



SMJ NEWSLETTER

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

Issue 15 6th June 2019

Caring, Learning, Growing: Every Child, Every Day

Dear Parents and Friends of the SMJ Community,

We're all familiar with our birthdays, and we celebrate them because they mark the day of the year in which we entered into this life. But did you know the church also has a birthday?

Pentecost is the Church's birthday, and like any birthday, it's a cause for celebration. And like our birthday it is celebrated on a special day of the year known as Pentecost Sunday.

The word Pentecost is Greek, and it means "50th day." Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their Earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations.

Pentecost is also a Jewish holiday, which the Jews use to celebrate the end of Passover. Jews celebrate the gift of the law to Moses at Mt. Sinai on this day. But we, as Catholics, celebrate the birth of our Church.



At Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. Jews from all over the world were gathered with Peter, the leader of the Apostles and the Eleven. At this time, a great wind blew, and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which split itself into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon these people, and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another.

Peter arose and addressed the crowd, explaining that this phenomenon was the work of the Holy Spirit, prophesized in the scripture.

Peter then called all those present to be baptized, and about three thousand people were baptized that day.

These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first pope of the Catholic Church.

The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit. The colour of Pentecost is red, and the priest wears red vestments on this day.

Yours in Christ
Andrea

Congratulations



Last Friday at the Catholic Education Week Dinner, Ally Brennan, along with colleagues from the South West Language Cluster, was the recipient of the Partnership Award for the work they are doing in delivering the Indonesian Language Program in their respective schools.

Well done Ally and Colleagues! An outstanding achievement and recognition for the development of a fantastic Languages program.

Student Led Conferences

Mon 24th to Wed 26th June

Please book your child's Student Led Conference on line following these Instructions:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au
and enter code **ssdj3**

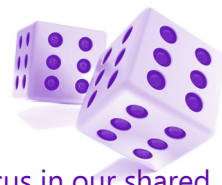
Appointments with specialist teachers are available by appointment through the office.

Dates to remember over the next week...

Fri 7 th	Assembly 5/6 Mrs Hamilton
Thurs 13 th	5/6 Mr Millemaci Mass 9.30am Senior Hooptime (years 5 & 6)
Fri 14 th	Assembly Prep Mrs Haase

Sherman Learning Community (Foundation)

We have been enjoying learning all about addition in Maths. A favourite game is "Block Buster" which involves throwing a dice with a partner and adding the two numbers together as quickly as possible by counting on from the largest number. This is an excellent game to play at home too if you have some dice! Our current reading learning intention is using the initial sounds in words to help us read them. This has been a big focus in our shared and guided reading sessions. You can assist your child with this reading strategy at home by encouraging them to look at the beginning sounds in unfamiliar words to help read them.



BRIGID LEARNING COMMUNITY (1/2)

This week we have been learning more about the Old Testament. The story we have been learning about this week is from Exodus. We compared the two characters from the story- Moses and the Pharaoh and discussed what qualities you would see in a good leader. We learnt that from reading this story God wants us to show our love to others and be good leaders each day in our own lives. You might like to talk to your child about the qualities that you think are important for someone to have to be leaders.

We have been working on Place value in maths. We have all been playing chicken scramble. You grab handfuls of blocks and then need to work out how many we have by counting them. We have talked about strategies such as counting in collections of ten and learning about trusting the count. This is something we could all practise at home by counting collections of pegs, pencils and buttons.

LYNCH LEARNING COMMUNITY (3/4)

This week we have been focusing on living and non-living things. We have been noticing the differences between living and non-living things. In biological science we have been planting and looking after plants. After a while they started to grow and sprout. We have been working on our ER (e.r stands for educational research) about a living or non-living thing we are interested in and don't know much about. In maths we have been in our home groups and we have been using different strategies to work a subtraction problem/worded problems and playing fun warm up games.

By Lotah, Cliona, Indianna

MADDEN LEARNING COMMUNITY (5/6)

Last week the year 6s went on school camp to Melbourne. We stayed at the Urban camp for three nights. Our first activity, once we got to Melbourne, was ice skating at the O' Brien ice skating arena. We had lots of fun although most of the kids fell over but it was awesome. On day one our night activity was the Eureka Skydeck. It was really cool seeing the whole city at night. On day two we started off by going to the Immigration Museum. They taught us about immigrants and refugees that immigrated to Victoria. After that, we went to the Melbourne Sea Life Aquarium where we saw the sharks, fish and stingrays getting fed. We then walked to Parliament House where we learned a few things like the queen can only walk on the red carpet so she can't go into the green room in Parliament House. After dinner we went to Bounce. We were very energetic and bouncing everywhere. We played dodge ball and jumped off a platform onto a huge airbag. When it was time to go to bed we were really chatty but we still had two more busy days ahead of us. The next days were great and we had a fantastic time.

