

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**Always Was,
Always Will Be.**
8-15 NOV 2020

NAIDOC WEEK

This week we celebrate the history, cultures, contributions and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia. This year's theme, 'Always was, Always will be', recognises and celebrates that First Nations People have occupied and cared for this continent for many years before European contact. This theme invites everyone to celebrate and take pride in living on the lands of the world's oldest continuing culture, and to learn and appreciate Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander people. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for students to learn about our history and First Nations Peoples' connection to land. The theme this year also relates to our Christian Studies curriculum where we acknowledge that the triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit always was, and always will be our God.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Yesterday our students joined with many around the world to observe a minute of silence to remember those who have served their country during war. This practice stems from King George V's declaration on 6 November 1919 that people throughout the Commonwealth should stop their normal activities to remember.



A red poppy

The poppy was one of the first plants to grow on the battlefields of France and Belgium. Our students have completed various artworks using poppies.

Flag at half-mast

Hunter and Jessica, our School Captains, made sure that our flags were flown at half-mast from 10.30 to 11.03am as a sign of respect.



GIFTS OF GRACE

Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) provides the opportunity for people to purchase a gift to provide practical aid support to families and communities in countries like Burundi, Cambodia, Nepal and Kenya. Every family will receive a Gifts of Grace catalogue which outlines what the gifts are and their cost. More information can be found at www.alws.org.au

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are looking forward to our Playgroup returning next year. We have had many inquiries about when our playgroup can start again, and we are preparing for our parents and children to come back together safely in 2021. We are currently accepting expressions of interest for a **Playgroup Co-Ordinator**. Our playgroup will run on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.00-11.00am. If you are interested in this position, please contact the front office on 5523 3833 or admin@stjohnsportland.vic.edu.au



COMMUNICATION

This is just a reminder to parents and carers to please notify the front office by 9.30am if your child is unwell and will not be attending school for the day. Alternatively, you can submit an absence note via PAM or email. **In the event of a medical emergency during the weekend, please leave a message on the school mobile 0490 330 184.**

PLEASE NOTE this number is only to be used for EMERGENCIES.



From Mrs Pritchard...

MODIFIED GRADUATION CLOSING SERVICE

Our Graduation Closing Service scheduled for Thursday 10 December, is usually held in our Unity Centre from 7pm-8pm and in a normal year, is open to all students, parents/carers and other family members and friends. **However, due to COVID, the guidelines stipulate that only students and staff can attend this year.** Therefore, staff and students will celebrate the 2020 school year and farewell our Year 6 students during the day on Monday 7 December. The event will be recorded, and parents will be sent a link on Thursday 10 December. Whilst it is disappointing for our school community, we are thankful that our students will be able to formally farewell our Year 6 students and welcome our senior leaders for 2021.



LEADERSHIP SPEECHES

Normally, we would encourage all to come and listen to the Year 5 students present their leadership speeches on Tuesday 24 November at 9.30am. However, due to COVID guidelines, only staff and students are able to attend. We are planning an alternative solution for our Year 5 parents and will communicate with you shortly. There will be two school captains selected, irrespective of gender. Our other Year 5 students will all receive a position of leadership which will be announced at the beginning of the 2021 school year. It is important that all students and parents are aware of the selection process for School Captains and Leadership positions. The selection process for School Captain positions in 2021 will have three parts which are as follows:

1. All students in Year 5 will present a speech to the school community outlining their attributes and how they will contribute if elected as School Captain. All students will vote for their preferred leader after hearing the leadership speeches.
2. The Year 5 students will walk Mrs Grace Greenham around our school. They will be promoting and sharing their passion for the school. This is a semi-formal way of articulating what makes our school special and provides an opportunity to share our school values and demonstrate their communication skills.
3. Every Year 5 student will then have an interview with staff to talk about how they envisage the role and outline their ideas and thoughts about being a leader. They will also answer any questions staff may have. The staff and Principal will make the final decision based on the outcome of the speeches, tour and interviews. The leadership positions will be announced at the end of year Closing Service.

