



St Peter's Lutheran School

News Bulletin - Friday 17th September 2021

6-26 Horsham Road
Dimboola 3414
Tel: 03 5389 1626
admin@spls.vic.edu.au

From the Principal

Hello everyone, welcome to week 10 of term 3. We have had a fantastic final week here at St Peters. Many bright daisy chains have been created during recess and lunchtimes. Students have been extremely active in the Mallee trees playing some very imaginative and entertaining games. We have been excited by our latest discovery that 4 Wood ducks have now moved into our bottom paddock and were even drinking from our creek bed in the mornings. The children love to watch and discover any new creatures that have made our grounds their home.

Term three has been a long and tiring term. Dealing with added restrictions due to COVID always is challenging. We hope and pray that term 4 will look different, however we will continue to follow all directions and advice from the DET, LEVNT and local government. Thank you all for being patient, calm and positive throughout this ever changing situation. Your support is greatly appreciated.

A reminder that next term all students will need to have a school hat to wear each day. Our school is a Sun smart school and our term 1 and term 4 rule is, **No hat, No play, and stay out of the sun today!** Please contact Kate Ward if your children need a new hat or summer uniform items for next term.

Restrictions for school are still in place. Term 4 will look no different. Under current COVID restrictions non-essential visitors are banned from entering school grounds. We must maintain many of the same routines and habits as the last time. School cleaning will be ongoing every day of the week. We all must play our part in regards to protecting our community during this time. Please encourage your family to support our efforts in this area.

I hope that you and your family are able to rest and relax over these September holidays. It is a wonderful time of the year to get out and enjoy this amazing landscape that we are so very fortunate to have locally. School will recommence on Monday the 4th October.

Have a safe and Blessed weekend,

Tim Reimann



Devotional Thoughts

The journey of faith

by Tom Brennen

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us (Hebrews 12:1).

[Read Hebrews 12:1-4](#)

I'm a runner, and as I've grown older, my focus on speed and finishing times has waned. I now seek races that take me to beautiful places in God's creation. Trail running has the added benefit of teaching me perseverance as I race over challenging terrain hour after hour. This type of race is not a sprint; it requires endurance and focus.

Our readings this week have asked us to deeply consider what it is to follow Christ. Our reading today prompts us to ask some questions: What race has been set before us? How long is it? What terrain is it on? What waits for us at the end?

Organisers of running races often provide a map of the course and an elevation profile. One would think this would allow me to prepare well and not be surprised when sections are very tough, indeed. I should know what I am getting myself in for. Yet, time and time again, I hit a particularly horrible hill and technical downhill section that leaves me close to crying in pain. In such moments, I have been known to feel frustrated with the race organisers for making things too hard or not giving me enough warning!

The Christian life is indeed a race, much like a long-distance trail run where the times and finishing positions don't matter so much; it is really about completing the course. God has a path for us to run, and it is often very challenging. While we know that carrying the cross will mean sharing in Christ's suffering, it doesn't stop us from being surprised, angry, frustrated or hurt when the suffering hits.

As the strategic plan of Paul told us yesterday, to walk God's path is to join in the sufferings of Christ. The good news is that Christ understands suffering and is with us in our suffering. And when we finish, our Lord Jesus, seated at the end of our journey, at the right hand of God, is ready to welcome us home.

Let us seek to persevere and learn all we can from our journey. In this way, we may be an example to others in how we run this race.

Father, give us the perseverance we need to walk your path and carry our cross. May we not lose sight of the end of our journey and its reassurance. Amen.



Notices

Important Dates

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

September 2021

17th - Last Day Term 3 (Early Finish)

October 2021

4th - First Day Term 4

18th - 22nd - Book Week

22nd - Grandparents Day

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.

Absent Days

If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the office on 5389 1626 or email admin@spls.vic.edu.au

School Concert

With ongoing restrictions, we have decided to move our school concert to Term 4.
Term 3 will now finish on Friday 17th September at 2.20pm.

Uniforms

We are still accepting donations of good quality, clean 2nd hand uniforms.
For new uniforms, please contact Kate Ward.

You know what to do. Do it.

SUNSMART



Slip



Slop



Slap



Seek



Slide

For further information visit SunSmart.com.au or call 13 11 20



Cancer Council



VicHealth

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.

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]

Bushfire At Risk School Information

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>

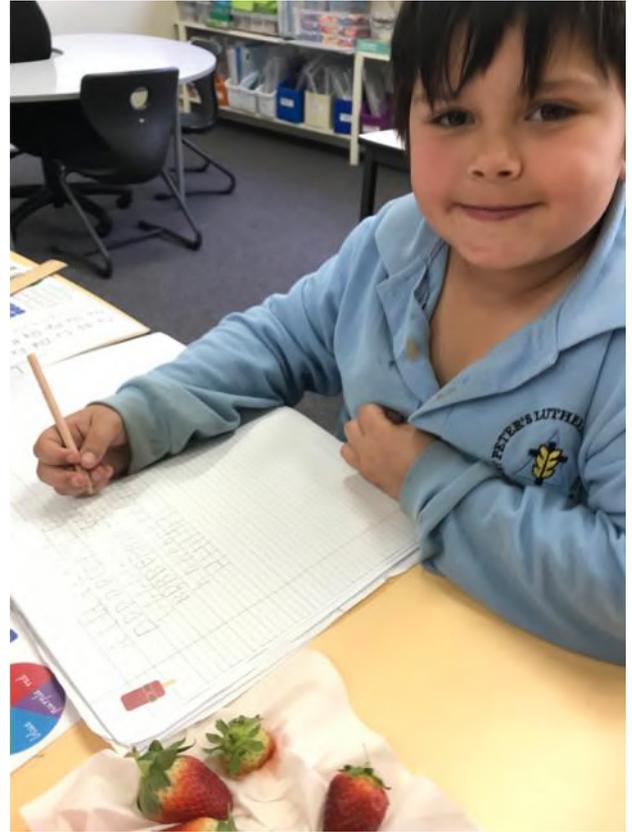
For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.



Around Our School



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