

Term 1 Core Value: Community

School Rule: Care for belongings

Respectful Relationships Focus: Help pack away materials

Dear Parents

This has been our first week of Home-Based Learning (**HBL**) for teachers and parents.

We understand this is completely new to you. It is new to us as well. We have been receiving both positive and negative feedback as well as suggestions. The teachers are listening to this feedback and making adjustments as they go. It is difficult to recreate the sequence of learning a teacher would normally do over a week. At school with face to face learning we do explicit teaching and then guided learning and independent and group tasks. Without this the tasks are some input, revision, and independent learning. As I stated in last week's newsletter, primary aged children are not expected to be in front of a screen all day. The online learning tasks may only take 2-3 hours with breaks and then there is time for home tasks, imaginative play, construction. For years 3-6 children the instructions re: sharing work with their teacher are clear. Teachers would like to see work so they can give feedback and check in with the student. Please ensure your child uploads some work on their nominated platform.

I encourage you to contact the class teacher if you have issues or concerns so they can make suggestions, talk you through an issue and clear up confusion. The issues are different for families depending on how many children at home, their ages, how many devices and if parents are working at home too.

Included are 2 different articles shared with me this week by my Principal Consultant and fellow principals. In the linked SMH article the education minister supports what we are saying about the learning in primary school and being kind to yourself through this. The other article (on page 3) is by a home school parent who explains the difference between 'real' home schooling as a choice by parents and what she describes as 'crisis' schooling

SMH Article: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/focus-on-maths-and-literacy-and-don-t-beat-yourself-up-says-minister-20200401-p54g65.html?fbclid=IwAR1ny7jPc07jVI2wZKjBjIGfHjMR7SIJLPzgoip4HQ2tnilFus4p-tmcFhl>

This week the teachers have been learning about Zoom and how to host a meeting. Using Zoom in an education environment means there are legal and privacy issues we need to adhere to. The CSO has been communicating with us about this. I am in regular Zoom contact with the other principals of Catholic primary schools on the Northern Beaches. Some are using zoom, some are not, others are planning to use it. Those who are, use it as a check in only, for communication and questions not as a learning lesson. The teachers will use Zoom to check in with their classes, not every day and not at the same time because families with several children and shared devices will not be able to all log in at the one time. We know that this social contact with classmates is important and more so as the weeks of isolation progress. We know that some of you have set up Zoom meetings for friends and classmates, this is wonderful but please understand that when we host a meeting from a school point of view, various protocols need to be in place. Zoom needs to be a safe nurturing, non-judgemental environment like our real classrooms. We will email the Zoom parent and student protocol documents before beginning any Zoom meetings hosted by teachers.

Communication with school and teachers over the next week during HBL time

- **Parent to teacher**
Please communicate by email with teachers about learning and tasks at home, they will answer between 9-3.30, Monday to Friday. A teacher may find it easier to call you if the issue is complex

- **Student to teacher to student**

Students can communicate about their learning with teachers too. This is preferable than the parent emailing the teacher with a clarifying question about a task.

Years 3-6 via their gmail account and K-2 via see saw when they upload work.

The year 3-6 children have a set of protocols re: the use of google classroom on the class page. It is NOT a social chat page.

Zoom check ins will be added.

- **Parent to school admin**

You can still phone the office between 8.30 and 3.30 for any administrative queries and questions for Kerrie.

- **School to ALL school parents**

It is most important that you have the school APP loaded on your phone ([see download instructions](#)). This will be our quickest and easiest way to communicate any issues to the whole school via the push notification. Otherwise email will be our form of communication for important whole school messages.

- **Facebook link [here](#)** - our new FB page is where we will load up some videos of teachers, or other fun things.

It's not the place where will communicate about important issues.

Yesterday we loaded a video of our mini assembly. Today Mrs Gualtieri will load a video of a maths game to play at home.

P&F Easter Raffle

Tomorrow we will be drawing the Easter raffle and recording it to load onto our FB page.

Thanks to Year 3 class parents Georgia and Naomi for organising this before the various shutdowns.

Thanks to those families who were able to purchase or sell the tickets. We appreciate changing circumstances have affected lots of you.

Calendar reminders

Thurs 9 Apr Last day term 1

School dates are on the [Google school calendar](#) on the website. It is worth checking the school calendar regularly.

