

Thursday August 24, 2017

Issue 26

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who worked to create our Winter Ball event last weekend. I trust that you all enjoyed the fabulous evening! As ever there were a myriad of different tasks that were completed to ensure the success of the event, thank you to everyone who assisted with the event.

Congratulations to everyone who won prizes in the raffles we hope that you enjoy your winnings.

We have now passed the half way point of the term. The students and staff have been working across a wide range of activities.

Children in 4/5/6 have had a number of visitors who have been explaining the processes that are used when working on a project, be it a photography activity or a building project. Yr. 2/3 have been looking at the environment and the different things that can impact it. K/1 have been looking at historical things in the course of their work.

As we are all aware our weather is very changeable at present, and many of us are still impacted by the various coughs, colds and bugs that have been around during this winter. We have been encouraging everyone to make good use of tissues/hankies and to regularly wash hands so as to minimise the spread of these bugs.

Book Week is here! This year's theme is **Escape to everywhere**.



Our book character parade is on **tomorrow morning**. The parade is set down for **9:15am**. You are most welcome to join us for this year's parade.

We are looking forward to seeing a huge variety of characters at school tomorrow morning.

Interruptions to the school day – everyone is reminded that during **all** visits to our school everyone must report to the office when entering the school grounds. We ask that you observe this practice so as to minimise disruptions to classes during learning times. What may seem like a “quick one minute” thing to you, can actually be the cause of significant disruption to the flow of a lesson, as often there can be several “quick one minute” visits by different people.

We appreciate your understanding – thank you.

Nits are a sensitive topic – we understand that the incidence of nits is a sensitive one, however, I encourage all families to monitor and take action as necessary.

Be aware that there have been several cases of nits recently. Please check your children's heads and take the appropriate actions. Remember that shampoos only work if they are used at the right strength. Good ways to prevent nits include:

- ❖ Brush hair thoroughly every day
- ❖ Tie back long hair
- ❖ Check regularly for lice or eggs (nits) – take action as needed

All families are reminded that children whose **hair is shoulder length or longer, should be wearing their hair tied back** so as to keep the incidence of nits to a minimum.

Uniforms - During the past few weeks, we have been talking about tidying up and organising ourselves in a timely manner at the end of breaks.

This includes tucking in shirts, doing up buttons and tidying ties and collars, getting a drink and going to the toilet as needed at the end of breaks. We understand that games are busy, however, it is still important to tidy way equipment when we are



finished playing so that it is available next time, and washing of hands and tidying of clothes also signals the end of a play time.

Thank you to those children who have taken on the challenge, and excelling!

Children are reminded that they should be wearing the maroon school jumper on cold mornings, not their coat/tracksuit jackets in place of their school jumper.

Everyone is also reminded that that our sports uniform shorts are to be worn on sports days – other non-standard sports shorts must not be worn.

Also, the advice that I have in relation to the sports uniform is that children should be wearing their blue school socks on sports days.

These socks are available for purchase from the office.

Both our school uniform and our sports uniform look smart and thank you to those children and families who are ensuring that it is worn well. Your efforts are appreciated.

Please ensure that your child's *clothing is labelled* as this helps us to ensure that lost property is returned in a timely manner.

Annual Survey - Satisfaction surveys of parents, students and staff will be conducted on behalf of all Catholic schools in the Diocese this term. The surveys are designed to gather feedback from parents, staff and students about their school and will be used to inform school improvement. Responses are confidential and individuals can not be identified.

The surveys will be launched via email on August 21 and close on September 1, 2017 using the email addresses supplied to the school. If you do not receive an email with a link to the survey on August 21, you can access and complete the survey at the following link.

<https://www.research.net/r/stjosephsgrenfellparent2017>

School Fees – the school fees for Term 3 were sent home several weeks ago. Thank you to those families who have already begun paying these accounts. If you have concerns about fee payments, please make contact with Therese Clancy.

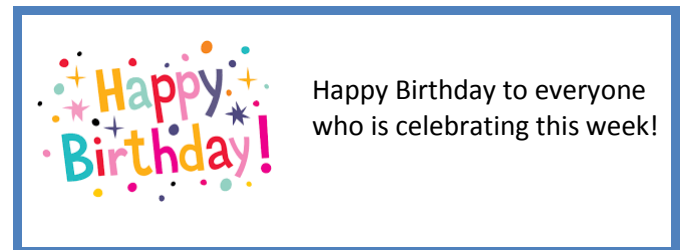
Life Education Van – this year's visit will take place on Monday August 28. A note has been

sent home about this. Please return it to school as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.

Children's Liturgy – please be aware that children's liturgies are held every 4th Sunday during the school term. As such, there will be a children's liturgy as part of Mass on Sunday, and all children are welcome to participate in this liturgy. There will also be the usual "cuppa" after Mass on Sunday.

Sincerely,

Therese Clancy



Reading Tips of the Week...

"Think aloud" to model how to make connections

By modelling how fluent readers think about the text and problem solve as they read, we make the invisible act of reading visible. Modelling encourages children to develop the "habits of mind" proficient readers employ.



