



P&F Meeting
7 August 2019

Principal's Report

The past few weeks in review.....

The first few weeks of the new term, have remained busy with various occasions, events and initiatives having taken place:

- ***Learning Conversations*** – Thank you to all families who availed themselves either last Wednesday evening or yesterday for mid-year learning conversations. The opportunity to discuss progress and look to supporting future learning growth is an important one in the education partnership between school and home.
- ***Prep Placement Conversations*** - The start of the term saw the commencement of prep placement conversations with families who have a child starting Prep in 2020. The purpose of these conversations is to learn a little more about the child and to discuss queries as we look to transitioning into school. These will continue until the end of next week.
- ***Student Success*** – Our congratulations go to Coby Smith in 2WC who recently earned the Joey Scout Promise Challenge as a member of the 1st Berwick Cub Pack. This is an outstanding achievement which only a small percentage reach and given only to the top achievers among Scouting members across the world! Well done, Coby!
- ***Year 3 Starlab Incursion*** - As part of the Year 3 Inquiry Unit, students were fortunate to have a visit from Starlab, a mobile planetarium. This gave our students the opportunity to learn how day and night cycles occur, what causes the changes in the seasons and how Moon cycles work. The students were engaged with the visual experiences, further developing their understanding of concepts being explored in class.
- ***Year 5 Pilgrimage Mass*** - Last week, students in Year 5 travelled to Sale for the annual Pilgrimage Mass in the Cathedral. St Catherine's joined Year 5 students from other schools from across the Diocese of Sale for celebration of Mass by Bishop Patrick O'Regan and an opportunity to learn more about our Diocese's Cathedral.
- ***Celebrating 100 Days of School*** - On Monday, our Prep students celebrated 100 days of school. Students acknowledged the special occasion by dressing up as 100-year-olds and participating in a range of activities including games and art and craft.

- **Sports News** - St Catherine's has recently been involved in a number of sporting events including:
 - Southern Metropolitan Region Cross Country
 - Casey South Division Football Finals
 - Casey Southern Division Playoffs
 - AFL Divisional Playoffs and Regional Finals
 - Casey South Division Netball Finals
 - Year 6 Interschool Sports Program
 - Year 6 Sports Clinics with students from Chisholm

Staff Update for the start of the New Term

With the start of Term 3, we had some adjustments to staffing, including those presently on short periods of leave which I wish to acknowledge:

- **WELCOME!** - A very warm welcome to **Amanda Darling** and **Emma Mutch** who are replacing Maureen Finlay and Jess Ornsby respectively. Both Amanda and Emma are transitioning into their respective classes with the support of Maureen and Jess who have recently finished up to take up overseas postings.

This week we also welcomed **Rebecca Callanan** as the replacement teacher for Simone Cosgriff in 6CD who is on extended leave for the remainder of the year.

- **Welcome Back** - Following a term of leave, we welcomed back Yveie Tonks. Yveie and her family have spent the past few months travelling and exploring the highlights of the country.
- **Mary Hall** - Mary has made the decision to take the remainder of the year on leave as she continues to undergo treatment for cancer. Tammy Zinghini will continue to replace Mary for this period. Please continue to keep Mary very much in your prayers and thoughts during this time.
- **Resignations**
 - **Kylie Fitzgerald** - Kylie has been successful in securing a full-time ongoing position in a Catholic college in the Melbourne Archdiocese. We Thank Kylie for her work in 1HM to date and wish her well in her new role.
 - **Susan Long** - Susan recently gave notice of her resignation from her Tuesday position in the Canteen due to securing increased work in another role. Susan has only been with us for one term, but has added a wonderful dynamic to our new team in that space. We certainly wish Susan well.

2019 First Holy Communion Preparations

Students in Year 4 have now commenced preparations for First Holy Communion. Enrolment into the Sacramental Program occurred during Week 2. This is certainly a very significant milestone in the faith journey of these students.