



Sacred Heart
Catholic Primary School
Diamond Creek

Sacred Heart Newsletter

Newsletter No 9 Term 1
25 March 2020

What's on at Sacred Heart

Click on this link to view the school calendar: <https://www.shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au/calendar/>

Dates for your Diary.....

Wed 15th April Students return to school (maybe...)

Dear Families and Friends,

Fr Steve's Homily:

4th Sunday Lent (A)

- We have the expression – “seeing is believing” – it’s about accepting something as fact based on an obvious disclosure of something that is available for everyone to see & accept as true.
- In other words, you’d have to be literally blind not to see the obvious.
- But this applies to tangible realities that don’t require deeper observation.
- Sometimes we gain insight into something that takes a bit more work on our part to see beyond the obvious or to solve problems whose solutions require some degree of wisdom or experience or skill.
- This usually doesn’t happen immediately, but can take some time – it’s what we refer to as ‘insight’ – where the facts aren’t immediately clear, but require us to look into something more deeply; this is what one philosopher calls the “aha phenomenon” when the penny drops for us.
- There is also another way of seeing when we can see beyond the obvious to another reality.
- We do this with poetry or the lyrics of some songs where the words are symbolic, conveying a deeper meaning than their literal meaning.
- We do this with symbols when we see one thing but are carried through the symbol to something else, for example – a wedding ring, or the photo of someone we love or a sentimental thing we treasure, because they all carry us beyond the thing in itself to someone or something else that is significant for us.
- This way of seeing is essential for us in sacraments where we can see beyond the pouring of water, the bread & wine, the anointing with oil, the laying on of hands to what God does in & through these ordinary things & gestures.
- It can also be said that sometimes people claim they can see, but in fact what they see is the obvious OR what only what they want to see.

- They come to conclusions about what they see that reveal that they are really blind, because they can't or won't see more deeply.
- So, there are several ways & levels of seeing & this is what today's readings are about; it's this deeper way of seeing that is offered to us at baptism – the ability to see more deeply into things & people & events as God sees.
- Though it's a gift made available to us, it is an ability we have to want to have – it doesn't happen automatically – we are invited to see more deeply.
- What we don't consider worth seeing is seen by God – “God does not see as humans see – humans look at appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart”.
- The election & anointing of David, the boy, exemplifies this. God sees in him something no-one else can.
- Opening our eyes, then, means enabling us to see as God sees – to be enlightened is to be able to look past appearances to the heart; the 2nd reading reminds us who are baptised, how deceitful appearances can be.
- The baptised should be able to see through “the futile works of darkness”, by which many people operate for selfish motives, because the baptised now live in the Light of God.
- The miracle of healing the blind man begins when he IS SEEN by Jesus.
- The seeing of Jesus is really a question addressed to the man – “is anything troubling you?” It is a seeing that comes from love.
- To love means to try & find out, to discover what the other person needs.
- The pupil of Jesus' eye is his heart.
- One who sees in this way lives in the light & sees through appearances to the heart & to the real needs of others.
- The Pharisees saw only a sinner – a lowlife – Jesus sees through to the whole person. This is the way we're enabled & called to see.
- But there are different kinds of blindness & the writer of this gospel isn't concerned about eye defects – he goes much deeper.
- The blind man, who never in his life has seen anything represents a whole people that is gropingly waiting for the Messiah – but they don't see him passing before their very eyes in the person of Jesus.
- So Jesus gives a sign – with mud taken from the dust of the earth & with spittle, Jesus anoints the eyes of the blind man.
- It's not the work of a quack, but a divine repetition of creation – “Let there be light, & there was light” – God destined creation & people not for darkness but for liberating light.
- The blind man who is healed is not named in the story – he could be you or me – but he gradually gains insight into the mystery of Jesus' personality - & as he does, he's freed to see more.
- God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments.
- So, a few challenges are raised for us: Where in my life am I truly blind & should have my eyes opened, remembering that these are usually the areas in my life where I insist that I CAN see.
- How do I look at people – do I look down upon some & consider myself better than them? Do I see the needs of people & respond to them?
- How might we go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of Jesus.
- To receive Baptism isn't just a once-in-a-lifetime event, but a daily responsibility to see more deeply & to be an instrument Of Go's healing power. In this time of Lent & during this Eucharist, let us ask Jesus to help us to see where we are spiritually blind; where we need healing and how can we be the source of healing of others?
- In this time of the Corona Virus, how is God inviting me to see more deeply & live with a sense of peace in chaos & hope in the midst of darkness?

During dark
times it's
KINDNESS
.....
that sheds
light!