Helping children find and make connections to stories and books requires them to relate the unfamiliar text to their relevant prior knowledge. There are several comprehension strategies that help children become knowledgeable readers. Three are:

1. Connecting the book to their own life experience
2. Connecting the book to other literature they have read
3. Connecting what they are reading to universal concepts

(Keene & Zimmermann, 1997)

Helping children discover these connections requires planning and modelling. Parents and teachers can encourage and support thinking, listening, and discussion, and model "think-alouds," which reveal the inner conversation readers have with the text as

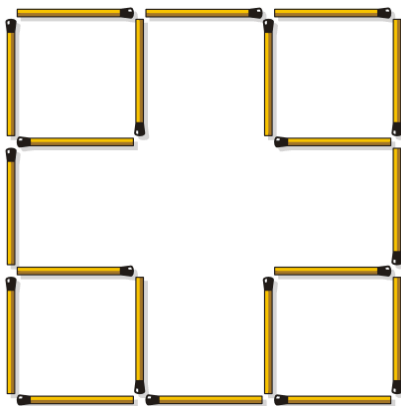
they read (Harvey & Goudvis, 2000). Parents and teachers can point out connections between prior experiences and the story, similarities between books, and any relationship between the books and a larger concept.

www.readingrockets.org



How's your Maths Head?

There are five squares (one 3x3 and four 1x1) formed with 20 matchsticks, as shown in the illustration. Move two matchsticks to get seven squares. Overlapping or breaking of matchsticks or "loose ends" are not allowed.



REC/Wellbeing Coordinator News

Your child/children's wellbeing is of paramount importance to us at St Joseph's School. We want your child/children's experience at school to be a positive one that nurtures and supports their academic, emotional and spiritual growth.

This survey is an important part of our KidsMatter journey. KidsMatter Primary is an Australian initiative that aims to improve children's mental health and wellbeing. It recognises the importance of effective working relationships between parents, school staff and the school community.

The link below will take you to the survey. Once you reach the page to start the survey please be aware that the school name needs to be typed into the box as provided below. Please take note of commas, block letters etc. Please enter the quarter as Q3 (July- Sep)

www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey

School name: St Joseph's School, GRENFELL, NSW

The survey will only take about ten minutes to complete and you may complete it as soon as you read this. The deadline for completion of the survey is the 31st of August. Please take the time to complete the survey. Whether your perspective is as a Kinder parent or a Year 6 parent, or anything in between, your voice matters. This is your chance to be heard; please take advantage of this opportunity.

Peace and blessings,

Leslie King

Early Learning Initiative-LITERACY



"No book is really worth reading at the age of ten which is not equally – and often far more – worth reading at the age of fifty and beyond."

~ C.S. Lewis

Reading Tips for Parents of Toddlers

Being a toddler is all about action. Encourage continued language development and interest in books and reading by keeping things lively and engaging. Everyday experiences are full of opportunities to engage in conversation and develop language skills. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week.

See what works best for your child.

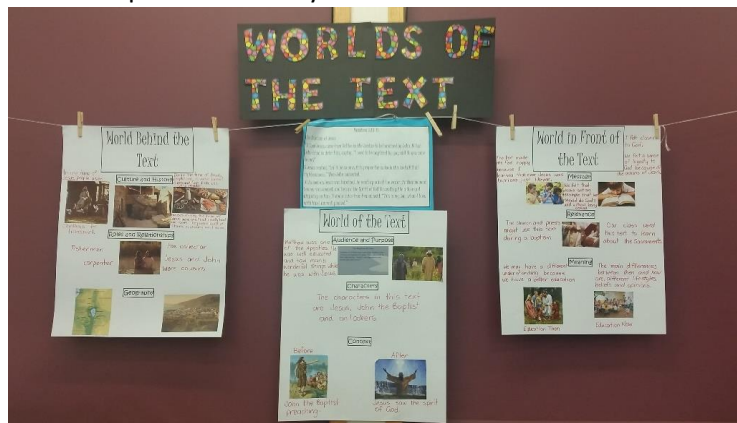
- **Don't expect your toddler to sit still for a book** - Toddlers need to move, so don't worry if they act out stories or just skip, romp, or tumble as you read to them. They may be moving, but they are listening.
- **Recite rhymes, sing songs, and make mistakes!** - Pause to let your toddler finish a phrase or chant a refrain. Once your toddler is familiar with the rhyme or pattern, make mistakes on purpose and get caught.
- **Choose engaging books** - Books featuring animals or machines invite movement and making sounds. Books with flaps or different textures to touch keep hands busy. Books with detailed illustrations

or recurring items hidden in the pictures are great for exploring and discussing.

www.readingrockets.org

Classroom News – Yr. 4/5/6

Year 4/5/6 have been learning how to analyse texts from the Bible using the Texts of the World framework which opens up the context. This framework provides opportunities for the students to look at a Bible text from three ways. The first way is to look at the world behind the text and answering inquiry questions such as; What was life like at this time? What roles did people have at this time? As well as the geographical location. The second is to inquire about audience and purpose, the characters and the context. The third inquiry is to respond to the text personally. What message am I getting from this? How is this text relevant today? And how and why others respond differently.