Breakfast Club Donations

The Breakfast Club is looking for donations of Milo, Strawberry Jam or Vegemite. If you are able to donate any of these, could you please drop off at the School Office. Many Thanks.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Oliver C, Makenzie R, Elke S, Ruby H & Zahra E

Series of the week ...

The Famous Five (by Enid Blyton)

The Famous Five are a group of children who have the sort of adventures most kids dream about. Julian, Dick and Anne get together with their cousin, George in the first adventure, "Five On A Treasure Island".

George has a dog called Timmy ... and an island. Most kids just have a dog, but George's parents own Kirrin Island and let her run around on it as if it were her play-thing.

Tags: mystery, adventure, family, animals, classics

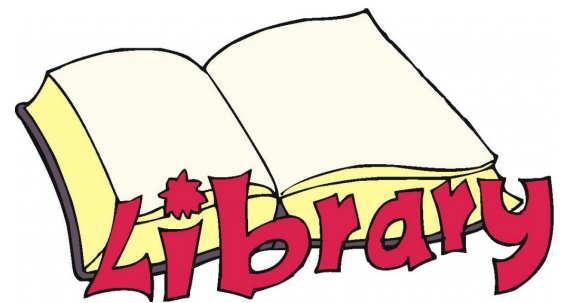
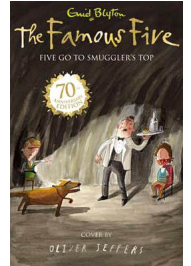
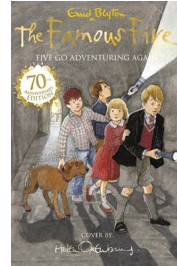
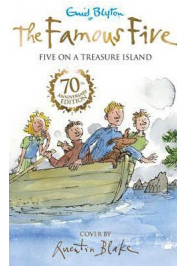
Reading level: 7+

Books in series: 21

Should you read in order: No

Next release: Finished

Website: www.famousfivebooks.com



50th Anniversary of the moon landing



On 20 July 1969, a historical milestone took place: Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon. Here, he spoke his now-famous words: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." This memorable moment was broadcast live around the world on television and radio. It became the most watched TV programming up to that date, with over 500 million viewers worldwide.

We currently have a display in the library featuring a number of new books to commemorate the 50th anniversary. So make sure you come in and check it out!

Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with
The Luciani family on the passing of
Jessie and Holly's Grandfather and
Danielle's Father In-Law

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR
CHOCOLATE MONEY OR CHOCOLATES BACK TO
THE SCHOOL OFFICE.
THANK YOU!**



LEADERSHIP PHOTOS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO ORDER

Flag Monitors, Library Monitors, Media Team, Mini Vinnies,
School Captains, Sports Captain and SRC photos were taken on School Photo day.
The proofs are in the school foyer or you can go online at www.leadingimage.com.au
and enter the Shoot Number H5U9AWX8 and you can view the proofs before ordering.
Please see the office if you have any concerns.



Sports News...

On Monday, our school sent a team of 5 students to Warrnambool to compete in the Greater Western Region Cross Country Championships. Our students qualified for this event after strong performances in our school cross country trials, the HCPSSA championships and the Little Desert Championships. The Greater Western Region includes Ballarat, Warrnambool, Portland, Hamilton, Colac and many places in between. By all reports, our students competed exceptionally well in pretty tough conditions and our school community are very proud of their efforts.

James Burton 37th in the 11 year old boys

Iris Sudholz 3rd in the 9-10 year old girls

Greta Arnel 27th in the 12-13 year old girls

Max Sudholz 2nd and Tadgh McGrath DNF in the 12-13 year old boys

Unfortunately Tadgh sustained an ankle injury in his run after starting the race strongly. Max and Iris have both now qualified for the State Championships in July along with their talented siblings Anna (3rd) and Daisy (1st) who qualified while representing St Brigid's at the same meet. We wish the Sudholz clan all the best for the State Championships in Melbourne!



Junior Hoop time today...
Results in next weeks
newsletter



RE NEWS

Gifting Mass, Thursday June 20th, at 11.30am

Our Gifting Mass is a chance for our children and families to donate to other families in need within our own community via the Christian Emergency Food Bank.

Each Learning Community has a mealtime or toiletry focus, as outlined below:

Prep Learning Community – Breakfast

eg. cereal, milo, vegemite, jam, tea/coffee

Junior Learning Community – Dinner

eg. rice, pasta, bolognese sauce, tinned tuna/salmon, tinned soup/stews

Middle Learning Community – Lunch & Snacks

eg. dry biscuits, spreads, baked beans/spaghetti,
cheddar cheese, tinned soups

Senior Learning Community - Toiletries

eg. soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, face cloth,
shampoo/conditioner, deodorant

We are collecting the items from now until Tuesday the 18th June.

