



# SMJ NEWSLETTER

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Principal ~ Andrea Cox  
Deputy Principal ~ Michael Rowe  
School Advisory Council  
Chairperson ~ Heath Watson

Issue 8 28th March 2019

## Caring, Learning, Growing: Every Child, Every Day

Dear Parents and Friends of the SMJ Community,

I have been both challenged and inspired by the Church's response to the Child Sexual Abuse and the role of the School, in partnership with parents, in ensuring that our school is a place where children feel safe and have a strong sense of belonging.

School, Parish and families all have responsibility to child safety and as a Catholic School, our commitment to this is drawn from the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Gospels. At the heart of this commitment is Christ's message of love, hope and justice and the innate dignity of each person.

As a Catholic School, we have a moral, legal and mission-driven responsibility to create a nurturing school where children are respected, their voices heard and where they are safe and feel safe. Here at Ss Michael and John's Primary School, we are called to live our vision and mission as expressed through our mantra:

Caring Learning Growing, Every Child, Every Day

On a personal level, I have found my faith challenged at each new revelation since the abuse scandal began. I have even asked myself if I can continue to believe in the church. In light of the stories that have come to the surface through the Royal Commission, the betrayal of trust is so great.

In trying to put my thoughts into words I share with you words taken from the former CEO of the Catholic Church's Truth, Justice and Healing Council, Francis Sullivan and his article 'Why Stay? (11<sup>th</sup> March 2019).

*Since the conviction of Cardinal Pell, I have been asked why I remain a Catholic. It is an obvious question. The extent of criminal behaviour and the active cover up by bishops and religious leaders or perpetrators has been breath taking. Ordinary Catholics have been played as mugs by the Church leadership. Why stay?*

*My answer is why not? The abuse scandal has rocked my confidence in the clericalist management of the Church but not my sense of the collective journey I walk with other Catholics. I believe the "assembled walkers" are the Church! I feel no compulsion to leave them. I feel participating in a faith community a vital aspect of my self expression. Being Catholic for me is less a religious tag or a member of a religion and more a chosen pathway of personal and spiritual discovery best undertaken in community. It is my way of living the Gospel.*

*Being Catholic has always been a mix of the identification with a religious tradition and a personal integration of faith and reason. ... The abuse scandal has clouded the atmosphere for Catholics, but not the imperative to seek the Beyond and join with others in pursuing truth, goodness and beauty.*

*I believe the wisdom of the Gospel tradition has much to offer....For to be Catholic is to be attentive to how our society becomes more human, more compassionate and creative in prizing the dignity and inherent value of everyone.*

The Catholic Church is not the Hierarchy; it is not the building; it is us: the people. When the early Christians used the term "catholic", they were not referring to any particular church, denomination, rite, or communion. They were simply referring to all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and that is why I stay.

A full transcript of the Francis Sullivan's letter is available on request.

Yours in Christ  
Andrea



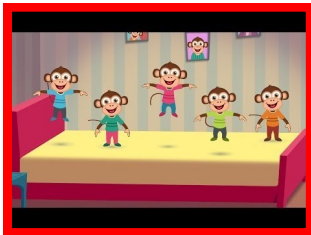
## Sherman Learning Community (Foundation)

We have been using our experiences as topics for our writing. Last week we wrote about our budgie 'Bev'. We brainstormed some words to describe Bev and what she does and then wrote a sentence using some of these words. This week we had a slimy shaving cream experience. There was shaving cream sprayed onto the table and we worked our hands through it, making patterns, writing numbers and letters or our names. Again, we brainstormed what it felt like- gooey, slimy, soft- and then we wrote a sentence. We had great fun!



## Brigid Learning Community (1/2)

We have been very busy preparing for our Junior School Liturgy which we had today. Thank you to everybody who was able to make it as we understand that people have work commitments.



We have been focusing on writing 'catchy and interesting' sentences in our writing sessions and identifying these when reading our shared text. We have been continuing to work hard on counting patterns and place value during our maths lessons. We are all very excited about our school sports next Thursday. Hopefully everybody has been practicing in the back yard or high jumping on their beds!!!!

## LYNCH LEARNING COMMUNITY (3/4)

This week during sport we have been practicing for cross country. We have been writing a good copy on the computers of our narratives. In maths, we have been looking at counting patterns, and odd and even numbers. We started the resilience project on Tuesday. In Inquiry we have been learning about rules. Last Thursday we had Harmony Day and we were able to dress in something orange or a cultural costume, it was a good day.