Ripple Kindness Project



Students of the Week

Week 8 Students of the Week



Tom



Will and Noah



Token Winner – Daniel



Amelia



Jasper



Zarah



Penny



Student Wellbeing & P. E.



Dear Sacred Heart Families and Friends,

Jim is back from New Zealand, with a shortened trip, and is now in self-isolation for two weeks. He has been a great support for the school from his home.

We haven't received any further correspondence from our authorities since Monday, so I'm going to start today's newsletter by sharing with you how proud I am of our staff. Just like in general society, there is a great deal of anxiety amongst our staff with so much uncertainty about what lays ahead. Yet our last three days have been very productive as the staff have been very dedicated to the task at hand.

We have begun putting together a 'learning pack' for each child that will be available after the holidays should the children not be returning to school. If a total lockdown is put in place before the end of the holidays, we will have these available for collection at short notice. For all students there will be an expectation of some online learning as well as some paper/pen learning. This will all be included in the pack at the beginning of the term and we do not want parents to worry about this over the holidays. Some parents have contacted the school requesting learning activities for the children. With the children currently on school holidays, we will not be sending home learning activities until after the term break has finished. However, the one activity we would always encourage children to do is to read. Children can read books or online texts silently to themselves, to older or younger siblings, to mum, dad or carers. Parents can read to children or with children. A love of reading, in all its forms, is a fundamental basis for learning success. I have also included some fun activities that your children can do in this newsletter.

In preparation for the possibility of remote learning, we have sent out a google form to parents to ascertain the accessibility to ICT devices by children and some requests for items that you may have around the home. We want to be well placed to support families with difficult circumstances.

We will continue to send out a weekly newsletter even if the children are not attending school next term. Please share any stories or photos to newsletter@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au that can be shared in these newsletters to keep our community connected.

Well what a term we have all experienced. The term ended up only being 8 weeks but we have welcomed our new Preps and students across the levels and their families, SWELL week has occurred, Life Education – Healthy Harold has visited and Footsteps, Open Classrooms, Welcome Back Morning Tea, Beginning of School Year Mass, District swimming, Pancake/Shrove Tuesday, EnvironMentally, welcomed our new school psychologist, buddies activities, Carlton Footy Club player visits and Year 3 and 5 Carlton Football Club clinic at Ikon Park, special lunch orders, First Aid in Schools for the students, Year 3/4 excursion and incursion researching town planning and visiting Eureka Sky Deck, Bop Till U Drop disco, established a Uniform Committee, St Patrick's day liturgy, inter school sport, Jam Hot music lessons, Parents Association meetings, Advisory Board, General Faith Development night, tennis clinics in PE, Goal Setting meetings, continued working with the architects, Ash Wednesday Mass, District sport trials, Kaboom, school tours, National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, Harmony Day, National Ride2School Day, Easter raffle as well as postponing a number of events, building new learning areas and everyday learning. I am sure I have missed so many things and I do apologise but this is just a snapshot of what we as a community have achieved for the students at Sacred Heart during Term 1.

We would like to thank all members of the community for not only allowing us the privilege of working with your children but also for your support and continuous feedback in ways we can make Sacred Heart the best community possible for the students, staff and families. The support over the past two weeks has also been overwhelming, we thank you for this.

In the midst of the uncertainties, anxieties and events of the past few weeks, it is important to remember that we are in the heart of one of the most important and personally challenging times of the Church's year – the season of Lent. Lent is supposed to be a time when we stop amidst the business of life and take time to take stock, to reflect on who we are and where we are going and maybe even to pray. It is a time when we prepare for the most significant event in the lives of Christian people.

Sometimes the busier we are and the crazier life appears to become, the more important it is to stop, to take a breath, to discern and to pray – whatever form that may take. And we're lucky because the season of Lent provides us with that opportunity to renew and refresh. The challenge is not purely in terms of the desire to engage in a little introspection and contemplation but perhaps more so in knowing what to do and finding the time to do it.

Likewise, our teachers are inspiring in the manner in which they have come together, be it with social distancing, to reassure students and comfort them during this uncertain time and/or to provide meaningful learning opportunities. They have been very creative in looking at alternatives to learning this week, considering the changes to excursions, incursions and class activities. Our staff have spent time before, during and after school learning new ways to safely and effectively communicate with their class online.

The school is confident that the strong student, parent and school partnership will allow effective learning to take place.

