

# NEWSLETTER



## Primary School

### FROM THE PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Members of the School Community,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of week four!

#### Exams for Years 3-6

In week six, there will be exams for all students in years 3-6. Remember: effective study requires ongoing revision of work covered in class. I encourage all students to begin or continue their revision and to strive for excellence in their exams.

#### Foundation 2018 Orientation Day

Next Thursday we will have a number of new children coming to the school for the "Foundation 2018 Orientation Day". Please make sure to welcome these students and their families to the school. The SMMC playgroup will run on the same morning to coincide with this day, so please come along to the playgroup and meet our new members. For more details on



this, please see Kathryn Funnell at the front office.

#### All Saints' Day:

#### A reminder of our Call to Sanctity

This week we celebrated two significant feasts of the Church, All Saints' and All Souls' Day, and we were very blessed to have Mass celebrated at the school for All Souls' Day. Both of these feasts, in their different ways, remind us that we are all called to holiness.

All Saints' Day reminds us to live lives of heroic virtue by imitating the men and women the Church sets before us as examples of holiness. I encourage the children to choose a saint who inspires them. God wants us to be saints! This is our purpose in life!

Have a great weekend.

God bless,

John Burton

*Principal of Primary*



Term 4 2017

**9th November, Thursday:** Foundation 2018 Orientation Day. Welcome, little students!

**Week 6:** Exam Week for Years 3 - 10.

#### Friday Fortnightly Assemblies

Year 1/2 - 2.30pm, 17th November  
Year 3 - 2.30pm, 1st December

**7th December:** Presentation Night and end of the 2017 School Year.

### News

The **chocolate fundraiser** is nearing its end, so please sell those last few sweets and return the funds to the pockets provided. Our netball court is slowly becoming a reality!

The "**Coins for a Cause**"-jars are still collecting loose change. Year 5/6 and Year 3 are in the lead - with the senior years needing a 'hand' (preferably digging into their pockets for loose change?)

### AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

**Foundation** - Foundation children are learning how to write information reports, integrating literacy into their science topic: Life Cycles.

**Year 1/2** - Year 1's finished their booklets "Christ Our Saviour" and Year 2 learnt more about saints.

**Year 3** - Studying force and motion in Science and reading George Seldon's 'A Cricket in Times Square.'

**Year 4** -Avidly preparing for our assembly at which we will be performing a very popular poem. We are also about to embark on our exam revision.

**Year 5/6** -Immersing themselves in "The Secret Garden's" vocabulary and literary devices and finalising persuasive writing pieces.

## YEAR 4 - MY SACRAMENTALS



Sacramentals are material objects, things or actions set apart or blessed by the Church. We asked some students to bring in their favourite sacramentals and explain the significance of the particular objects.

**Athul T:** I have seen a large statue of St Sebastian, and this photo shows the crucifixion, and the statues are bigger than real life. Statues remind us to live like the saints.

**Joy v P:** My Rosary beads are made of pearl and I got them on my First Holy Communion Day. They are very pretty, and I use them for our family rosary.

**Joseph B. :** My cross has all the Stations of the Cross drawn around it. I like it because it reminds me of Jesus and I received it for my baptism.

## YEAR 3 - ROSARY BOOKLET

Year 3 have enthusiastically completed a mini project in Religion; making a rosary pamphlet to help them memorise and pray the mysteries with greater attention and devotion. Such visual aids help meditation on the mysteries during the Family Rosary. Prizes were awarded to the most presentable pamphlets.

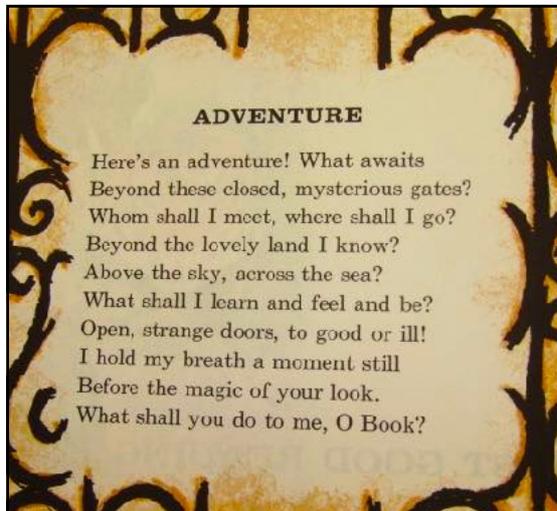
**Winners:** 1st prize – Sarah Chaston and Ellora Sutcliffe