By Riley, Cooper, Alan



## Farewell and Best of Luck to the Dowling Family.

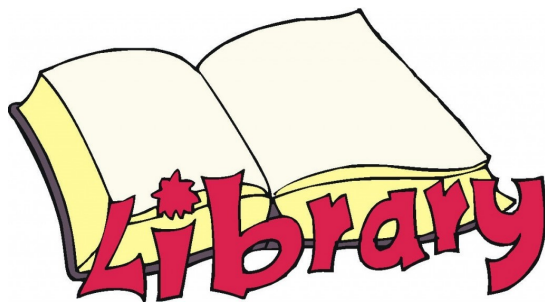
Our school community would like to wish the Anthony, Letisha, Ella and April all the very best on their move to Ocean Grove. We would like to thank you for everything you have put into SMJ over the last 6 Years.



## Dates to remember over the next week...

Tomorrow 29 <sup>th</sup>	No Assembly
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Hot cross bun order forms due back to the school office
	Easter Eggs to be handed to school office
	Year 4 Camp to Portland (Monday to Wednesday)
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	SMJ School Sports Day - Dudley Cornell - NO LUNCH ORDERS
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of term - school finished at 2.30pm
	Assembly 1/2 Miss Murray

**NO LUNCH ORDER  
NEXT THURSDAY  
THE 4th APRIL  
DUE TO SCHOOL  
SPORTS DAY**



### ***What is the difference between fantasy and science fiction?***

Science fiction deals with scenarios and technology that are possible or may be possible based on science. Some science fiction such as far-future space opera or time travel stories may seem implausible, but they are still not beyond the realm of scientific theory.

#### **Suggested books:**

First kids in space by Tristan Bancks  
Aquatica and Mechanica by Lance Balchin  
Mort: the 10,000 year old boy by Martin Chatterton  
The four-fingered man by Cerberus Jones  
Perfect world by George Ivonoff



On the other hand, fantasy generally deals with supernatural and magical occurrences that have no basis in science.

#### **Suggested books:**

Artemis fowl by Eoin Colfer  
Brotherband series by John Flanagan  
Foxcraft by Inbali Iserles  
Hilda and the stone forest by Luke Pearson  
Nevermore by Jessica Townsend



## FREE FUN EASTER EGG RAFFLE

We will be holding our end of term Easter Raffle on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of April (last day of term)

We ask that all families please drop off an Easter Egg to the school office by Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> of April for us to bundle up for prizes in each learning Community.

Thank you!



## LAST DAY OF TERM 1 BBQ LUNCH \$5 PER CHILD/\$10 A FAMILY

Includes BBQ sausages in bread, packet of chips  
& fruit box or bottle of water.

Students can wear coloured clothes.

Please pay the school office or your  
child's homeroom teacher.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Anita C, Rome V, Natasha G, Luke M, Stevie T,  
Ruby B & Maddie C





# Media Team ...

Two weeks ago all the students in our school participated in the Resilience Project. We talked to some students about what they thought about it. This is what they said:

Scarlett A: *"it was brilliant he was the funniest man I had ever met. I learnt that you can make someone's day by giving them a smile!"*

Sienna M: *"it was very fun and interesting and I have learnt a lot about being kind."*

Darcy T: *"I felt intrigued to know more and he was very funny."*

Hugh M: *"it was funny, it was fun and my favourite part was dancing and hugging the teachers."*

Layla G: *"I thought it was fun."*

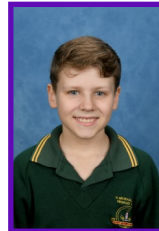
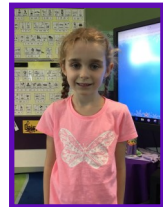
Aston S: *"I thought it was funny when the teachers laughed."*

Hunter R: *"it was awesome!"*



## THE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK ARE...

Prep: Cooper B & Ashlyn Turra  
1/2: Maggie B & Oliver K  
3/4: Blake C & Riley O  
5/6: Ella D & Olek T



# UP COMING EVENTS ...



# Ss Michaels and Johns Primary School

## School Sports Day 2019

Thursday 4th April

### Junior Timetable

<u>Time/Age</u>	<u>9.30</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>10.30</u>	<u>11.00</u>	<u>11.30</u>	<u>12.00</u>	<u>12.30</u>	<u>1.00</u>
5/6 girls	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Head home after events .
5/6 boys	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	
7 girls	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	
7 boys	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	
8 girls	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	
8 boys	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	
9 girls	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	

\*9 girls stay for 200m/800m optional races\*

### Junior Events

1. Long Jump	5. 100m
2. Shot Put	6. Discus
3. Sprints and Hurdles	7. Triple Jump
4. High Jump	

### Senior Timetable

<u>Time/Age</u>	<u>9.30</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>10.30</u>	<u>11.00</u>	<u>11.30</u>	<u>12.00</u>	<u>12.30</u>	<u>1.00</u>
9 boys	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Lunchtime then seniors run long distance 200m/800m (optional)
10 girls	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	
10 boys	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	
11 girls	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	
11 boys	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	
12/13 girls	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	
12/13 boys	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	

### SENIOR EVENTS:

1. Long Jump	5. 400m
2. Shot Put	6. Discus
3. Sprints and Hurdles	7. Triple Jump
4. High Jump	

# Horsham Disability Expo

Information and exhibits featuring community and disability services available for people living with a disability, their families and supporters.