As we move into the school holidays and times of uncertainty you may have planned a schedule for your children, a schedule that hopes for learning, experiments, book reports but remember your child may be scared during this time. They may even be excited about the idea of no official school for an extended period - remember it is going to be OK. When they are back in the classrooms, teachers will meet them where they are academically and emotionally- they are experts at this. We do expect that they continue with their learning with support from the adults in the house but we do not want parents to get stressed about this. This is our job and staff have been working hard to ensure we have resources available to all families to be able to do this in a collaborative and authentic way in line with the curriculum. What should you do besides encourage them to learn? You should comfort them, bake, make art, play outside, read, and have movie time with them. It will be OK at the end of this. Your health and your children's health is more important than the academic skills at this stage, the way they feel during these uncertain times will remain with them long after this crisis is over. Remember to be kind to yourself and your loved ones and take care.

Letter from the Archbishop:

Please take the time to read the attached letter from Archbishop Comensoli to Catholic School Communities regarding the pandemic.

Resources for coronavirus:

A range of key resources, including videos and tips for young people, have been collated for sharing with families to help promote ongoing wellbeing and good health across our school community and beyond:

- [SPECIAL REPORT: Coronavirus](#) – Dr Michael Carr-Gregg developed this video for parents and school staff. Catholic Education Melbourne acknowledges the generosity of **SchoolTV** in making the report accessible to parents and staff in Catholic school communities
- [How to talk to your children about coronavirus](#) – ABC News article

- [Worried about your child getting coronavirus? Here's what you need to know](#) – *The Conversation* article
- [Talking to children about natural disasters, traumatic events, or worries about the future](#) – This **Emerging Minds** video introduces ways for parents and carers to manage media coverage of traumatic events, and talk to their children about their worries and fears
- [Traumatic events, the media and your child](#) – This **Emerging Minds** fact sheet provides guidance on how to support and reassure children during ongoing media coverage of COVID-19.

Try to maintain a practical and calm approach.

NAPLAN:

For parents of children in Year 3 and 5 you are probably aware that the NAPLAN testing has been cancelled for 2020.

Psychologist:

At Sacred Heart we have Suli, from United Minds, offer a psychologist service to our students. United Minds will continue to support our students, even during any period of shut down.

United Minds has an established dedicated telehealth program so our psychologist will switch over to this platform so they can continue to support their existing students and accept new referrals from Sacred Heart. There is a flyer provided in this newsletter.

Assuming face to face sessions may not take place any time in the near future United Minds have developed a new method for referrals until we are able to return to the school.

1. Wellbeing or families can complete our online referral form <https://www.unitedminds.org.au/student>
2. Our intake team or the psychologist will contact the students family to do a phone based assessment of the students' needs and schedule their telehealth session (this will be video call OR phone based)
3. United Minds will continue to liaise with the school and the family as we would if they were onsite at the school.

United Minds would like to assure you that while video calls may not seem like the most ideal method to conduct therapy, they have a number of strategies to engage young people in therapy using this method and research supports telehealth is an effective method of therapy with young people and adults.

Chocolate Easter Egg Drive:

Thank you to the Parents Association for organising the Easter Raffle. This is a great fundraiser for the school. Congratulations to the following families on winning a prize this year - Stacey, Clough, Johnstone, Hodgson, Jones, Arvaji, Bell, Dunn, O'Reilly, Friedrich, Keating and Nugent.

House Points:

At the conclusion of week 8 the results were as follows:

CORDNER (GREEN)	MACKILLOP (RED)	BUNJIL (BLUE)
4045	4260	4476

Congratulations to Bunjil (Blue) house for winning Term 1 house points tally. You will be given a free dress day next term.

Premier's Active April:

"Active Children. Active Families" is the slogan for this year's event. The purpose of Premier's Active April is to encourage any sort of physical activity during the month of April. There are lots of incentives to get involved - either as a family or as an individual. Log onto <https://www.activeapril.vic.gov.au/> to register before April starts and reap the benefits. This may be a great way to keep the children fit while there is no organised sport on.

Items your child will need if school goes remote:

Please ensure your child has access to the following items.

- Dice (2)
- Tape measure or ruler
- Playing cards
- Counters or something to use for counters.

Building Update:

The demolition of Block A will at this stage occur over the school holidays as long as NBN are able to relocate cables by this time. We will also continue to work on Block C roof over the holidays and will complete the Year 5/6 classrooms to ensure minimal disruption to these areas. All other areas as of today are ready to hand over. We have moved some furniture into these spaces but until we receive the certificate of occupancy we will not move our students into these learning spaces. We have ordered new furniture for the Year 3-6 classrooms but at this stage will hold off on further furniture expenditure until we can establish the cost of the landscaping, roof and demolition.

Telehealth School Psychologist Sessions

UNITED MINDS
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bulk Billed Telehealth Psychology

Setting this up

For new referrals, complete our online referral form <https://www.unitedminds.org.au/student>

If you are an existing user of our service, your child's psychologist will contact you to make a telehealth appointment.