SCHOLARSHIPS

St John's Lutheran Primary School has several scholarships, offers of fee assistance to help support our families in educating their children, and awards that are designed to encourage academic excellence and promote a high standard of achievement.



The Portland-Heywood Lutheran Church congregation have generously donated two scholarships for 2021 that will be determined by the staff. Students do not have to register their interest in the Academic Scholarships as all students from Foundation to Year 6 will be eligible for consideration. The scholarships will apply to students who demonstrate excellence in academics, display excellent attitude and behaviour, and consistently strive for a high standard of work. Both scholarships are to the value of \$250 each and recipients will be announced at the end of year Closing Service.



UNIFORM VOUCHER

Students who are enrolled in the Foundation level, automatically receive a \$100 voucher to go towards purchasing their Sports Uniform.

From Mrs Pritchard cont'd...



REPORTS

Staff are busy completing student assessments and writing Semester Two reports. The format of the reports will be very similar to last semester. If parents would like to make a time to discuss their child's achievements and learning goals, there will be an opportunity to speak with the classroom teacher during Week 9. Bookings will be able to be made via PAM. For assistance, please ask at the front office.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD TROPHY

The St John's Lutheran Primary School Citizenship Trophy is a prestigious award presented to one girl and one boy from any year level within the school. The awards will be presented at the end of year Closing Service. The citizenship qualities that will be considered in making the selection include;

1. Students who are well mannered, courteous, co-operative.
2. Show respect for both teachers and other students and is highly respected within the school.
3. Readily accepts responsibility and leadership within the school.
4. Applies him/herself diligently to study.
5. Readily participates in school activities.
6. Is an ambassador for the school in the community.
7. Demonstrates our school values of love, compassion, justice, forgiveness, service, humility, courage, hope, quality and appreciation.



ICY POLES

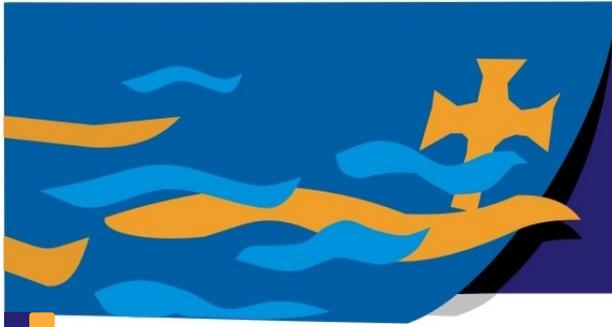
Don't forget that each Tuesday lunchtime is Icy Pole day! Please remember to send in 50 cents with your child each Tuesday if they would like an icy pole. This excludes those students who have paid in advance.

Child Safety...

We are thrilled to have been sponsored by the Phillips Foundation in providing workshop webinars to our students this week. The Phillips Foundation's mission is *'focused on developing the holistic wellbeing of young people and their wider communities'*. The Phillips Foundation is a national not for profit organisation and a Trusted Provider of the eSafety Commissioner. The Foundation will provide our students with two workshops associated with bullying and cyberbullying.



- **Understanding Bullying:** Young people are provided with evidence-based information on bullying, the different types of bullying and its impact on young people. Participants are also taught a variety of strategies to help them assess and respond to bullying situations, whilst also identifying and understanding the role of bystanders.
- **SafetyNet:** Young people are provided with information about cyberbullying and online safety. This includes learning about what cyberbullying is how it can be recognised. It also provides practical opportunities to build skills that will help young people develop personal strategies to protect themselves online.



Classroom & Playground Fun...



Pre-Foundation Fun...