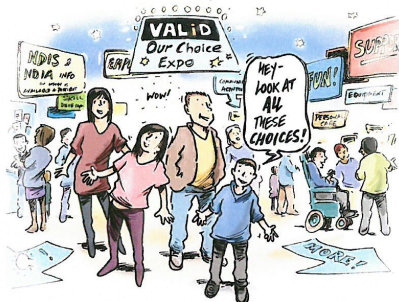
Are you getting the best from your NDIS package?

Do you want to do more things in the community?

Looking for choices and new opportunities?

Then visit the expo:

- over 40 exhibits
- Information Sessions on NDIS related topics



**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2019**  
**10am - 3pm**

Church of Christ  
91 River Road, Horsham

VALID, Wimmera Parent Support Network and the VALID Horsham Peer Action Groups invite you to visit the Horsham NDIS Expo featuring a range of local and state-wide community and disability services available for participants.

Exhibits will include agencies that provide community access, accommodation, day activities, continence, equipment, advocacy, training, employment and much more.

**Free entry (no RSVP required)**

For more info on becoming an exhibitor at the Expo contact [christine@valid.org.au](mailto:christine@valid.org.au)



Phone: 03 9416 4003 web: [www.valid.org.au](http://www.valid.org.au)

**VALID**

Supported by



Cr Mark Radford, Mayor  
invites you to the  
Official Opening  
of the  
**Apex Adventure Island Stage 1 Project**

**Sunday 7 April 2019**

**11.45 am**

**Apex Adventure Island, Pump Track  
Barnes Boulevard, Horsham**

Between 11 am and 2 pm there will be a free BBQ, pump track action, competitions for best-dressed bike/scooter and enjoyment of Apex Adventure Island's natural space



This project has been a partnership between Horsham Apex Club, Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, Wimmera River Improvement Committee and Horsham Rural City Council

**RSVP by Wednesday 3 April 2019**

Email: [fiona.kelly@hrcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:fiona.kelly@hrcc.vic.gov.au) or phone 53829725



Dear Families,

Thank you to those families who filled in our report survey on Caremonkey. The data we received was extremely valuable.

**SCHOOL  
REPORT**

We are seeking parental feedback on how we can make our reporting better and more user friendly. We are holding a community conference on reporting on Monday 1st April at 7.30pm in the Senior Learning Community. A crèche facility will be available during this time. We anticipate that this session will go for approximately 1 hour.

Please RSVP to the school office on 53823000 if you would like to attend.

Thank you for making this contribution to improving our school.

Mrs Andrea Cox  
Principal

# DATES TO REMEMBER AT SMJ

## 2019

MARCH		
FRI 29 <sup>th</sup>		NO ASSEMBLY
APRIL		
MON 1 <sup>st</sup> ~ WED 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Year 4 Camp to Portland
THURS 4 <sup>th</sup>		SMJ School Sports Day - <b>NO LUNCH ORDERS</b>
FRI 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Assembly 1/2 Miss Murray
FRI 5 <sup>th</sup>		LAST DAY OF TERM 1 <b>School finishes at 2.25pm</b>
MON 22 <sup>nd</sup>		PUBLIC HOLIDAY EASTER MONDAY
TUES 23 <sup>rd</sup>		TERM 2 COMMENCES
WED 24 <sup>th</sup>		Biblical Dress up day and Stations of the Cross
THURSDAY 25 <sup>th</sup>		PUBLIC HOLIDAY ANZAC DAY
FRIDAY 26 <sup>th</sup>		Colour Fun Run
MAY		
WED 8 <sup>th</sup>		Energy Breakthrough Parent information evening
FRI 10 <sup>th</sup>		Mothers Day Breakfast
SUN 12 <sup>th</sup>		Mothers Day Mass
FRI 24 <sup>th</sup>		School Photo Day
FRI 24 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Parent social night ~ MUSIC BINGO Coughlin Park
TUES 28 <sup>th</sup> ~ FRI 31 <sup>st</sup>		Year 6 Camp to Melbourne

**WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL**  
**BIBLICAL COSTUME DRESS UP DAY**  
**ALL FAMILIES WELCOME**  
**PARADE AT 9.00AM FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**(MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW NEXT WEEK)**





# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR 2019 !!



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**FAMILY NIGHT**

## Welcome to Goodstart Horsham

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