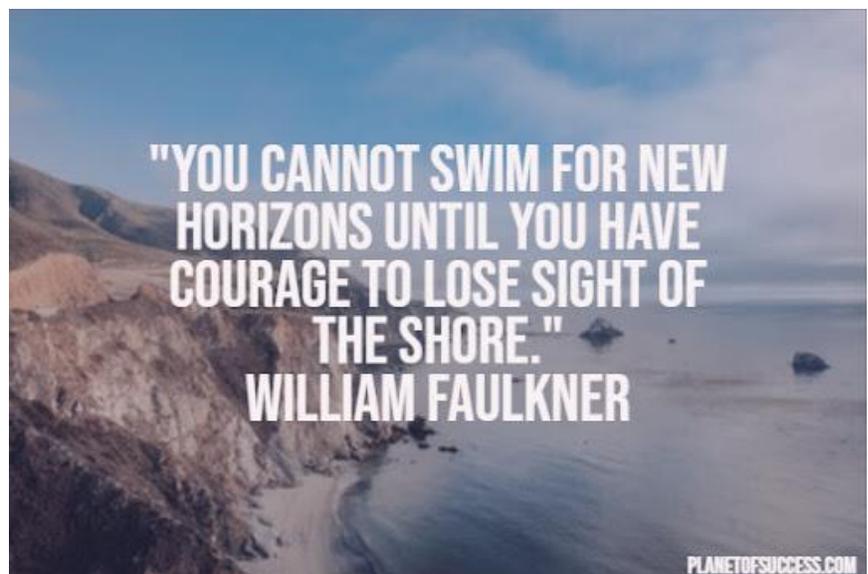
This Monday the 8th February we had our parent information night. Thanks to all those parents and care givers that were able to attend. This evening was for parents to meet staff and also to find out about class procedures, excursions and class routines. It is always an excellent opportunity for you to ask your child's teacher any questions you may have and to also meet other parents. If you were unable to attend this evening all relevant notes will be sent home with your children.

This week our Swimming program began. Wednesday the 10th Feb was our first day at the pool. All of the boys and girls were very excited and really look forward to these lessons. Please let your child's teacher know if there are any extra details or assistance you require.

A reminder that the start of each year there are always several notes that you are required to fill out and return for our records. If you are unsure of what to fill in on these notes or have questions about their content please come into the office between 8:30-2:30 and Mrs Walters will be able to assist you.

Have a safe and Blessed weekend,

Tim Reimann



Devotional Thoughts

Suffering is joy

'Do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you' (1 Peter 4:12).

[Read 1 Peter 4:12–16](#)

Peter's letter was written to poor, disenfranchised people to whom the gospel appealed. He exhorted them by saying, 'Don't be surprised at the troubles you are having'; don't think that this is a strange situation that you are suffering. Don't expect that doing good will give you an easy life of health and wealth. It may seem very strange to us that Peter is saying that they should be happy to be sharing in the suffering of Jesus. Doing God's will is no guarantee that you won't endure suffering. The Christians of Asia Minor were experiencing a test. Just as a fire purifies gold from contaminants, suffering strips away the externals. It reveals who we really are.

This passage from 1 Peter is not about 'Why do good people suffer?' It is a letter of encouragement, reassurance and hope for people suffering rejection because they follow Jesus.

Think of a time when you were really suffering. How did you respond? Did your prayer life improve? Did you come closer in your relationship with God? I know that this has been true for me.

If you are ridiculed for being a follower of Jesus, then do not be ashamed. It is not an insult, but a badge of honour. In today's reading, Peter alludes to Jesus' teachings in the Beatitudes discussed yesterday: 'Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man' (Luke 6:22). In the end, whose opinion will count?

***Dear Heavenly Father,
please help us not focus
on what the world thinks
but instead on your holy
gospel, the good news of
salvation. Amen.***



Awards

Junior Class Award

Evie Paech - Trying her best & improving in her magic words.



Senior Cass Award

Julia Kardogeros - Developing a quality piece of writing when exploring collective nouns.



Principal's Award

Toby King - For displaying genuine persistence & a positive attitude.

Notice's

Important Dates

All the below dates are to the best of our knowledge and may change at short notice depending on COVID-19 restrictions.

February 2021

17th - 19th - School Swimming

24th - 26th - School Swimming

March 2021

1st - P&F AGM meeting @3.30pm

3rd - School Swimming Carnival

8th - Labour Day Public Holiday (No school)

14th - Blessing of staff & students

18th - 19th - Parent Teacher Interviews

23rd - School Photos

April 2021

1st - Last Day Term 1 (early finish 2.15pm)

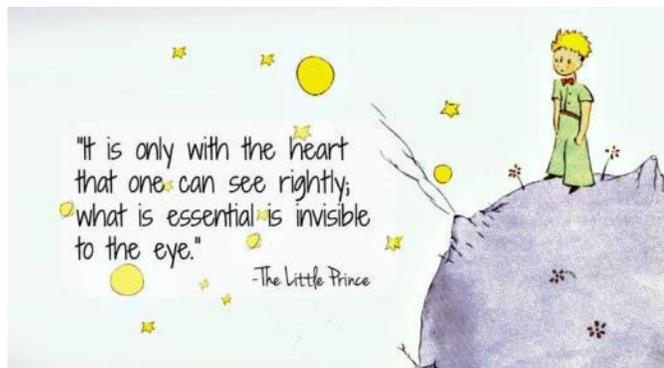
19th - First day Term 2

25th - ANZAC Day

Blessing of students & staff

Sunday 14th March 2021 at 10.30am will be the annual blessing of all students and staff. Pastor Levi will lead this service at St Peter's Lutheran Church Dimboola.

All community members and their families are welcome to attend.



P&F AGM

The P&F will be holding their AGM on Monday 1st March 2021 @ 3.30pm in the Multi Purpose Room.

Please be mindful of our COVID Safe practices.

All positions are vacant, and all new and existing parents and friends are encouraged to come along.

Like us on
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Changes to Chapel

With COVID restrictions easing slightly our Chapel services will be changing. We will be returning to the church on Fridays, however we **can not** have members of the school community join us at the stage.

Subscribe to the Newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter and get it by email, please email admin@spls.vic.edu.au and we will add you to the list.

Courage
is like a
muscle; we
strengthen
it with use.

~ Ruth Gordon ~

Bushfire At Risk School Information

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter [and SMS message/phone tree]. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- The bus co-ordinating school will advise if bus routes will be cancelled.

Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

Bushfire At Risk School Information

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, [reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters]

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
 - Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [by checking our website [insert URL] and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay. If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan. You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.



Junior Room Pets



Around Our School