Please leave items in the baskets in your child's Learning Community.

Many thanks in anticipation for your support.





**Stay in your PJs and
raise money for asthma.**

Who: Ss Michael & John's Primary School

How to donate: Gold coin donation

When: Friday June 28th - Last day of term 2!

Join the fun.

www.pjday.org.au

  @AsthmaAustralia #pjs4asthma

In partnership with **dyson**

Dealing with video game crazes: Fortnite and fanaticism

Working with kids in schools these past weeks, and indeed having five children of my own, has alerted me to the seemingly unprecedented obsession with the new online game Fortnite. If Fortnite is the latest craze to hit your household, or you are being nagged and cajoled to let them have the game “that everyone else is playing”, then here are a few things you should know:

- It is violent. The aim of the game is to be the last person standing, and in order to do that you must kill all the other players.
- However the violence is portrayed as less real and almost cartoonish. There is no blood and gore as such, and so the violence is not comparable to that portrayed in other games such as Call of Duty or Grand Theft Auto.
- You can work in a team or on your own; working in a team can develop some effective teamwork skills.
- You can chat to team members but also random strangers who make up the remainder of the 100 players who are playing at the time.
- You can turn the chat function off by going to the settings and clicking on Audio options. This limits chatting to a player’s friends or team members.
- Kids will be very loud playing this game so there is little chance of them playing it behind your back!
- Each game goes for about 20 minutes so it is an easy one to put time limits on by stipulating the number of games.
- It is frequently described as addictive so it is unlikely they will leave a game midway through.

As with any new game, social network or fad, it is crucial that we familiarise ourselves with it. By watching the game being played, you will have a far greater understanding of what your children are being exposed to and can then make decisions, based on our own values, about whether the game is appropriate for your child and whether you believe they are developmentally ready.

Whilst there are certainly many areas of video gaming to be concerned about, it is also important to recognise that most video games can build skills and can also have social, emotional and cognitive benefits.

Benefits of video games

Social and emotional effects: Playing video games after a challenging day at school can provide relaxation and stress release and is a great way for some kids to unwind. Finding a place to fit in or belong may also be a benefit. A lot of group work is used in these games and thus skills in cooperation, leadership, group work and collaboration may also be enhanced.

Physical benefits: Hand/eye coordination skills are developed as well as greater spatial awareness and recognition.

Cognitive skills: Thinking and analysing skills are certainly being developed through game play, as are persistence and thinking outside the box.

Now of course in order to enjoy these benefits parents need to ensure that gaming remains under control and that the games being played are at an appropriate level for their child.

Things to keep in mind

- Play a game with your child or watch someone else play if you are unsure if it is appropriate.
- Discuss any themes or concepts you are concerned about to see if your child has a grasp on the reality (or lack thereof) when it comes to certain games.
- Monitor how your individual child is coping with a game and the amount of time they are playing. If their mood is changing, they are having a fight to come to the dinner table or they are staying up all night and neglecting other areas of their lives, then you will need to step in and make some changes.
- Remember it is your house and your rules. But making these rules and boundaries from a place of knowledge and understanding makes them a lot easier to enforce.
- If a child is struggling with time limits, warnings may help and you may wish to slowly reduce the time being played (rather than go cold turkey).
- Always go to the settings area of any game or network as there you will find ways to make the experience as safe and positive as possible. Minimising the number of people they have the ability to connect with and who can make contact with them is a good place to start.

DATES TO REMEMBER AT SMI

2019

JUNE		
FRI 7 th		Assembly 5/6 Mrs Hamilton
		Winter Sports Years 5 & 6 students
MON 10 th		PUBLIC HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL
TUES 11 th	7.30pm	SAC meeting Parish Centre
WED 12 th	9.15am	Alpha Show
THURS 13 th		Senior Hooptime (years 5 & 6)
	9.30am	Mass 5/6 Mr Millemaci
FRI 14 th		Assembly Prep Mrs Haase
WED 19 th	9.30am	Mass 5/6 Miss Roll
		3/4 Mrs McKinnon's class celebrating Gifting Mass at St Patrick's in Nhill
THURS 20 th	11.30am	Gifting Mass
FRI 21 st		Assembly 1/2 Miss Murray
MON 24 th —WED 26 th		Student Lead Conferences <u>Please book online</u>
FRI 28 th		Assembly 3/4 Miss Walker
	2.30pm	Last of Term 2 : 2.30 dismissal
JULY		
WED 25 th	4.30-6 or 7– 8.30	CEOB Strategic Planning Workshop in the Parish Centre
AUG		
12 th - 16 th		National Science Week
12 th - 16 th		Meals on Wheels
OCT		
14 th - 18 th		Meals on Wheels



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