



From The Principal

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There are two little girls in Year One and Kindergarten who have been going out of their way each morning to assist the teachers at the King Street gate. One of them stands near the sanitising station to assist students with getting their squirt of sanitiser as they enter the gate. The other one has been waiting for me to take down the crossing flags, and offers to carry them to the canteen for storage. Another little boy from Kindergarten often sits near the entry to say hello to everyone as they come through the gate. Everyone is sure to enter the school grounds with a smile! No one has ever asked these children to do these jobs... they have chosen to help others out of the goodness of their hearts, and to show that they care for other people. This reminded me of the Gospel reading for this Sunday. It's all about loving other people and being willing to serve others in our community.

When asked which of the commandments were the most important, Jesus replied, "You shall love the Lord , your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself"(Matthew 22:34-40).

Loving your neighbor as yourself is found eight times in the Bible. Not once. Not twice. Eight times. Loving your neighbour as yourself is so important to God that He not only repeats Himself, He makes it a command. And not just one in a list of many commands. Jesus coupled the command to love your neighbor as yourself with loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. But loving your neighbour as yourself isn't always easy. That's why God made it a command. He knew we'd struggle. Making it a command is actually to our benefit. How is that? We have to do it on purpose, be intentional about it. Sometimes even out of our need.

Firstly, we have to know and understand what love is, to be able to love others. We have to realise that we are greatly loved to be able to love others. Secondly, we need to love ourselves before we can show love to other people. Thirdly, you can't possibly show love to someone else without having compassion. When we have developed all of these then it becomes possible for us to serve others and show them



love. At St Finbar's we are continuing to work on loving our neighbours by reminding the children each week about "Kind Words and Kind Actions".

A New (and very welcome) Addition!

Last weekend, it was announced at Mass that we have a new Parish Priest! Father Joseph Lam will be joining our St Finbar's community and I am sure you are as excited and pleased as we are. Father Joseph has previously worked with the Greystanes community. We will be welcoming Father Joseph and introducing him to our school community soon. We hope and pray that he finds his time at Glenbrook rewarding and pleasant.



Social Distancing on pickup and drop off

It is of utmost importance that parents and carers remain socially distant at pick up times in the afternoon. Please ensure that you are at least 1.5m away from the next person in line to ensure that we are being covid safe. During Kiss and Ride drop offs, it is equally important that you stay in your car. There will always be a staff member available to assist with seatbelts, bags and helping children to exit the car, so there is no need for parents or carers to exit their vehicles. It helps if bags are inside the car rather than compromise children's safety by asking them to go between two cars to get bags out of the trunk of a car. Unfortunately we are still not permitted to have parents onsite,

Step Up #21 Your Way

Our school community has been participating in the "21 Your Way" challenge, as October is Down's Syndrome Awareness Month. You can view the details of the challenge [here](#). Our classes each chose an activity that they will repeat every day for 21 days. Have a look at some of the exciting activities the children have been involved in!





Kindergarten 2021 Orientation and Transition to School

We are pleased to advise that Kindergarten 2021 Orientation can proceed this Term. We will be informing all parents of Kindergarten 2021 via letter of the processes involved and how we can remain covid safe. Parents will have their information session over zoom, and students will be invited to an orientation morning in small group sessions. Any children who require further transition will be contacted by the school to make additional transition arrangements. Considering that we were only informed over the holiday break that Kindergarten Orientation could go ahead, we feel that this is a safe and suitable option to ensure that our new Kindergarten students are familiar with the school and Kindergarten routines.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke
Principal



Dear Families

Over the last two years, we have been focused on building our house culture. The aim has been to give students a sense of pride, belonging and meaning to their role as a member of each house. Early last year, the students co developed our new house logos and developed an understanding of the meaning of the house names. We have introduced The House Cup and linked our PBS4L reward tokens to each student's house.

To help further develop this culture, we are currently investigating the option to have our school hats made with a reversible insert.





Each hat would have our normal blue side, with the school crest, and the reverse side in their house colour with their house name embroidered across the front. It is projected that the cost of the hat will be the same as the current hat.

We are only in the early stages of developing this product, so that hopefully soon it can become a part of our school uniform going forward. This new product will also ensure that all children have an item in their house colour to wear at our School Carnivals and House Cup Mufti Days.

