

Newsletter

Working together to build a learning community that embraces faith, diversity and personal growth.

Sacred Heart Primary School, Diamond Creek
Telephone: 03 9438 1590
Email: principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au

View the Newsletter online: https://www.shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au/newsletters-forms/

Newsletter No 10 Term 4 9th December 2022

Dear Sacred Heart families and friends,

As another extraordinary year draws to a close, we write to thank you all for your continued encouragement and support for all of us here at Sacred Heart Primary School.

As a Catholic community, we recognise that we have recently entered the season of Advent. A time of reflection and preparation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. It is a time when we look back, as well as looking forward. A time to look back and to give thanks to God and to each other for all the blessings we have received, as well as to look forward to all the wonderful possibilities, opportunities and challenges of the next stage of life's journey.

As we reflect on the year we have had, the word which enters our heads is one of gratitude. Gratitude for the amazing staff of Sacred Heart Primary School who continue to give generously of their time and talent for the benefit of our children. Gratitude for our parents whose encouragement and trust is often overwhelming, particularly in the face of their own challenges. Gratitude also to the children of Sacred Heart who bring energy and life to our community.

As the academic year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout 2022. We also have a number of families that will be finishing at Sacred Heart Primary School this year. Many of these families have been involved in our community for a long time. We thank you for your enthusiasm, kindness and contributions to making Sacred Heart such a wonderful place. Thank you to the following families: Arvaji, Brooks, Campell (Zara), Clough, Dovile, Liu, Mitrovski (Miaa), O'Keefe, Rowley (Charlie) & Turner.

We also would like to thank our leaving staff, Amy Stephens and Norah Jacombs, who have had such a positive impact on the Sacred Heart community and wish them the best of luck in the next stage of their journey.

As this is our last official newsletter for the year we hope you all have a safe, restful, holy and happy Christmas and we look forward to walking together with you and your children as we move into a year full of hope and promise in 2023.

Student Leadership

Each year at Sacred Heart, we as a school community recognise those students who show qualities such as leadership, initiative, organisation and being a role model to other students. Today we announced the leaders of 2023.

2023 LEADERS

SCHOOL LEADERS

Lachlan Audley Sienna Nardella BUNJIL HOUSE LEADER MACKILLOP HOUSE LEADER CORDNER HOUSE LEADER

FIRE Carrier Leader
Mini Vinnies Leader
Sustainability Leader
Religious Education Leader
Wellbeing Leader
Languages Leader
Arts Leader

Yours sincerely,

Jim & Gina

Tess Pearce Alfie Rowley Georgia Fitzmaurice

Isaac Sciberras Maia Hankinson Penny Motschall Mitali Perera Katiya Ibrahim Elliott Lee Ruby Vassallo



The Jesse Tree

Jesse Trees are a very old Christmas Tradition and first started in medieval times. They are **used to help tell** the story of the Bible from creation to the Christmas Story.

Each day of **Advent**, read a Bible story about someone on Jesus's family tree and hang an ornament symbolizing the story on your Jesse Tree. As you decorate your tree, you'll see how God prepared for Jesus to be born through many generations.

The name comes from Jesse who was the Father of the great Jewish King David. One prophecy in the Bible, in the book of Isaiah, says:

- 1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
- 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--
- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;
- 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. Isaiah 11:1-4 (NIV)

A branch is a sign of new life and new beginnings. Jesus was a descendent of King David and Christians believe that Jesus is this new branch.

The first Jesse trees were large carvings, tapestries or even stained glass windows put in Churches that helped people who couldn't read or write learn about the Bible from creation to the Christmas Story. But now Jesse Trees are used as a kind of Advent calendar. You can use a normal Christmas tree or a banner in the shape of a tree. Each day through advent (or sometimes just on the four Sundays of advent) a special decoration or ornament that tells a story from the Bible, is hung on the tree.

There are very many different stories and symbols you can use. I've listed 25 stories and symbols that I especially like!