2nd prize- Anna Thomas

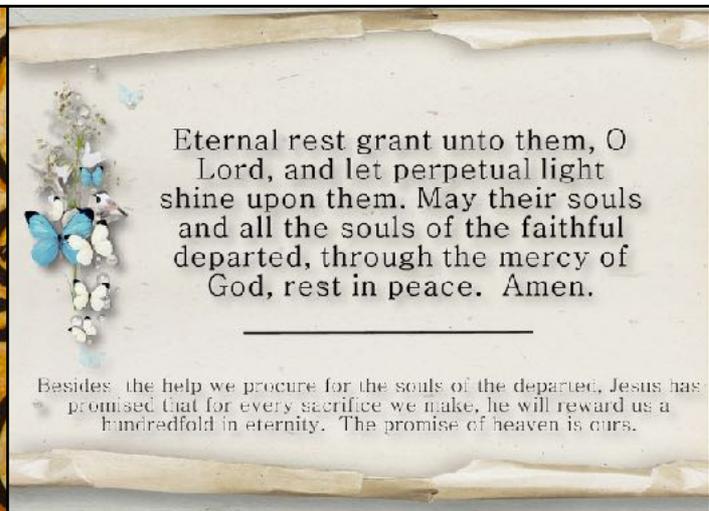
3rd prize- Chelsea Walker



The booklets of the winners! Well done!



Rebecca Morton found this lovely poem and offered it to the newsletter for wider enjoyment.



Some pray this just after Grace Before Meals during November. It is also traditionally said when passing a cemetery.

## NEWSLETTERS - HARD & SOFT

Newsletters will be updated on the website for easy sharing among your friends and family, as well as a hard copy being given to each family. As all but two families wished to have the hard copy edition each month (Primary each fortnight) we will continue providing this format.

# Secondary

## Coordinator's Column

Dear Parents,

### Month of the Holy Souls

As you know, November is the month of the Holy Souls. It presents us with a wonderful opportunity to pray for those amongst our relatives and friends who have passed away but may still be in Purgatory. The school will have a "Book of the Dead" on display in our chapel in which students and community members can write the names of their deceased loved ones, so that we may pray for them as a school community.

### New Students

We have had the pleasure of welcoming two new students into Year Nine this term. Along with this, we are fielding enquiries from a number of new families for enrolment into the Secondary

School for 2018, meaning that, God willing, we will see some slightly larger classes next year. Thank you all for your prayers for the growth of our school; I am sure they are making a significant difference.

### Netball Court

Fundraising for our new netball/basketball court is progressing well, with the goal of construction over the Christmas holidays looking more and more achievable. Thanks to all those families who have been busy selling chocolates for this great cause.

May God bless you and your families.

God bless,  
Steve Vieira  
Secondary Coordinator



### Herbs for Food

TAS Year 7/8 are learning about herbs and spices, their benefits and how to grow them. They are growing their herbs from seed, seedlings and cuttings.



Thomas (growing sage), Reginald (dill), Luke (oregano), Daniel (thyme).

**November** - From 1st - 8th we try to visit a cemetery - where our relatives are buried if possible - and pray for the deceased. Remember there are special indulgences to be gained for the Holy Souls especially in this month, under the usual conditions.

## 'AROUND THE CLASSROOMS'

**Year 7 English** - Before crafting their own short story, the class 'savours' several famous short stories, including Henry Lawson's 'The Drover's Wife' and, later this term, Paul Gallico's 'The Snow Goose'.

**Year 8 English** - In studying Vance Palmer's "The Foal", Yr 8 have been learning how psychological short stories (those which explore the thoughts and feelings of the main character) can pack myriads of symbolism into very simple plots.