On Thursday last week, Mrs Hutchins and I met with the CEDP Primary Sports Convenor. During this meeting we discussed gala days that were planned for this term and swimming carnivals. Unfortunately, all planned gala days have been cancelled, however, our school swimming carnival will be able to go ahead, with restrictions. More information about the swimming carnival will be provided in Week 6.

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst
Assistant Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DRAFT NEW CURRICULUM - UPDATE

This term all our classes will be engaging with one Learning Cycle (unit of work) from the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education. Using experiential learning through student inquiry, students will be immersed in activities and experiences that apply scripture and tradition in a meaningful way to the contemporary life of our young people.

Each class/ stage will centre their inquiry around the following driving questions:

Kindergarten | Where in our world is God the Father present in us?

Stage One | How can we care for creation

Stage Two | How is God present in my life?

Stage Three | How do we find hope and joy?

We look forward to sharing the journey of each stage with you throughout the term. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, where many of the learning photos will be posted.

Please also find [attached](#) a letter from CEDP with an update on the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education.



CATHOLIC MISSION MONTH

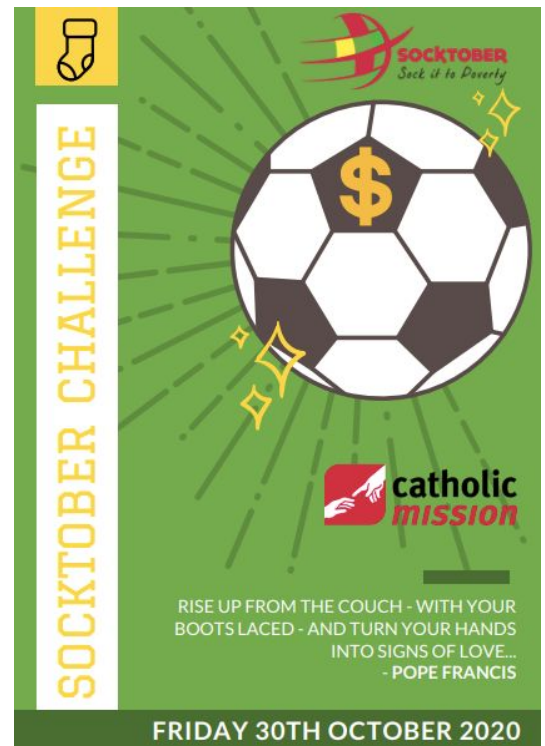
October is World Mission Month and this year Catholic Mission's teachings have been focused on Cambodia and the life-saving care the church is providing to children with disabilities. The Arrupe Centre, in Cambodia, provides physical and educational opportunities and support to the children and their families, who would otherwise be disadvantaged due to their disabilities.

As a school, we would like to contribute to their efforts by fundraising as much money as we can. This year, on **Friday 30th October** (Week 3) we are holding a 'Socktober Challenge'. The students will participate in a class liturgy, learn about the wonderful work of the Arrupe Centre, and make a sock ball with their peers. Each class will then have a fun penalty shoot out, using their handmade sock ball, with their teachers as goalkeepers!

We are asking our families to dig deep and bring in a donation on the day. In previous years we have asked the children to take from their own piggy banks, to give them the sense of giving to those in need. Any monetary donation will be greatly appreciated.

On the day students will wear their sports uniform, however are encouraged to wear soccer | football | colourful socks in support of this fundraiser. Students may also come home asking for a pair of old socks, t-shirts, plastic bags and twine to help them make their sock balls. This will be arranged within their own class groups.

We look forward to a great day and hope to raise awareness and funds for Catholic Mission and the great work they do.



HSC SPECIAL WITH BISHOP VINCENT

At the end of last term, two Year Six students, Josh and Bronagh, were chosen to represent our school in a special video wishing the upcoming HSC students the best of luck in their exams. The video was produced by the Catholic Youth Parramatta team, and was played during a special blessing from Bishop Vincent to the Year 12 students the night before their HSC commenced. If you would like to watch the clip please click [here](#).