Bible Story:	Where it is in the Bible:	Symbol:
Creation	Genesis 1	The earth
Adam and Eve / Garden of Eden	Genesis 2:4 - 3:24	A tree with fruit or an apple
Noah & the Flood	Genesis 6:9 - 9:17	A rainbow
God's promise to Abraham	Genesis 12:1-7 & 15:1-6	A tent
Isaac	Genesis 22:1-18	A ram
Jacob's Ladder	Genesis 28:10-19	A ladder
Joseph's Coat	Genesis 37 & 50	A multi-coloured coat or robe
Moses	Exodus 2:1 - 4:20	A burning bush
Israelites and the Passover	Exodus 12:1-42	A lamb
The 10 Commandments	Exodus 19:1 - 20:20	Two stone tablets
Joshua and the fall of Jericho	Joshua 6:1-20	A ram's horn trumpet
Ruth	Ruth (Whole Book)	A sheaf of corn
King David	1 Samuel 16:1-3	A six pointed 'Star of David'
Solomon's Temple	1 Kings 6	The temple
Elijah and Baal's Priests	1 Kings 18:16-39	A bonfire
Isaiah's 'Jesse' Prophecy	Isaiah 11:1-11	A tree stump with a single branch growing from it
Jonah and the Whale	Jonah (Whole Book)	A whale
John the Baptist	Matthew 3:13-17	A scallop shell
Mary	Luke 1:26-38	A white lily
Elizabeth	Luke 1:39-56	A mother and child
Zechariah	Luke 1:57-80	A pencil and tablet
Joseph	Matthew 1:19-25	A carpenter's hammer
The Shepherds	Luke 2:8-20	A fluffy sheep!
The Wise men	Matthew 2:1-12	A gold star or the three gifts or three crowns
Jesus	Luke 2:1-8	A baby in a manger



SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL General News

Awards Ceremony:

We will be holding our Awards Ceremony on Monday 12th December at 2.20 pm. We will recognise our leaders of 2022 and introduce the school leaders of 2023. Students from each class will be acknowledged for a Principal Award and Endeavour Award and Excellence Awards will also be presented. This assembly will be held in the church and families are welcome to attend.

End of Year Activities:

On Thursday 15th December all levels will take part in some end of year celebrations. Please refer to any notes that went home via Operoo in regards to each level's activities and requirements.

Reports:

All families should have received their school report. The reports are sent home as a link, please check your spam if you have not yet received this or contact the office. Any other questions in regards to the report please contact the classroom teacher.

Plates Fundraiser:

Thank you to all families who were able to purchase their special plate on Grandparents Day. The school raised \$1,112.00 which will go towards replacing our Adventure Playground.

Graduation:

Congratulations to the class of 2022 as they celebrated their graduation from Primary School on Wednesday night. Thank you to the staff and the families that were able to organise this event for the students and their families.

Leaving Ceremony and Final Mass:

Parents are invited to attend our End of Year Mass celebration and leaving ceremony on Friday 16th December. The mass is at 12.00pm in the church and this will be followed by the leaving ceremony in the courtyard. Students will be dismissed after the leaving ceremony. School will finish for students at 1.30pm on this day.

16 Days of Activism:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1itMP0vJiDC4oDFtYuiem 2nlNnj8ysrF/view?usp=drive web

ISS Results:

Congratulations to our boys and girls basketball teams and our boys' volleyball team that made it into the ISS grand final held last week. Both our boys teams won in the final and the girls lost by a small margin. Well done to all teams.







Student News:

Congratulations to Sienna Nardella who recently was awarded the MDC inters outstanding Achievement award for Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary.





Year 1 students Alby Ioannidis and Eloise Ross, performed their End of Year Piano Recital on Saturday 3 December in Diamond Creek.

First-year piano student, Alby, played a bright rendition of Yankee Doodle followed by an ominous sounding performance of Pirates as a duet with the teacher; and second-year student, Eloise, continued a somewhat American theme with the iconic doo-dah of Camptown Races and by smashing the baseball tune My Clubhouse out of the park in her duet!

Congratulations on your entertaining performances and progress this year Alby and Eloise!