In English students have been busy publishing their texts from the first half of the term. We have a variety of imaginative, informative and persuasive texts being published. Our Author focus has been on Maurice Gleitzman and Paul Jennings. For the teacher read aloud I have been choosing a book from these authors and reading a chapter to highlight the texts and develop students' interest in different authors. Our class novel this term is "Auggie and Me". This story is about a boy who can't blend in because he was born to stand out. There are some very important lessons contained in this novel.



Authoring Circle.

This is where students help each other to edit and improve writing. The groups remain the same for a term, this way each student is able to monitor the progress of the stories.

Mathematics has seen units of work in number using the four operations. Students have used problem solving as a way of using the four operations which are linked to the real world. We are currently looking at shapes in our environment. We have used Google Earth and images of places to identify shapes used in town planning and buildings.



Students also looked at a variety of 2 D shapes and their properties and designed a table to show data collected on a variety of shapes. We then identified the patterns in the data so we could predict the number of sides or faces in a larger number of shapes. After this activity we looked at our understandings of why we use tables for data and a surprising number of students wanted to rewrite their previous thoughts using more detail and more sophisticated mathematical language.

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|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Rome Sols | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 21 |
| Sols | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 84 |
| Denon Sols | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Sols | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 80 |
| Hogon Sols | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sols | 9 | 18 | 27 | 36 | 45 |



In Creative Art we have studied photography. Students investigated the history of photography and the first camera and photograph. We were very lucky to have Denise Yates come in a talk to us about the finer points of taking a photograph. All students in

year 4/5/6 have a photograph entered in the photography section at the Grenfell show.

Our Science and STEM focus this term has been influenced by the students themselves. All students were asked to identify a problem or issue in our local environment with a design and make solution. There was a variety of issues raised and as a class we decided to tackle the design and function of the sport shed storage. We have studied the current storage and looked at the design and function of the current storage and have designed replacement storage which functions better. We had a visit from Brendan Hayes from the Weddin Shire to talk to the students about the planning sequence of the new amenities block currently being built at the site of the new swimming pool. Brendan showed the floor plans to the students and discussed the Australian Standards Building Code which they are required to follow. Brendan also told us about all the jobs different people have during planning and construction.

Thank you Brendan for a very informative talk. I am sure the students are now better informed as we go forward for our plans and construction of our model of the sport shed storage.



Community News

St Joseph's Parish News - St Joseph's Parish will be holding the next Children's Liturgy at the 9.30 am mass on Sunday August 27 (4th Sunday). All primary school age children are invited to attend. After mass there will be the usual 4th Sunday morning tea where parents and children can socialise together. We look forward to seeing you there.

P & F News

Meeting dates for 2017 - Please note the following dates for 2017 P & F meetings.

September 19

October 17

Thank you to everyone who helped to make Winter Ball a wonderful success!



There are many of you who helped out in some small (or large) way to make the ball a success. Thank you to everyone who

- sold raffle tickets,
- gave donations,
- helped with the massive effort in setting up and packing up – Donna, Kelly, Darren, David, Bec K, Vanessa, Lachlan, Rob, Sally, Scott, Brett, Tanya, Gavin, Jenny, Jaclyn, Bec O'N, Dom and Kelly Bembrick, the hall looked fabulous!

A huge thank you also goes to the Show Ground Trust, Grenfell Rugby Club and Lachlan Fertilizers for their generous support with those behind the scene things that are needed to make every event a success – your support is greatly appreciated.



Dates for your Calendar

AUGUST

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---------------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 21 School Counsellor visit | 22 | 23 Canteen Gp. 4 | 24 | 25 Book Week Parade Mufti Day | 26 | 27 Children's Liturgy |
| 28 Life Ed Van | 29 | 30 Canteen Gp. 5 | 31 | SEPT 1 | 2 | 3 |

SEPTEMBER

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----|----|-------|
| 4 | 5 | 6 Canteen Gp. 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 School Counsellor visit | 12 | 13 Canteen Gp. 1 | 14 K/1 Excursion to Canberra | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 T20 Milo Blast Cricket | 19 P & F Meeting | 20 Canteen Gp. 2 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | OCT 1 |

OCTOBER

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|---------------------|---------------------|---|----|----|----|----|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 NO Canteen Yr. 3-6 Camp at Borambola | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 P & F Meeting | 18 Canteen Gp. 3 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 School Photos | 24 | 25 Canteen Gp. 4 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | November 1 Canteen Gp. 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

NOVEMBER

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|----|----|--------------------|----|-------|----|-----------------------------|
| 6 | 7 | 8 Canteen Gp. 6 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Children's Liturgy |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Dec 1 | 2 | 3 |

DECEMBER

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|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |