



NEWSLETTER

St Justin's Parish School

Principal: Mr Patrick Torpey

Email: principal@sjwheelershill.catholic.edu.au

Bulletin No 37

Friday 19th November 2021

Dear Families and Friends,

We hope you've all had a great week.

Thanks again to everyone for making a big effort with our school uniform – it makes a big difference. Attention to detail can sometimes be considered inconvenient or unnecessary but yet is a valuable life skill. Correct socks, correctly tied back hair, no nail polish, etc. can encourage our students to focus on detail – detail in their writing, maths, spelling etc. and I'm sure will be a wonderful (and in some places a necessity) quality in life.

Covid Update

As it is expected that Victoria will soon have 90% of eligible persons fully vaccinated, the Victorian government announced yesterday that nearly all remaining restrictions would be lifted state-wide for fully vaccinated people from 11.59 pm last night.

However, COVID Safe practices within schools are still required along with our COVID Safe plan.

Whilst we are yet to officially receive our updated School Operations Guide, we were informed yesterday of the following:

- *Face mask requirements - masks will still be required for primary school staff and visitors, and for students in Years 3 to 6.*
- *Self-isolation/quarantine requirements*
 - *From 11.59 pm last night, students who come into contact (or had been in contact) with a confirmed positive case at school won't have to self-quarantine. These contacts will be required to get a standard (PCR) test and isolate until they get a negative result.*
 - *Students or staff exposed at school will need to show a negative PCR test result to return to work or school – with recommended rapid antigen testing thereafter. Our rapid antigen testing kits are yet to arrive – we anticipate they will arrive in the next few days. In coming weeks, it is my understanding that the rapid antigen testing kits will be supplied directly from testing stations.*
 - *Once a student or staff member receives a negative test, they can attend school. This applies to any individuals who were identified as PCCs this week. They can attend school today (an email was sent to those affected earlier this week).*
 - *Self-isolation continues to be required for individuals who have had more than four hours of contact with a positive case from their household, accommodation or care setting. They must isolate for seven days if fully vaccinated or 14 days if not fully vaccinated, with a PCR test required on day 0 and for release.*
 - *Children under 12 who are household contacts are considered fully vaccinated if everyone else in their household aged over 12 is fully vaccinated.*
 - *In addition to isolation changes for contacts, people who have COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days, instead of 14 days.*

We will continue to keep you up to date as more information comes to hand.

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Book Week Celebrations

Lots of fun and excitement yesterday for our delayed Book Week celebrations.

We had a fun morning assembly where we got to visit each grade via Google Meet. Then, we used the Book Week nominated books to do fun activities in our classroom.

Our celebrations were rounded off with a second Google Meet assembly where we shared our activities.

A huge THANK YOU to parents, students and staff who put in a colossal effort and produced amazing costumes, on very short notice, for today!



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Plans for 2022

Plans for 2022 are well and truly underway, many of which have been presented and discussed at our School Advisory Council meeting. In 2022, we again anticipate 14 classes:

- *Year Prep x 2 – located in Rooms 5 and 6*
- *Year 1 x 2 – located in Rooms 1 and 2*
- *Year 2 x 2 – located in Rooms 3 and 4*
- *Year 3 x 2 – located in Rooms 9 and 10*
- *Year 4 x 2 – located in Rooms 22 and 23*
- *Year 5 x 2 – located in Rooms 16 and 17*
- *Year 6 x 2 – located in Rooms 20 and 19*

This structure allows for growth and student movement and provides opportunities for teachers to work in teams. Students and teachers will work closely, sharing spaces and strengths when appropriate. It is important to remember that all teachers have other administration duties alongside their classroom responsibilities, which may require them to be released on an ongoing basis.

A great deal of thought and planning also goes into the placement of each teacher. Often a classroom teacher can be considered “The Prep Teacher” or “The Year 5/6 Teacher”. However, this is not the case. Staff at St Justin's have the training, and more importantly the passion, to teach students at a variety of levels. Next year, as with all years, there will be movement within the school and we hope to make announcements soon. In planning, it's wonderful to hear staff talk about all students and not just those in their class or their year level.

A great deal of thought is also given to the placement of each child – a decision that is not taken lightly. We endeavour to provide each child with the opportunity to be part of a class that will allow him or her the best opportunity to learn. Consideration is given to each child's social and emotional needs, ability, behaviour, friendship groups, etc. Individual needs and a whole school perspective must be considered. However, having said that, with our connecting classrooms accessed via doors or sliding doors, our students are more able to engage and interact with students and teachers from other classes.