Phone Assessment

The school psychologist will call you to ask some questions about your child's support needs and suitability of telehealth.

Sessions

Sessions will be set up using either video call using your smart phone, iPad or laptop. For more info: www.unitedminds.org.au/telehealth

www.unitedminds.org.au/telehealth

30 Day LEGO Challenge

Follow the instructions for each day. The only rule is to have fun and use your imagination!

Follow the instructions for each day. The only rule is to have fun and use your imagination!			Day 1 You were hired by an amusement park to create a new roller coaster.	Day 2 NASA needs you to build a new rocket.	Day 3 Your parents want to build a new home and they want you to build it.	Day 4 Hollywood hires you to build a movie set for a new Star Wars movie.
Day 5 You enter a contest to build the world's tallest tower. Will you win?	Day 6 You are stuck on Mars and need to build a new ship to get home.	Day 7 Ford hires you to create the toughest pick up truck in the world.	Day 8 You and 4 friends are stranded on an island. Build a boat to find a way home.	Day 9 Captain Hook needs a new pirate ship and wants you to build it.	Day 10 You and your friends decide to build a tree house.	Day 11 Prince Charming hires you to build a castle for him & Cinderella.
Day 12 Dr. Who hires you to build a new TARDIS.	Day 13 You are asked by the President to build a new monument to George Washington.	Day 14 Mr. Hilton hires you to build a new hotel.	Day 15 There is a circus in town. Build a place for the performance.	Day 16 Help your fellow pioneers build a wagon to make it across the country.	Day 17 Build the fastest car around and join the big car race.	Day 18 Do you wanna build a snowman? Get in the winter mood and build a snow scene.
Day 19 The city wants you to build a bridge to connect one side of the town to the other.	Day 20 Pizza party! It is up to you to make a pizza for all the guests.	Day 21 You are hired to build a brand new hospital.	Day 22 The fence is broke and the dog keeps escaping. Build one he can't get out of.	Day 23 You are now in medieval times. You are commissioned to build a jousting arena.	Day 24 The local bank keeps getting robbed. Build a safe no one can crack.	Day 25 Design and build your dream bedroom.
Day 26 You are elected ruler. Build a flag for your land.	Day 27 Aliens are invading and you need to build a war robot to defeat them.	Day 28 The aliens have taken over. They are impressed by your robot. They want you build one for them.	Day 29 You are hired to build a house entirely out of yellow Legos.	Day 30 There is blizzard. You will need to build a snowmobile		What was your favorite day?

Indoor Games & Activities

To Get Children Moving

I'M BORED

Things I Can Do By Myself

STAY-AT-HOME RESOURCES

Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for lots of ideas to keep your children busy & learning.



News from the Office

CDF PAY



is here!

We understand there are many times when you may need to provide cash to your child to pay for uniform, tuckshop orders, and Parents' Association events such as special lunches, discos, social events etc. But cash isn't the only option in today's world; which is why we want to make it convenient for you to make payments.

Over the school holidays, we will be introducing CDFpay, which is a *cash-free solution* for our Uniform and Tuckshop shops. This solution is an online ordering and payment platform offered by the Catholic Development Fund Melbourne (CDF).

We will be encouraging all parents to use this simple, cash-free platform in the future – you will be able to order and pay online for items either using the app set up on your device or via the portal on our website (coming soon). Please be assured that we will not turn away parents/students who choose to pay via cash, however to ensure the success and drive the full benefits of this program we encourage your participation.

Step by step instructions have been sent home via Caremonkey today.

The Uniform Shop is now open online. The Tuckshop will be accepting online lunch orders when the students return to school.



Staff planning in the new Multipurpose Space and adhering to the social distance rules.

School Life



Some egg-cellent Easter Bonnets



Harmony Day

Preps - making Chinese Lanterns





For Harmony Day the 3/4 students learnt about Indian Rangoli designs and created their own in the courtyard as a symbol of welcome and inclusivity.





Gloria & Preps - reading My Ocean Home & Counting to 10 in Fijian

Community Noticeboard

write 4fun .net

CALLING ALL WRITERS for the 2020 SCHOOL WRITING COMPETITION

Enter your poem or short story to be in the running for the great CASH and PRIZES on offer including \$1000 first prize AND your choice of a Playstation 4, Xbox One X, \$500 Rebel Sport Gift Card or Nintendo Switch.

The advertisement features a young boy in a white school shirt looking thoughtful. The background is a mix of green and blue. The text is in white and blue. At the bottom, there are images of the prizes: a PlayStation 4 console, an Xbox One X console, a Nintendo Switch console, and a Rebel Sport Gift Card.