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Issue No 17 – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

My thanks to the parents who attended our Tuesday evening Parents and Friends Meeting via Zoom. The discussion through the meeting often focused on the impact of the pandemic on school life and on our ability to make home / school connections. The point was raised that during HBL, parents felt more connected because of regular contact from their child's teacher. Direct involvement with the children's online learning also led to parents feeling more aware of what their child was able to do in relation to their school work. Now that we are back into school routines, contact is not as frequent and so parents expressed feelings of disconnection and disappointment at the children missing out on our usual events because of the pandemic understanding the school is doing its best in the circumstances.



The above conversation led to discussion about what to do to encourage parent connection with school life. Practical suggestions included:

- Zoom reading groups with parent volunteers;
- Parents to talk to the class about topics the children are studying via Zoom;
- Incursions – instead of going out on a bus to a special place, bring experiences into the school that complement the children's learning and increase engagement.
- Parent to parent contact to check in and support each other;
- Online conference times for parents organised by the school or with an expert in a particular area.

All great suggestions we will consider and any others you may have are welcome as we do get used to the new normal. Ideas addressed to me via [sjan@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjan@dbb.catholic.edu.au) are welcome. In addition to these ideas, trust that your child's teachers are also doing their very best for your child. They are also available to discuss any concerns or to clarify questions you may have about school and your child's learning. Again, the above email address is the best way to initiate contact with your child's teacher.

This Saturday is the Feast of the Assumption, which celebrated Mary's return to heaven after a life committed to God's request to be the mother of Jesus. Miss Dunk's section has a lovely reflection about the topic. The Church encourages us to reflect on Mary's life and to pray for her intercession on our behalf especially during difficult and challenging times.

Best wishes for the weekend

*Mark Bateman* - Principal

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Sept**  
**ICAS Maths – 8am Library**

**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept**  
**ICAS Spelling - 8am Library**

*Children are to arrive at 7.50am to prepare and begin test starting at 8am. They can meet Ms Miceli in the library.  
 They can bring headphones and a pen/pencil – they may not be needed for all tests.*

## DIARY

Week 5 Term 4 Mon 17 Aug	Week 5 Term 4 Tues 18 Aug	Week 5 Term 4 Wed 19 Aug	Week 5 Term 4 Thurs 20 Aug	Week 5 Term 4 Fri 21 Aug	Week 5 Term 4 Sat/Sun 22/23
<i>Year 5 Prayer Assembly Online</i>	<i>ICAS – Science 8am - Library</i>	<i>St John's Sports Day Parents are unable to attend</i>			
Week 6 Term 4 Mon 24 Aug	Week 6 Term 4 Tues 25 Aug	Week 6 Term 4 Wed 26 Aug	Week 6 Term 4 Thurs 27 Aug	Week 6 Term 4 Fri 28 Aug	Week 6 Term 4 Sat/Sun 29/30
<i>Year 2 GRANDPARENTS Prayer Assembly Online</i>	<i>ICAS – Digital Technology 8am - Library</i>		<i>ICAS – English 8am – Library</i>		

## AWARDS



Awards are presented on Friday:

**K-6 awards presentation will be available to view on our [Facebook page](#) at 9am Friday morning.**

Strength & Gentleness			Matthew H (6W)			
KB	Matteo F Madeline K	3B	Oscar S Zali T	5W	Ruby G Brooke H	Library  Caitlin (2B)  Ruby (5W)
KW	Blake C Fawn S	3W	Sophia M Liam F	6B	Ellie G Amelia H Hugh C	
1B	Alfons M Malia S Evelyn V	4B	Alby R Hannah J	6W	Max C Charlie L	Creative Arts  Molly (KW)  Chloe (6B)
2B	Moana-Lisa P Ben T	4W	Heidi K Matilda B	5/6F	Dylan A	Sports  Riley (3B)  Lachlan (5W)
2W	Violet Mc Josie H Jake J	5B	Carys P Matthew F			

### MASS OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY – SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST



The Feast of the Assumption of Mary would normally see us come together as a school and parish community to give thanks and praise for the special role Mary plays in our faith. Mary was an ordinary girl given an extraordinary job to do, to be the mother of our Lord, Jesus. She was His first disciple; ever faithful and ever loving. Mary's grace-filled and blessed life and special relationship to Jesus and to God meant that when she died, not just her soul but her whole body was assumed into heaven.

We place so much importance on this special day that it is one of the handful of Holy Days of Obligation celebrated in Australia; one of the most important feast days of the year.

Of course, this year we will not pray together in church, but our [Year 5 students](#) have prepared a video liturgy to share with everyone next Monday morning so we can continue to celebrate together.