We are a community of learners and we learn for, from and with each other. This includes us all and not just a selection. It is exposure to a variety of personalities and qualities that help us develop as a whole person. In some schools, students are asked to nominate 5 or so 'friends' that they would like to be with in the following year. However, some schools have found that this has created a great deal of anxiety for students and it can send the wrong message that “I can only learn if I am with my friends”.

Likewise, some schools have asked parents to make any formal requests in writing. Again, this has created a great deal of anxiety with parents, some who feel the need to write something, simply because there has been an invitation. We believe that with our ongoing communication and open door policy, staff are in a position to make an informed decision. Life is sometimes, not about being in the perfect situation, but making the most of the situation we are in.

With many goals still to be achieved until the end of the school year, we will continue with our plans for 2022.



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Changes to Staffing

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that a number of staff will be leaving St Justin's at the end of the year.

Mrs Annette Melenhorst

At the end of this year, after many years of dedicated and committed service, Mrs Melenhorst will leave the St Justin's community. Mrs Melenhorst originally started as a classroom teacher before moving into the role as Teacher Librarian. The library was originally located in one of the classrooms and later moved into its current location, which was once the Prep Room. Over the years, Mrs Melenhorst has willingly shared her love of literacy and ICT skills, but more importantly, she has willingly shared her life experiences. We will certainly miss Mrs Melenhorst's quick wit and her passion for her work, but more importantly, we'll miss her wonderful friendship. We wish her all the very best as she commences a new chapter in her life.

Mrs Anne-Maree Smith

At the end of this year, Mrs Anne-Maree Smith will retire. Mrs Smith first worked at St Justin's in 2009 before returning in 2015. Mrs Smith has been an amazing asset to our school community, with an in-depth knowledge of our families, various administration packages and department guidelines. As a true professional, with amazing commitment and attention to detail, Mrs Smith is highly regarded by us all, including her peers and wider Catholic Education Community. Mrs Smith will be greatly missed and we wish her all the best.

Next year, Mrs Donna Coelho will be in the office full time and we have advertised for a part time Administration Officer.

We are still in the process of finalising staffing for 2022. Some staff won't necessarily be replaced, and some other positions have been covered by existing staff. We hope to publish a list in the near future.

First Eucharist & Confirmation

With the easing of restrictions for Religious Celebrations, we are now able to celebrate Confirmation and First Eucharist. These will be celebrated on:

Confirmation: Year 6 - Thursday 25th November

- Year 6DW - 5:00pm Mass*
- Year 6S - 7:00pm Mass*

First Eucharist: Year 5 - Saturday 4th December

- Year 5SS - 2:00pm Mass*
- Year 5CI - 4:00pm Mass*

First Eucharist: Year 4 - Sunday 5th December

- Year 4L - 2:00pm Mass*
- Year 4G - 4:00pm Mass*



As announced yesterday, density limits no longer apply to those who have been full vaccinated. Please note, the following restrictions still apply:

- Double vaccination for all guests (not required for candidates), including those over 12 years of age.*
- QR Code and Masks on entry.*

Thanks to Fr Andrew and Mrs Snell for organising these celebrations so promptly. Thanks also to our students and families for being so patient and understanding in these "different" times. Please keep our students in your prayers.

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Reminder: Face Mask Regulations - Year Prep to Year 6

Parents of Year 3 to Year 6 children are advised that the Government COVID Guidelines:

- **Directs** students in **Year 3 to Year 6** to wear face masks when indoors on school premises, unless an exemption applies - parents of children with 'lawful exceptions for mask wearing, including those with disability, medical or a mental health condition' are advised to inform the Principal in writing:
Patrick Torpey - ptorpey@sjwheelershill.catholic.edu.au
- **Recommends** that **Prep to Year 2 children** wear face masks when at school and attending an Out of School Hours Care Program.

We request that all families specifically adhere to the direction for Year 3 to Year 6 children and take on board the recommendation for Year Prep to Year 2 children.



This year, The Social Justice & Liturgy Leaders have decided to contribute to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Drive. Our aim is to help families who can't afford to have a Christmas celebration by donating Hampers which include Christmas Items.