Warm regards



Virginia Outred

Principal



Like and follow us at on [Facebook](#)

School Communication

Link: [School Website, Calendar and Term Dates](#)

Link: [St Joseph's School App](#)

Link: [Qkr App payments, canteen orders](#)

Heather Anne Art and Soul

Home-schooling is NOT the Same as Crisis Schooling: advice during coronavirus COVID -19 shut downs.

This is my advice for those who have been thrust into schooling your kids at home due to the coronavirus COVID-19 shut downs. I'm a long time public school teacher and longtime homeschool mom. I have been at this a combined total of 25 years and I have some encouragement to share as well as some words of reality.



1. *You are NOT homeschooling. You are CRISIS schooling. There is a huge difference. You may choose to homeschool after this, but this is not what homeschooling looks like, not even remotely.*

Homeschool parents who choose this research for months or even years before embarking on this journey. We have vast networks of support from charter schools like where I teach, in person classes, online classes, co-op groups, park days, field trips, chess clubs, scout troops, etc. We have huge groups on social media that we get involved in. Choosing to homeschool makes all the difference in your mindset and preparedness. Crisis schooling is stressful and even trauma inducing.

2. *Being home all day is NOT our normal! Our kids are not locked in their houses all day long. We also do all of the things your kids do with sports, dance, clubs, music, etc. in addition to our homeschool community connectedness. Our kids are also feeling disconnected and tremendous loss.*

Children are grieving right now. Out of the blue, they lost a lot. It is wonderful that so many classes are going online, but it's not the same. They lost their in person time with friends, their daily routine and the predictability of life that gives us security.

HONOR that grief process! Don't expect to just jump into a perfect program and learn, learn, learn. Expect them to act out. Expect them to not want to get out of bed. Expect them to not have words to express their inner turmoil.

3. *YOU are grieving and experiencing loss. Give yourself a lot of GRACE! Even some of us veterans in homeschooling are struggling because our security has been yanked from under our feet. Some of you have lost jobs or your spouses have lost jobs. Those who are working are afraid of going out. Some of you have been to 5 grocery stores and still do not have what you need. Our society has been turned upside down. Give yourself a break.*

It is okay to NOT be amazing. Don't try to be Pinterest Homeschool Mom of the Year. Even she is not that way all the time and truthfully there is at least one messy room in her house. Something always has to give. Those perfect people online have the same 24 hours in each day. From experience I can tell you, something always gives no matter how perfect people pretend to be.

4. *Homeschooling does NOT look like regular school. That's why we do it! The number one thing that shocks new homeschool parents is how fast things get done. You only have your own children. You are giving them focused attention.*

I taught public school for 12 years and did private classes for home-school students for many years while teaching my own kids. When you have 32 kids in a class it takes a lot of time to get all 32 of them to turn to page 32, take out pencils, get their paper, stop pulling their friend's hair. There are natural distractions with a big class that do not happen in a small one. You will get done fast!

Don't artificially create busy work to do school for 6 hours a day. That is soul sucking, will anger and bore your child and make you tear your hair out. When you're done, you're done! Go do some fun things! Or... even crazier... have fun learning!

COVID-19 PRAYER TO OUR LADY, HEALTH OF THE SICK

POPE FRANCIS

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.
At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,
with steadfast faith.
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.
We are certain that you will provide, so that,
as you did at Cana of Galilee,
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the Father's will
and to do what Jesus tells us:
He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.
We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.
Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



Palm Sunday

This Sunday our church celebrates Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday marks Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent. On that day, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Jesus did not choose to ride on a horse. Horses were associated with soldiers and war. Instead, Jesus borrowed a donkey. It was an animal of peace.

The disciples put their robes on the donkey for Jesus to sit on. It was exactly as the Prophet Zechariah had described five hundred years before Jesus was even born!

Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a King of Peace, riding on the back of a donkey. Jesus entered Jerusalem through the East Gate. The Jews believed this was the gate through which the Messiah would enter the city.