Our scripture for the Assumption is the gospel story of the Visitation, Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth when they were both pregnant. It contains one of the most beautiful prayers, the Magnificat. Mary's praise of God, Mary's "yes" to God, which reflects God's "yes" to Mary at the end of her life.

What can we learn from Mary's complete openness and trust in God? What does Mary's life and Mary's faith inspire in us? What can we learn from her goodness & her humanity? If we too are open and trusting like Mary, God can do mysterious things, wonderful things in our lives.



### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO BE OF SERVICE???

#### *Casserole Club is empty – meals needed now*

Thank you to the families have collected empty take away containers to fill with delicious home-cooked meals for the casserole club. These meals are sent home to our families at times when they are most vulnerable and often very stressed. A meal from the casserole club is not just a practical way of helping community members but it is also a way of showing that we care.



If you are able to donate a meal to us to be passed on to a family in need within our school and parish community it would be gratefully received. [Containers for meals can be sent home with your child, just email the school office.](#) Meal sizes can vary from family sized meals to single or double portions. Popular meals are usually anything that children will eat such as pasta meatballs, bolognaise, schnitzel, sausage & mash, soups and casseroles. All meals are frozen and should be labelled with contents.

Thank you for your donation.

From Monday week 5 (17<sup>th</sup> of August) students in Years 3-6 will be participating in AFL skills clinics for 5 weeks. The clinics will be held on the school grounds and they will need to wear their sports uniform on these days.

New sports days for these classes are as follows:

3B	Monday and Wednesday	4W	Monday and Wednesday	6B	Monday and Thursday
3W	Monday and Wednesday	5B	Monday and Wednesday	6W	Monday and Wednesday
4B	Monday and Thursday	5W	Monday and Wednesday		

## Fruit & Veg Month 2020

Our school will be participating in Fruit & Veg Month 2020. The theme for this year's event is 'Planet Fruit & Veg!'

This year's Fruit & Veg Month is all about looking at fruit and vegetables through the lens of sustainability.

Fruit & Veg Month 2020 runs for the last four weeks of Term 3 - from **Monday 31 August to Friday 25 September**.

Happy Healthy Eating St John's!

Mrs Gillett ☺



## Singing lessons

One of our dads, Dean Bassett is an incredibly talented Opera singer. Dean is usually busy treading the boards of the Sydney Opera House.

He is offering his services for singing tuition. At present this will be via Zoom but looking forward to this eventually being face to face.

Dean is offering the first lesson completely free of charge with no obligation to continue (unless you want to!). You've got nothing to lose! Please see Dean's contact details below.

Dean Bassett

[deanbassett@hotmail.com](mailto:deanbassett@hotmail.com)

0412979763



## HEAD LICE

We have had several cases of head lice across all year groups this term. It would be appreciated if you could check your children's hair regularly and treat accordingly.

**TIP- Nit Spritz:** 500ml water, 20 drops water soluble eucalyptus oil, 10 drops lavender oil ... in a squirty bottle. Shake well.





## FATHER VOGT MEMORIAL WRITING COMPETITION ENTRY FORM 2020



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

*Each year at St John's we have a writing competition which was started in 1999 in memory of Father Vogt who was the Parish Priest at St John's when the church was being built.*

*Entries for the competition will be accepted from now until Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September. The competition winners will be announced during Book Week celebrations. The theme for Book Week this year is **"Curious Creatures, Wild Minds"**.*

Please tick the categories in which you wish your entry to be judged. Entries should be edited and published either in clear handwriting or typed. Please give your work a title. Poems can be illustrated by hand or by using a computer.

### CATEGORIES

PLEASE TICK

PLEASE

TICK

Kinder - Best piece of writing- narrative		Kinder - Best illustrated poem	
Yr 1 & Yr 2 - Best piece of writing- narrative		Yr 1 & 2 - Best illustrated poem	
Yr 3 & 4 - Best piece of writing- narrative		Yr 3 & 4 - Best illustrated poem	
Yr 5 & 6 - Best piece of writing- narrative		Yr 5 & 6 - Best illustrated poem	

Kinder narrative - 100 words or less

Yr 1 & 2 narrative - 350 words or less

Yr 3 & 4 narrative - 600 words or less

Yr 5 & 6 narrative - 950 words or less

- Entries should be given to Ms Sheehan, OR emailed to: [kylie.cardow@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kylie.cardow@dbb.catholic.edu.au)
- Entries must have the entry form attached OR  
if your entry has been emailed it should also have your name, class and categories you are entering
- Closing date - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

Entries must be **your** original work and should be on A4 paper.

Please sign to acknowledge that it is your own work

*Good Luck, everyone.*