Very special thanks to their excellent teacher, Juliane Vincent, (Dip Ed Soc. Germany, Orff 2, Kodaly 1, VMTA) of Hurstbridge.







Seesaw:

As we are nearing the end of term 4 2022, some families were wondering how to download/save their children's work in Seesaw? Here's how to download a .zip file of a Seesaw journal, including images, videos, audio recordings, and text notes or captions. Click here or click on the item attached below: https://help.seesaw.me/hc/en-us/articles/208754866-How-do-families-and-students-download-an-archive-of-student-work- Please use a computer with a Chrome or Firefox browser only, the .zip file will not download on a mobile or tablet device.

Parents Association News:

The 2022 Parents Association Annual General Meeting on 5 December was a great success – congratulations to the Committee that raised around \$15,000 this year – and thanks to you, our amazing families for your support!

Thank you to the 2022 Committee: Emma Dovile, President, Michelle Lord, Vice President, Stephanie Lewis, Secretary and Rowena O'Reilly, Treasurer, and each of the General Committee Members, who worked tirelessly volunteering their time for this great outcome.

We also thank you – our incredible School families – who helped raise these funds by generously donating time, goods for raffles and supporting various events, such as the Mother's Day Stall, School Disco, Bogan Bingo and Student Special Lunches, making them a huge success.

This hard-earned money will go towards a new playground to give our kids the best of the latest play equipment, bringing it in line with the rest of the School following the completion of the impressive building refurbishment project.

Congratulations again to the 2022 Committee on a very successful year!

Executive Committee 2023

The AGM saw the election of the Executive Committee of the Parents and Friends Association, as it will be known, for 2023:

- President Megan Ioannidis (Alby, Year 2)
- Vice President Michelle Lord (Justine, Year 3; Harry, Year 5)
- Secretary Laura Van Rooyen (Leo, Year 2)
- Treasurer Sasha Topolcsanyi (George, Year 2)
- Tuckshop J'Rhette Bishop (Rook, Year 4; Harper, Year 6)
- Uniform Shop Madeleine Jones (Olivia, Foundation; Evie, Year 4; Lucy, Year 5)

Congratulations and thanks to these people for making the generous and steadfast commitment and in bringing their professional expertise and skill to the Committee.

General Members and Friends

We have thankfully been blessed with a number of amazing volunteers who have continued on or joined as General Members for 2023.

The Committee will expand to also welcome parents as Friends where you simply contribute, volunteer or attend meetings as much as you like and are able.

Again – we greatly appreciate everyone's support and hope this better accommodates everyone's busy lives to be able to help and be part of the fun without having to make a big commitment.

New Year, new approach

The New Year will also welcome a new approach for the Parents and Friends. While we remain a group that works to raise money for School equipment and bring everyone together through social events, we will review the way we work – and we want to know what you think!

Have your say

We want to work smarter, not harder and make the Parents and Friends work for everyone. We also all want our kids on that amazing new playground!

Early in Term 1, we will conduct an anonymous survey to know your thoughts on past events and activities; what you think has worked, what you enjoyed and what you think could be improved.

Watch this space for the link to the upcoming survey...!

Join us!

We would love to have you in 2023 and warmly invite you to join this wonderful group. To register your interest or for further information, please email **parentsassoc@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au**.

Thank you again for your support of the Parents Association in 2022 and I look forward to working for and with you all in 2023!

Kind Regards,

Megan Ioannidis President-Elect Parents and Friends Association

A quick note on the new name – including Friends broadens the scope of the group and also aligns with terminology used by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) of which Sacred Heart School and associated parent groups are governed.

Christmas Celebrations:













Orientation Days - 2023

Following the success of the start of the Year in 2022 for our students, we are again starting 2023 with a staggered return across Year 1 -6. We believe this encourages a positive and personal start to the new school year allowing time for staff and students to reconnect after the holiday period.

Students in Foundation to Year Six will be allocated a morning <u>or</u> afternoon session on Monday 30th January or Tuesday 31st January. All Foundation students will have Wednesday off for the month of February.

