



St Peter's Lutheran School

News Bulletin - Friday 8th October 2021

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From the Principal

Hello everyone, welcome back to school, yes, it is term 4. WOW! I hope that you all had a restful break and were able to spend time relaxing and catching up with family and friends. We have had a wonderful taste of some warmer spring weather over the holidays and I am certainly looking forward to plenty more to come. We will continue to keep you all up to date in regards to any health advice received from government departments in respect to School operations. Even though Lockdown has eased in Regional areas we still have many restrictions to navigate as a school.

Please remind your children that as it is term 4 now that means we all need to be wearing our hats when outside. St Peters is a Sun Smart school and this means that during terms 1 and 4, we all follow the rule of 'No hat no play' stay in the shade today. We appreciate your support with this. Students have had the first week to find their hats and follow this routine. If for some reason they are not able to find their hat, they will be spending their recess and lunchtime sitting in the shade.

As you have no doubt already heard, we are unable to have 'Book Week' and the normal set up this year. We understand that this is disappointing, particularly for our students. One part of our Book Week is the parade and chance to dress up. We have decided that **Friday the 12th of November will be a 'Dress Up Day'** Students may come to school dressed as their favourite super hero/Book character/Who they want to be when they grow up/ Movie star/Casual clothes. We know that some families have put a lot of effort into planning and purchasing costumes for this year's book parade and hope that this provides an opportunity for students to wear them if they would like.

We would still like to have a junior class sleepover sometime this term. We will put forward a date over the coming weeks and hope that by then restrictions will allow this to happen. It is not compulsory for students to stay overnight. It is also a fun day for the junior children with some activities off site. All expenses are covered by the school.

Have a safe and Blessed weekend,

Tim Reimann



Devotional Thoughts

A child of God

by Colleen Fitzpatrick

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are (1 John 3:1).

[Read 1 John 3:1-8](#)

I learned a lot about parenting during my years of working in adoptions and foster care. I learned about the grief of couples unable to achieve a pregnancy and women and men signing consent forms to relinquish their children. I witnessed and shared in the joy of couples who became parents when a child was placed with them for adoption. I walked alongside foster parents who committed to caring for a child who was not their own. Often, this commitment, and love for the child, was sorely tested when a child acted out their grief and anger about what had happened to them. Sometimes the most hurtful thing that a child could say was, 'Don't tell me what to do. You're not my real mum or dad!'

I have also been part of the celebration when a child is placed for adoption. I hold dear the memory of a new father holding a little baby for the first time and saying, 'So you're my son'. I have also seen the joy of all parties when a foster placement becomes permanent through the adoption process.

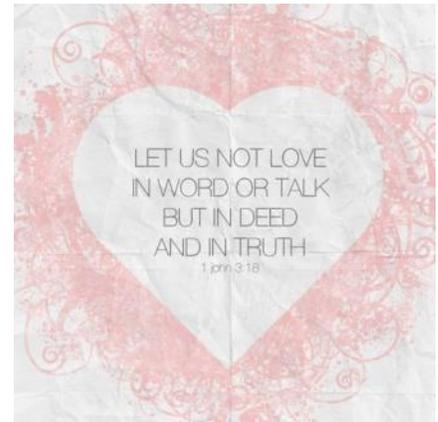
Adoption means the adoptee becomes a part of the family and has equal rights a child born into the family would have. At the time of adoption, a new birth certificate is issued with the details of the adoptive parents included on it.

Taking someone else's child into your home is not always easy! It takes a lot of love, patience and commitment from everybody concerned, particularly the new parents.

Isn't it a bit like this with our Heavenly Father? He lovingly takes us into his family through baptism. We are children of God. God will never reject us. But sadly, some people choose to leave God's family, which grieves God, as well as the members of God's family here on earth.

Let's celebrate God's love and enthusiastically claim our place in God's family with our fellow children of God. That's who we are.

Loving God, thank you for taking us into your care and making us your children. Help us grow to be more like you and see you in other people. Thank you for forgiving our sins and keeping us in your family. Amen.



Awards

Junior Class Award

Milla Bartlett - Having a positive attitude towards work that she might be finding difficult and being inclusive of all students in the playground.



Senior Class Award

Eamon Emson - For showing a positive attitude & increased motivation across all areas of school.



Principal's Award

Thea Paech - Outstanding effort & focus during Humanities.

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.

October 2021

November 2021

1st - Student Free Day
2nd - Melbourne Cup Public Holiday Student Free
9th - Year 7 Transition DMSC
12th - Dress Up Day
16th - Kinder Transition Day
18th - Year 7 Transition DMSC
23rd - Kinder Transition Day
30th - Kinder Transition Day

December 2021

7th - State Wide Transition Day
10th - Last Day Term 4 (normal finish time)

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders will be available from next week, Thursday 14th October from DMSC. Please make sure orders are clearly named with 1 order per envelope/bag. Change can be given.

No Hat No Play

Our No Hat No Play policy is back for Term 4 and Term 1. All students must have a broad brimmed hat to wear at recess and lunch. We have sunscreen for students to apply as well, however if you would like to provide your own, please send it with your child clearly labelled with your child's name.

Uniforms

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

School Concert

With ongoing restrictions, we have decided to cancel our school concert for 2021.

Book Week

Our annual Book Fair and Book Parade have been cancelled for 2021. With current restrictions we are unable to have visitors onsite and its not viable to run either event.



Obstacles, of course, are developmentally necessary: they teach kids strategy, patience, critical thinking, resilience and resourcefulness.

NAOMI WOLF



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

