



P&F Meeting 20 March 2019

Principal's Report

The past few weeks in review.....

The recent weeks have remained busy with various occasions, events and initiatives having taken place:

- **Family Outdoor Movie Night** – Although the crowd was smaller than years previous, the annual outdoor Family Movie Night held earlier in the month was enjoyed by those in attendance. It was fabulous to see those families who came out to make the most of the opportunity to watch the movie “Ferdinand” on the big screen outside!

Special thanks, once again, to our P&F, for organising this beginning-of-year initiative, for putting on the BBQ, making of popcorn, selling of glow sticks and, of course, the clean-up afterwards. In particular, I acknowledge the efforts of coordination behind the scenes by Kelly Corken, assisted by others. It was sincerely appreciated.

- **Year 6 Swimming Program** - Our Year 6 students recently participated in the School Swimming Program over at Haileybury College. The program is part of our whole school approach to swimming and water safety awareness, now part of the Victorian Curriculum. Once again, the program ran most successfully.
- **Swimming Carnivals** - A number of students from Years 3-6 recently represented St Catherine's at the Narre Warren District Swimming Carnival at Doveton Pool. In hot conditions, the students performed outstandingly giving their all with many taking out first and second places.

Out of six schools competing on the day, St Catherine's won overall by a narrow two points to claim the Narre Warren District Shield. - A fantastic achievement!

Twelve students qualified for the Casey South Division at Noble Park last week.

- **Reconciliation** - Last week, students and families were engaged in Reconciliation workshops in preparation for the celebration of this significant sacrament. Workshops will continue next week as well, concluding Thursday,

28 March.

- **Cross Country** - Last Friday, we enjoyed holding our annual House Cross Country for students in Years 3-6.

Special thanks to Justin Kenez for overseeing and organising the event, and of course to all staff who ensured that things would run smoothly. Thanks also to parents for taking time out of their day to help with the event or to come to watch their child/ren to compete.

Congratulations to all students who gave some magnificent feats of athleticism to run their race swiftly, with many outstanding results and personal achievements reached, and we congratulate those senior students who will now go on to compete at the divisional level.

Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviour

In 2018, St Catherine's embarked on a Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviour Support. It is recognised that all members within our school community have a significant role to play and we encourage all members to work collaboratively in promoting a calm, clear and consistent approach. When all members contribute with the same expectations, a positive community will be strengthened.

St Catherine's whole school approach to positive behaviour, provides support to develop relationships, values and skills. It is taught as part of the Personal and Social Capabilities within the Victorian Curriculum and aligns with our school's vision and mission.

Principles underpinning positive behaviour promote high expectations for all. We understand:

- Students are central to all decision making and action
- Safety of all students is a priority
- All students can learn
- Effective schools enable a culture of learning
- Learning and teaching is inclusive of all
- Teaching support matches the needs and talents of the student
- Inclusive schools actively engage and work in partnership with the wider community

At the end of 2018, we launched our five positively stated school-wide expectations for behaviour. These five expectations are our agreed way of operating and interacting within St Catherine's School community. They apply to all people who visit, learn and work within our school and relate directly to skills and values we strive for and abide by. They are important for providing a common vision, language and experience for all.

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2019 NAPLAN

In 2018, NAPLAN began transitioning from a paper-based test to an online assessment (i.e. students complete the tests utilising their iPads).

St Catherine's is conducting NAPLAN Online in 2019. This means that from 14–24 May 2019, students at our school will undertake all NAPLAN tests online in place of the paper tests. Year 3 students will continue to complete the Writing test as a paper test.

NAPLAN Online delivers numerous benefits including:

- a 'tailored test' design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing a more precise understanding of student achievement;
- innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types;
- the extension of the 'test window' to two weeks, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.

Upcoming events:

- Thursday, 21 March - Easter Egg Donation (Casual Wear Day)
- Friday, 22 March - Ride2School Day
- School Photos

- Thursday, 4 April - Year 3 Sleepover
- Friday, 5 April - End of Term 1