**Year 9 English** have just finished viewing the movie, "The Book Thief": an interesting study on the themes of the power of words, the importance of courage, and what death would be like if it were a person.

**Yr 9 and 10 History** - Students have been studying World War One, bringing the trenches to life in the

classroom and vigorously debating the merits of conscription.

**Yr 7 & 8 History** - Students have been working hard in our Place and Liveability unit. A wonderful class debate on the relative merits of city and country amenities was a real highlight, showcasing the natural debating instincts of this group (see photo).



**Year 11** - have just completed their first HSC exams, and are enjoying having the weight of the world off their shoulders as they come back to school to resume their studies.

**Year 7/8 Latin** - Along with the language, we are learning the cultural background of Roman Life. For example, did you know that Roman children had to take a slave to school to keep them in order? Also that Roman children had to learn Greek as well as Latin?

## INTERVIEW WITH OUR CAPTAINS

**Emily Drum:** I was born in the first year of the third millennium and was very blessed to be born into a Catholic family, as the second eldest of five children. I spent my childhood growing up on a farm near Junee, and would find any excuse to be outdoors!

**Bede Funnell:** I was also born in the 21st century in Wagga, during the month of October and am the youngest of four children, growing up on a farm near Collingullie.

**“What saint do you find an inspiration?”**

**Emily:** Saint Maria Goretti strikes me as one of the most inspirational saints of all time. I may be being a bit biased since she is my confirmation saint, but I think we could all gain by looking at her life. At age 11, a man tried to take her precious gift of virginity and when she refused, he stabbed her a total of 14 times. I not only admire her because she chose death over sin, but also because on her deathbed, she forgave her murderer and prayed that he might one day be in heaven.

**Bede:** Saint Jose Sanchez del Rio. He is a saint to whom everyone can look for inspiration, as he showed that even a child can stand up to Christian persecution. His last words were “Viva Cristo Rey!” (Long live Christ the King!).

**“What figure from history should everyone learn about?”**

**Emily:** Hitler. I’m not saying we should be like him but I think he’s a good example of how ill-used power, poorly-formed ideas and no faith can cause destruction in a being and harm others.

**Bede:** Sir Weary Dunlop: He was an Australian surgeon who served in the 2nd World War, and is well known for his leadership, when held as a prisoner by the Japanese. He had opportunities to become a professional footballer, and business

man, but gave them up to serve his country. This can show young people today that not everything in life is about fame and fortune, and it’s better to make choices for things more important than yourself.

**“What areas of school life would you like to foster as a school leader?”**

**Emily:** Respect and responsibility. One thing that each and every person deserves is respect and by being respectful - you earn it. I also think taking responsibility for one’s actions is one of the most attractive traits a person can have because it requires a person to humble themselves and lower their pride.

**Bede:** Personal discipline: This helps you in every facet of life. It helps, as a student (sportsmanship), as a worker, as a parent and most importantly as a Catholic. And I’d like to see more involvement from the students in school activities.

**“What are the top three reasons you value your school?”**

**Emily:** The most obvious reason is the Catholic environment. I also appreciate the fact we get the opportunity for confessions, Mass and I love that each class begins with a prayer. Apart from that, I’ve made strong friendships with students from a range of different classes and with past students.

**Bede:** I value the school for the Faith taught here; the Sisters; that everyone who goes to school goes to Mass, and you’re all involved with each other (K-12).



The Year 7/8 class recently visited the Temora Aviation Museum to see an award-winning international touring exhibition ‘Da Vinci Machines’ which showcases 60 iconic machines and inventions inspired by Da Vinci’s drawings.



### Year 9 Family Size Statistics with Sr Mary Dominica

Year 9 have been studying Statistics (compiling and analysing) in Mathematics. We compiled some interesting stats. about our class members asking the question ‘How many children are in your family?’

The results: Mean = 11 Median = 11 Mode = 9 & 12 Range of scores = 5

Q1 If there are 7 students in the class can you tell me how large the SMALLEST family is?

Q2 Would you say that these results are typical? Justify your answer.

(I’ll give a chocolate to non-Year 9 students with the best answers!)