During these sessions, teachers and LSO's will spend time engaging with their students in a small group setting designed to enhance student wellbeing and set up classroom/level expectations. These sessions will include time for the teachers and students to engage in various activities including classroom organisation, social and emotional (SEL) activities and assessment of reading, writing and number work. We believe it is important to use this time to observe students' learning behaviours in a small setting. This ensures teachers and LSO's have the opportunity to start planning learning tasks for the beginning of the year that are set at the point of need of each individual student.

We anticipate this personalised opportunity will promote a calm and positive approach for students returning/commencing their 2023 school year.

Students are expected to wear full summer uniform, including school hats. They are asked to bring a snack, drink bottle, pencil case and headphones with them to this session.

Below shows which day your child/ren are expected at school.

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 8.50AM - 12.00PM

FOUNDATION	YEAR 1/2	YEAR 3/4	YEAR 5/6
JOHANSEN Toby	McILROY Lily	LENTINI Christian	McILROY Daniel
JONES Olivia	McILROY Jojo	JONES Evelyn	JONES Lucy
AUDELY Hamish	WIGMORE Isla	AUDLEY Eleanor	AUDLEY Lachie
MATULICK Lucy	MATULICK Emily	OHLSEN Finn	BURNS Miller
SINCLAIR Chloe	SINCLAIR Madi	SINCLAIR Jake	FERNANDO Ayendha
GEEGA Orianna	DOWN Shea	NEMYROVSKYI Ivan	DOWN Saige
	STACEY Amelia	STACEY Tyler	HUNTER ROY
	LEWIS Will	LEWIS Charlotte	CHRISTIAN Hilton
	MOLINARO James	MOLINARO Charlotte	FITT Madison
	BLACK Maddie	BLACK Jack	VASSALLO Ruby
	TIJAN Billy		

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 12.30PM - 3.25PM

FOUNDATION	YEAR 1/2	YEAR 3/4	YEAR 5/6
TELFER Jack	VAN ROOYEN Leo	LORD Justine	LORD Harry
BRACK Scarlett	BRACK Ava	COLLINS Benji	MADDEN Heidi
COLEMAN Noah	IOANNIDIS Alby	HERNANDEZ Alexander	HERNANDEZ Xavier
PARKER Lenny	PARKER Poppy	PARKER Ollie	PARKER Eva

GIBBS Penelope	ROSS Eloise	HOE Meliz	ROSS Annabelle	
KHAIRA Malvin	KHAIRA Jasmina	GALLAGHER Finn	SPARKS-McPHERSON Hunter	
	PARISI Alfie	HODGSON Audrey PARISI Oliver		
	HOE Melanie	Melanie HANKINSON Rosie HANKINSON Maia		
	GALLAGHER Elly	BISHOP Rook	BISHOP Harper	
	HODGSON Delilah	LEWIS Sophie	LEWIS Madison	
		AMBROSE Sade	PERERA Mitali	

TUESDAY 31TH JANUARY 8.50AM - 12.00PM

FOUNDATION	YEAR 1/2	YEAR 3/4	YEAR 5/6
JOHNSTON Grace	CHATFIELD Harley	LAMB Emily	LAMB Megan
O'CONNOR Ciara	O'CONNOR Thomas	FRIEDRICH Harry	SANTOSTEFANO Nala
ELLIS Hermione	DAVIDSON Eddie	NICHOLSON Jack	MENNILLI Marcus
RAY Tomi	STANIC Alannah	LYONS Sarah	HARDY Rachael
KOSTER Sullivan	BUHAGIAR Grace	CAMPBELL Alex	BRADY-DIAZ Matthew
FURLONG, Karlee	BUHAGIAR Lily	FITZMAURICE Nate	FITZMAURICE Georgia
	RIDD Lex	BUTTIGIEG Daniel	O'NEILL Tadhg
	BOYD Iris	O'NEILL Patrick	KEATING Kayde
	NARDELLA Beau	NARDELLA Jack	NARDELLA Sienna
	DI BERARDINO Adele	IBRAHIM Evren	ROWLEY Alfie
	NICHOLSON Nikita		IBRAHIM Katiya