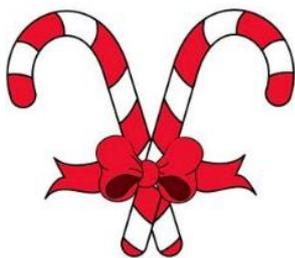
Could you please help us by donating some Christmas items? These items may include:

- Christmas Cake
- Candy Canes
- Pudding
- Chocolate
- Coles or Woolworths gift vouchers
- Other Christmas treats
- Christmas decorations such as lights, bon bons etc.

(Please don't bring items that need to be refrigerated such as meat). You can also donate Supermarket gift Cards.

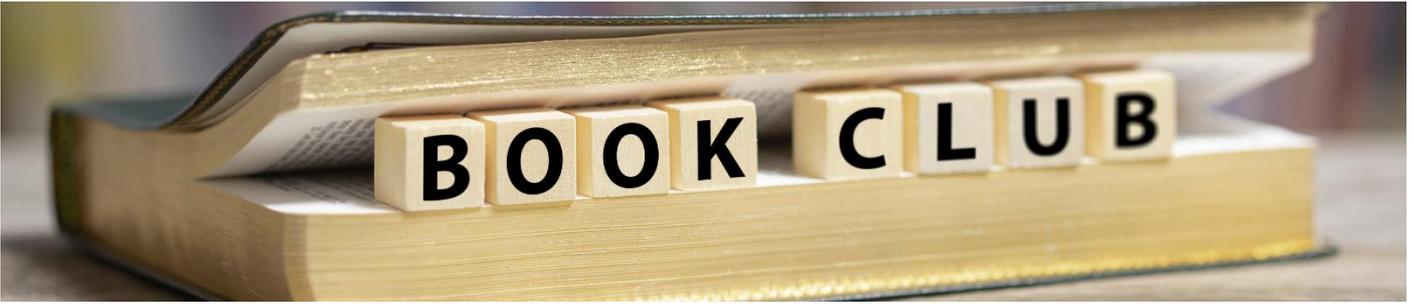
Thank you for your support!

Kind regards,
The 2021 Social Justice and Liturgy Leaders.



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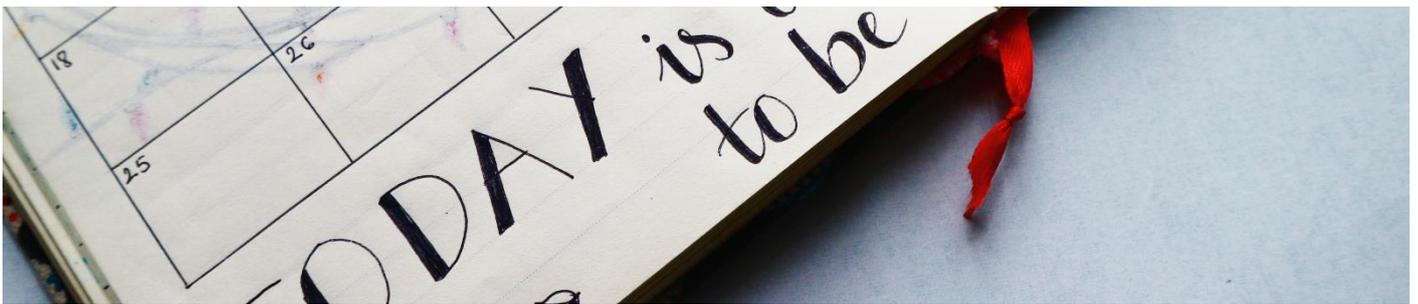
BOOK CLUB – ISSUE 7

Issue 7 of Book Club is available exclusively online.

The catalogue can be accessed here: <https://www.scholastic.com.au/media/6530/bc721final.pdf>

Orders can only be made via the LOOP platform ([scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)) and will be shipped to your home address. The closing date for Issue 7 orders is: Friday 19th November.