As Jesus approached the gate people came running out to greet him. They placed their robes and palms on the road for the donkey to walk on. They shouted:

Praise to David's Son! God bless him who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise be to God!
- **Matthew 21:9**

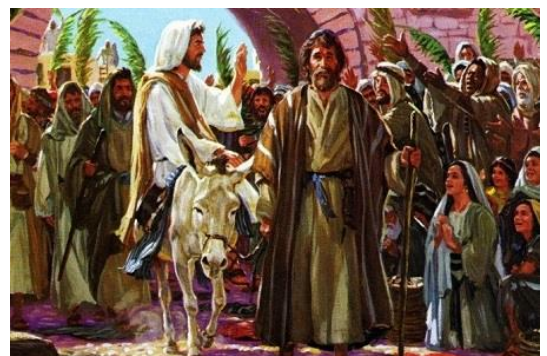
The palm branch is a symbol of triumph and great honour. The people treated Jesus like a king.

The donkey carried Jesus to the Temple. Jesus spent the next few days in the Temple. He taught the people and he healed them.

During this time of need, may we lift our hearts and pray for the healing of our world. Amen

Catherine Gualtieri - Religious Education Coordinator

PARISH WEEKLY BULLETIN to view click [here](#)
ALPHA AT THE LAKES website link [here](#)



Contact information from the office

Parent Volunteers

We love parents volunteering at St Joseph's.

All volunteers should sign in at Compass Kiosk in the office on arrival, and sign out when leaving.



When you volunteer for the first time please attend the office to complete a [Volunteer Declaration Form](#) and provide ID (drivers licence). You will also be taken through a short induction regarding emergency procedures at St Joseph's.

Compass Parent Portal

There are two ways to access Compass - using the parent portal on any modern web browser or using the 'Compass School Manager' app on your mobile device. Parents can enter full day absences, access student academic reports, school calendar and update contact numbers and email addresses via Compass. All parents have their own individual login details (emailed direct to you from the CSO).

WHOLE DAY ABSENCE Enter via the APP on your phone (sick, holiday) – you do not need to change the times, the default of “8am to 5pm” covers the school day. Absences of 10 or more days - [Request for Leave](#) form must be submitted to the office as well as entering via APP

ARRIVING TO SCHOOL LATE ... Enter via Kiosk in school office

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY Enter via Kiosk in school office

Kiss & Ride Reminders

Please exit the K&R zone as soon as you have loaded/unloaded your child/ren. **Please do not stop to chat / leave your vehicle.**

Please enter the queue from Wellington St, making a left turn into Lagoon Street and the K&R zone.

For the safety of all students, please do not make U-turns in Lagoon St outside the school/church/bus zone/K&R zone

School Fees

Instalment schedule payment dates for school fees can be found on our school website [here](#).

The Fee Liaison Unit (FLU) at the Catholic Schools Office looks after all enquiries regarding overdue school fees and financial hardship.

The contact for St Joseph's Narrabeen at FLU is:

Name: Brendan Smith
Tel: 9847 0738
Email: schoolfees@dbb.org.au

Qkr & canteen orders

Did you know you can place your Qkr canteen orders days, or even two weeks, in advance?

You do not need to wait until the day you require the lunch order.

Avoid missing the cut off by placing your orders a few days before.

Qkr FAQs can be found on our school website [here](#).



School App

Do you have the school APP on your phone? We use this APP to send notifications and reminders, ie “cut off date for Mother's Day orders”.

There is a page on our school website [here](#) with all information on how to download, and the functions available from the APP.

iTunes <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/st-josephs-primary-school/id1203501732?mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D4>

Google Play <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fraynetwork.dbb.sjn>

School Band

Roar Music Northern Beaches

If your child is interested in joining the school band, keyboard or recorder groups, please contact Monique Warokka at monique@roarmusicnorthernbeaches.com or 9984 0369



OOSH Northern Beaches

All enquiries for Before and After School Care can be directed to either Flavia (on site before and after school), by phone to OOSH head office (9984 8089) or email manager@ooshnb.com.au.

Before school care is from 7am-9pm, and after school care finishes at 6pm.

Website: www.ooshnb.com.au
Head Office: 9984 8089
St Joseph's OOSH: 0422 000 693

Second Hand Uniform Shop

As we have very limited stock in the second hand uniform shop, BEFORE placing any orders on Qkr please contact Amy Fittler who will let you know if size/stock is available.

Amy can be contacted on 0421 981 485.

New uniform items can be purchased from Lowes at Warriewood Square, or online.