TUESDAY 31TH JANUARY 12.30PM - 3.25PM

FOUNDATION	YEAR 1/2	YEAR 3/4 YEAR 5/6	
HARTE Eli	HARTE Alfie	BRODERICK Grace	WADDINGTON Caitlin
LEMI Collins	LEMI Marley	LEMI Maddux	PERRY-TURNLEY Eadie
WILLIS Mia	FOSTER Beau	BERRIMAN Rupert	MOTSCHALL Monique
MOTSCHALL April	TOPOLCSANYI George	MOTSCHALL Erica	MOTSCHALL Penny
CULOSI Alessia	LUCHETTA Fletcher	LUCHETTA Lawson	DOOLEY Davey
HERON GAUCI Leith	FOSTER Emmy	O'REILLY Conor	DOOLEY Luke
	CLARK Ava	PEARCE Shaye	PEARCE Tess

CONNOLLY Finn	ZAGAMI Sebastian	LEE Elliott
ZAMMIT Anthony	SCIBERRAS Jacob	SCIBERRAS Isaac
BERRIMAN Evelyn		MOORE Eliza

Mini Vinnies – Christmas Hamper Drive:



Parents Association – Final Sausage Sizzle for 2022 Orders close on CDF Pay by 3pm Wednesday 14th December.

Click or scan here to order:



Click here for our preferred payment method:



Sacred Heart Special Lunch Order SAUSAGE SIZZLE Friday 16th December Please choose from these options: OPTION 1: x1 Sausage in bread with a drink (soft drink, prima or water) & a special treat - \$6.00 OR OPTION 2: x2 sausages in bread with a drink (soft drink, prima or water) & a special treat - \$8.00 Please return order form and payment by Tuesday 15th December Student Name Class Option 1 or 2 Lemonade Sunkist Solo Prima Buttle of water Student Name Class Option 1 or 2 Lemonade Sunkist Solo Prima Buttle of water Student Name Class Option 1 or 2 Class Option



Wellbeing

Unspoiling Your Kids This Christmas



POSITIVE PARENTING

Even in homes where getting by is a bit of a struggle, Christmas is generally a time of indulgence for most families. We might be fighting inflation, increased rent and mortgage payments, and rising fuel and food costs, but it's Christmas! We want to make it memorable, and spending seems to be the default to make that

1. Focus on Service

This year, one family I know is baking cookies and visiting the local police station, ambulance station, and fire station to drop off some Christmas cheer. They take the time to thank the people who work to keep us safe. Others I know visit the local RSPCA with supplies or donations, drop food, books, and toys at a women's shelter, or donate food (or money for a well) to one of the many overseas charities that help those who are impoverished and in need.

2. Focus on Your Neighbourhood

Who are the people in your neighbourhood? Perhaps an elderly widow could do with a hand in her yard. 'Tis the season for fast-growing grass and gardens. Perhaps someone has just gone through a tough separation and could do with a Christmas basket to ease the pain (financial and emotional) that Christmas might bring.

One of our favourite things to do is to host a neighbourhood Christmas party. We invite all of our neighbours for a barbecue and to sing carols. Every year, we are asked for the date in advance, so people can be available!

3. Try a Secret Santa Drop

Our children's favourite Christmas activity is playing "knock and run." We select a handful of people we want to give something to each year. It might be a teacher, a friend, a coach, or a church leader. We wrap their parcels (often home-made treats), write thank you cards, and drive to their home. After parking out of sight, we sneak to their door, place their gift on the doorstep, and bang on the door before sprinting for a hiding place. Then we watch with delight as someone gets an unexpected, anonymous Christmas surprise. (It can be hard to do this well with six children, and we've often been caught—but it's always fun.)

Next-focus on the children.

4. Give Something Exciting

The reality is that our children DO want to get something exciting at Christmas. So, pick something great for them (within your budget) and help them enjoy it. A decision to not get anything can leave them feeling resentful, particularly when they see everyone else "getting."