PLEASE NOTE – NO BOOK CLUB ORDERS ARE ABLE TO BE SENT TO THE SCHOOL



TERM FOUR

Thursday 25th November

Thursday 25th November

Monday 29th November

Tuesday 30th November

Wednesday 1st December

Thursday 2nd December

Saturday 4th December

Sunday 5th December

Thursday 9th December

Friday 10th December

Wednesday 15th December

Friday 17th December

2022 Prep Transition

Production – Costume Check & Makeup Trial

2022 Prep Parent Information Evening –

‘Thrive Not Just Survive’ 7.30pm-9.00pm

Confirmation 6DW – 5.00pm Mass

Confirmation 6S – 7.00pm Mass

Production - Rehearsal Day

Production – Tech Run Day

Production – Filming Day 1

Production – Filming Day 2

First Eucharist 5SS – 2.00pm Mass

First Eucharist 5CI – 4.00pm Mass

First Eucharist 4L – 2.00pm Mass

First Eucharist 4G – 4.00pm Mass

2022 Prep Orientation 9.00am-12.00pm

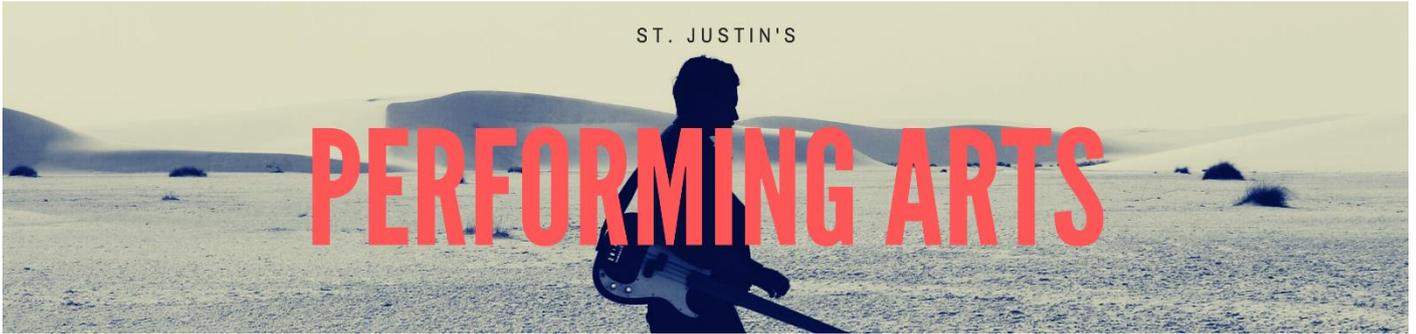
Casual Clothes Day (TBC)

Final school day for students, 1pm finish

Final school day for staff

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'The Show Must Go On' - St. Justin's 2021 School Production

Dear Parents,

After the year that has been, 'The Show Must Go On' but in a different way.

This year, we will be filming the production at school so that the children can still have that performance experience with costumes, makeup, lightning, props, cameras and sound. The only difference will be that unfortunately there is no audience this year.

The students have been rehearsing their dances since they have returned to school and the main cast are attending extra rehearsals during lunchtime and in the afternoons in preparation.

We can't wait to show you the final product after it's all been recorded.

*There will be a **PRODUCTION WEEK** during **WEEK 9** this term, as outlined below:*

<i>Monday 29th November</i>	<i>Rehearsal Day</i>
<i>Tuesday 30th November</i>	<i>Tech Run Day</i>
<i>Wednesday 1st December</i>	<i>Filming Day 1</i>
<i>Thursday 2nd December</i>	<i>Filming Day 2</i>

*During **Week 8** on **Thursday 25th November** there will be a **Costume Check** day and **Makeup Trial** day. Some children will be required to try on their costumes for correct fittings on this day and others will be required to do a makeup trial.*

***Information regarding costume requirements for each class and hair/makeup requirements was sent home yesterday.** There will be further details regarding the **Filming Days**.*

*Thank you for your support
Christy Riddiford and the Production Team*



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2022 Saturday Netball
Autumn Teams Registrations

SJNC

New players welcome to join our Saturday
Competition from July 17th

- Cost: New Players \$120 per player
- Training Day: TBC (Either Wednesday or Thursdays)
- Competition: 14 weeks (+ finals) at Jells Park Glen Waverley
- Time: TBC

Please contact Lara Dresser
e: laradresser8@gmail.com for more details

Marg Barnes
0413 331 220
SJNC President



ALUMNI

Virtual



Saturday 27 November
7.30 pm

Join us for a night to reminisce and test your knowledge at our special Trivia Night on Saturday 27 November.

This is an exclusive event for Nazareth College Alumni Community members. Bookings are essential. Please call Heyam (Aboujaber) Dell'Aquila on 0400130007 for further details.

To join the Nazareth College Alumni Community and register, please visit:

<https://www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/college.../nazareth-alumni/>

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