Strength, love and peace,

Leanne Brown
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



FAITH IN ACTION TEAM- FIAT

Last term the FIAT team met to discuss ways we could support each other during difficult times. Drawing on Scripture passages for guidance, the team decided to create Jars of Wisdom. The jars contain Scripture quotes and references, along with students' thoughts about when the passage might be helpful to reflect on. The jars were given to each class as a gift on St Finbar's Day and reside in the prayer spaces for students to access when needed.



Mrs Borg and the FIAT team

Are you leaving St Finbar's in 2021?




If you are intending on leaving St Finbar's at the end of 2020, you must inform us in writing. In order to avoid being charged Term One school fees, we require a terms notice.

Contact Details

If you have moved, changed your phone number or emergency contacts have changed, please email the office or log onto the Compass Parent Portal and amend your details. It is important that contact details for your child are kept up to date.



Dates To Remember

Monday 26 October Whole School Assembly 	Wednesday 4 November 9am Kinder 2021 Parent Zoom Orientation	Friday 6 November Kinder 2021 Uniform Fittings	Monday 9 November Kinder 2021 Orientation Week Begins
View School Calendar			

PBS4L - Our Focus



Our Focus

Kind Words & Kind Actions

Use kind words





I feel happy when I make good choices!







P & F Gingerbread House Orders

Dear Parents and Carers

The P & F Committee is doing a Gingerbread House fundraiser for the end of year.

We thought it would be a nice way to spend some time together as a family and create a masterpiece to add to the Christmas table this year. It is also a nice way to add some cheer to the end of a tough year.

Packets will be delivered to your child's class to take home with them. The packs will include the yummy gingerbread house or tree, display board, cello paper and icing.

Here is the information for ordering:

\$32 for the Gingerbread House Kit

\$35 for the Gluten Free Gingerbread House Kit

\$22 for the Gingerbread Tree Kit

\$25 for the Gingerbread Gluten Free Tree Kit

Orders need to be submitted by Tuesday 27th October as we are getting the kits professionally made. Please place your order form and the correct money in an envelope with your child's name and class on the front plus Gingerbread Fundraiser and hand it in to the office.

Kind Regards

P & F Committee





Parish News

[Click this link to read The Parish Barra](#)

Sunday Masses:

Vigil - 5.30pm Saturday evening
7.30am & 9.30am Sunday morning
6pm Family/Youth - First and Third Sunday evenings (except Jan)

Weekday Masses:

Monday: 9am **Tuesday:** 9am **Wednesday:** 8am
Thursday: 9am (except third Thursday - see Anointing Mass)
Friday: 9am
Saturday: 9am

Reconciliation: Saturday evening - 4.45 - 5.15pm, or any time on request

Rosary in Honour of Our Lady: Usually after Wednesday morning Mass.

Anointing Mass: Usually third Thursday of the month at 10am (except January)

Adoration & Benediction: Usually after Friday morning Mass.



Covid-19 Guidelines for Church

WEARING OF FACE MASKS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED IN CHURCHES

- ✓ *The Parramatta Diocese is therefore officially recommending that all worshippers in the Diocese of Parramatta wear a mask to Mass. This would be as people arrive on parish grounds, during Mass and afterwards as they leave. During Communion, the mask may be removed, but it should be in place at all other times.*
- ✓ *Priests, cantors and readers who cannot wear a mask to conduct their duties at Mass, must always observe appropriate social distancing.*
- ✓ *We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.*

- By Public Health Order, it is now a condition of entry that all attending churches are requested to provide information for contact tracing and recording purposes.
- Parishioners attending Mass must now also be asked to confirm that they are not unwell; not experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms; do not have a temperature; have not been in contact with anyone suspected of or having covid-19.

If anyone thinks their answer is 'yes' to any of these questions, they are asked not to come to the church that day.

- **Our Church capacity is limited to 100 persons; our hall 50; meeting room to 12; and the parish office, to just 2 persons.**
- NSW Health also remind those of us over 70, or any with an underlying illness, wherever possible, we should avoid crowded spaces - where 1.5 metre physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- The Diocese has also sent a reminder that:
 1. the current dispensation from Bishop Vincent applies – releasing all Catholics from fulfilling their Sunday obligations of attending Mass; and
 2. details pertaining to pre-recorded and/or live-streaming online Masses can be found on the Diocesan website - <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19>