5. Reduce the Number of Gifts They Receive

Some children receive gifts from everyone. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents, and even siblings are all expected to buy for everyone. This not only costs a fortune, but it can overwhelm children and leave them expecting more and more. Invite your extended family to contribute to one meaningful gift, rather than lots of bits and pieces.

6. When Opening Gifts, Take Time to Savour Them

Savouring is the magnifying, or amplifying, of a positive experience. When the children open a gift, give them time to savour it. Encourage them to play with it. Let them breathe in the excitement of the moment, rather than ripping into the next package and flinging their gifts aside.

7. Experiences Are Better Than Things

One of the most remarkable findings from positive psychology research is that spending money on experiences brings more happiness than spending money on "stuff." Perhaps a family trip will be more memorable than more toys?

In a similar vein, gifts that encourage relationships are better than gifts that promote isolation. A new game console might be fun, but it may lead to withdrawal (and fights). It might be better to purchase some games that bring the family together.

8. Rather Than Gifts, Give Letters

One year for Christmas, I contacted my siblings and asked them to give me 10 memories of special times with Dad. With six children, we had a total of 60 memories, each written on separate pieces of coloured paper and rolled up into mini-scrolls and placed into a jar. Dad opened the jar and looked at us, perplexed. He reached in and pulled out the first note. He read it and chuckled. Then it dawned on him that there were 60 notes from his children. He dipped his hand in again and read. Then he began to weep. The rest of that Christmas morning, he read, cried, laughed, and reminisced. It was a meaningful, wonderful gift that cost nothing but meant the world.

9. Encourage the Children to Write "Thank You" Notes

Christmas break is a great time to take stock of gifts and say thank you. Invite your children to write thank you notes to those who gave to them, saying specifically why they're grateful. Sincere thanks takes time—but it is a wonderful way to help the children show appreciation.

Finally, give the most valuable gift you can: time.

10. Give the Gift of Time

There may be no gift more appreciated by our children than your time. It costs so little yet is so hard to give generously. But when we give of our time generously, all the material desires our children have will fade away.

This Christmas, "unspoil" your child by reducing the emphasis on materialism, crowding out the crass commercialism of "getting" with sincere, compassionate giving. It can make your Christmas truly memorable.

How are you planning to make this Christmas one to remember?



Student of the Week

Foundation Evelyn Berriman
1/2 NS Shaye Pearce

1/2 PA George Topolcsanyi

3/4 NJ Finn Gallagher
3/4 RM Jacob Sciberras
5/6 MR Grace Topolcsanyi
5/6 JD Katiya Ibrahim

STEM Evelyn Berriman
Visual Arts Harper Bishop
PE Nathaniel Dovile

Performing Arts Isla Wigmore
Environmental Science Maia Hankinson











Important Dates

Term 4 Dates - FAMILIES - 2022

December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12 WEEK 11 A	13	14	15	16	17	18
Awards Ceremony & Final Assembly 2.20pm			End of Year Celebrations	End of Year Mass 12pm & Leaving ceremony Students dismissed at 1.30pm		
19 WEEK 12	20					
Staff last day	Staff Professional Planning Day (off campus)					

Year 3/4s @ Sacred Heart this Week





Year 3/4 Students worked with Landscaper, Richard Bellemo, to replant new natives and grasses in our Welcome Courtyard gardens.





Running Club @ Sacred Heart











Sharing ideas & EXCHANGING Village OSHC STORIES







We are pleased to share with you the third edition of *Exchanging Stories - VillageOSHC*.

By creating *Exchanging Stories*, we are able to share tips and tricks, celebrate achievements, and forge connections between Educators in our services, our children and their families, and the wider school community.

We hope you enjoy the third edition of *Exchanging Stories - VillageOSHC*, where we show you some of the amazing work our Villagers are doing at Sacred Heart School.

Kind regards, The VillageOSHC Team

Sharing Ideas and Exchanging Stories.

A copy of the third edition of Exchanging Stories - VillageOSHC can be downloaded here.