St. John's Star Students



WEEK 5—RECIPIENTS

Foundation/Year 1

- ☆ Ellie Samson
- ☆ Camerin Trewick

Year 1/2

- ☆ Molly Mibus
- ☆ Ebony Hawker

Year 3/4

- ☆ Remi Hofmaier
- ☆ Archie White

Year 4/5/6

- ☆ Elijah Reeves
- ☆ Harvey Bradbury



**BE YOUR BEST AWARD
WEEK 5 RECIPIENT**

Aria Reeves

Community Notices...



Portland Soccer Club are running a four week MiniRoos program from Saturday 7th November until 28th November from 11am - 12pm for boys and girls aged 5 - 9 years. This will be a free program. For more information please contact Les Horovitz on 0414559106 or David Stafford on 0409419813.

Devotion...

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Psalm 98:1-2 - Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvellous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him. The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

On Remembrance Day, we remember with gratitude the service of men and women in our Armed Forces, those who faithfully serve during days of peace and through times of conflict. They risk their lives and even sacrifice their lives to defend our freedom. The date of Remembrance Day marks the end of World War I, as hostilities ceased at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. What was hopefully but wrongly called "the war to end all wars" had involved countries around the world, and the nations rejoiced to see the horrifying conflict come to an end.

The psalm celebrates another conflict and another victory revealed long ago, "in the sight of the nations." This conflict involved service and sacrifice, not of multiple military forces, but of one individual: The Son of God, Jesus Christ.

In Jesus Christ, God "has made known His salvation." In the sight of the nations, the Son of God was lifted up on a cross, offered up as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world, for our sins. It was not at the 11th hour, but at the 9th hour when, as darkness veiled the land, the Son of God cried out, "It is finished" (John 19:30b). He had accomplished the work He came to do: "to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45b). God's promise was kept, His covenant fulfilled. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God had "made known His salvation."

In World War I, hostilities were declared over on that 11th day, but conflict continued for a time in many places. So now too, our struggle against sin, death, and Satan continues. But through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the victory has already been won. The psalm continues as it celebrates the day of Jesus' return, when every conflict will cease and death, "the last enemy," will be destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:26a). Until that day, we sing "a new song," a song of victory, celebrating anew the marvellous things that our God has done.

THE PRAYER: Almighty God, we give You thanks and praise for the wonderful things You have done, for the gift of Your Son, our Saviour, and for the salvation that is ours through faith in His Name. Amen.

This Daily Devotion was written by Dr. Carol Geisler.



Discover God's call – no matter who you are

STORY OF THE WEEK

Read or view the video at
www.lca.org.au/sow



PORTLAND LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE **SEASON 2020-21**

The Portland Little Athletics Centre's 2020-21 season has begun, and there are still places available for young athletes.

- WHAT:** Athletics-based events, with emphasis on self-improvement (personal best times/distances).
Athletes will take part in four events each Thursday, rotating through three programs.
Running events, throwing events, jumping events.
- WHEN:** Every Thursday (5pm to approximately 6.30pm),
Term 4, 2020, and Term 1, 2021.
- WHERE:** Nelson Park, Portland (Cape Nelson Rd)
- AGE GROUPS:** Under-6 (must have turned 5) to Under-16
- COST:** \$110 first child \$105 second child \$100 third child
This includes insurance through Little Athletics Victoria.
No other competition fees.
- COME + TRY:** Little Athletics Victoria offers a Trial Athlete program, where new athletes are encouraged to come and try for two nights, free of charge, before signing up.
Trial athletes should be registered at least one day prior to first attending.
- REGISTRATIONS:** To register (Trial Athlete or returning member) go to the Little Athletics Victoria website – www.lavlc.com.au (Note: works best using Chrome or Firefox as your web browser)
No refunds can be given once fees are paid.
- ENQUIRIES:** Denis Belden (secretary) 0417 316 084
Email portland@lavlc.com.au
- PARENTS:** It is an expectation that any child who is registered be accompanied by a parent/guardian, who will be available to assist with the running of the event. These are simple, but important, roles.
- COVID-19:** This season is being run under COVID-19 guidelines.



Portland Little Athletics Centre is run by parent volunteers. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.