



St Joseph's School, Chelsea

Term 2, Week 3 Thursday 6th May 2021



Dear Families,

Thank you to Mirek (Ela, Amelia & Klara's dad) and Claire (Ava & Lucinda's mum) for helping with the Mother's day stall. The children loved picking a gift. Happy mother's day to all the mothers, grandmothers and special people in our lives.

Lael Stone Parent Night

We had a great session with over 60 parents attending and we all received some really important messages about parenting.

On Wednesday the Sustainability leaders had everyone wear something green and bring along a gold coin to help purchase some new items for our sustainable garden. We raised \$465. A big thankyou to our families.

Opening of the Hall and Grass

On Wed 12th May we will be holding a special assembly at 2.40pm to open and bless the hall and grass. We invite all to attend, however, parents will need to sit outside to satisfy the COVID restrictions.

After the assembly and children have returned to their class all parents and parishioners will be able to enter the hall for refreshments.

Next week we kick off our Circus sessions with The Circus Crew. This will culminate with a performance at Chelsea Town Hall on Thursday 24th June in the evening. Please save the date. We are not sure of numbers of who can attend at this stage. We are hoping we can have a full house in attendance. Details will follow later in the term.

Enrolments for 2022 are now open until Friday 14th May. If you have a child starting school next year please contact the office.

Uniform Shop

Thank you to Wendy (Reggie & Kendra's mum) for volunteering to help run the second hand uniform shop. The shop will now be this Monday from 8.45-9.05am. If you are kindly donating items please make sure they are prewashed and in good condition.

News from the Parish ¶ 11am Mass Music Ministry ¶

Young Families with primary school children & teenagers are invited to join the new 11am Music Ministry for practice

this Saturday @5.30pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre Chapel (enter from Argyle Avenue)

We will be singing at Mass once a month, starting on

Pentecost Sunday, 23 May. For information please contact the parish office 9772 2211 or email Chelsea@cam.org.au

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A Prayer for Mothers

We thank you Lord for the great gift of motherhood.

It is within our mother's womb, that we began life.

It is in her embrace that we have known safety and comfort.

It is through her encouragement that we grow and mature.

Lord, bless our mothers.

Draw close to them and hear their prayers for their children.

Give them the grace of surrendered love -

a love that images the love of our heavenly mother, Mary.

May all mothers find daily

the strength to love generously,

the patience to endure graciously,

and the grace to live their vocation of motherhood joyously.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ,

Amen.

Enjoying the grass....



Teaching Consent to children and teenagers

by Michael Grose

Following the March 4 Justice rallies families have been urged to talk to their children about consent. Many parents are unsure where to start and how to go about it. Here are some ideas to assist parents in this most important topic.

Start the consent ball rolling from an early age

Consent education begins with adults teaching and modelling respectful treatment related to children's development stages. Holding discussions about body boundaries, checking in with feelings, respecting the feelings and voices of others, and listening to children's concerns are the types of behaviours that will help you develop a culture of respect in your family.

Is your home a place where children can talk about any topic? Sexuality and relationship education are subjects that many parents place in the 'let's talk about this when you are older' basket.

Professor Kerry Robinson, who is in the School of Social Sciences and Psychology and the Sexualities and Genders Research Network at Western Sydney University advises parents to be factual when answering children's questions, emphasising the importance of staying informed about the subject kids are interested in.

In a recent article in The Guardian, she said "... have set it up early with your child that when they talk about certain things you give open, simple, honest answers, then you set a precedent that you can build on."

Professor Robinson also advises parents not to fob off children's questions: "Straight away you're setting a pattern of not answering and putting it off. Kids learn really quickly that this is a taboo subject. They will talk to their friends about it: they won't talk to their parents and other adults about it because it's taboo."

Teach no means no

Children learn about mutual consent through their play and sharing. A child who doesn't want to share their toys has a right to be left alone, rather than being scolded to change their mind. A parent who withdraws a privilege in response to a teenager's poor behaviour shouldn't be subjected to

repeated attempts to negotiate a different outcome. Reinforce with children and young people that a no is not an invitation to ask again.

Emphasise choices

The biggest lesson to reinforce for children and young people is that they have a choice in how they behave, and how they react. The young person who blames alcohol for sexual assault has neglected the role that choice plays in their decisions. Blaming alcohol, the dress or the demeanour of another person are older versions of 'it's not my fault because he/she made me do it' that children so often use when asked to account for poor behaviour.

Framing behaviour as a choice is a central consent strategy for children or all ages. A young child who shares a toy with a friend can be told, "Good choice Harry. Now you can have fun together." A primary school child who completes their homework assignment early can be reminded "Now you've got plenty of time to relax. Smart choice." The teenager who quietly helps you prepare a meal can be told, "You could have done anything after school, but you chose to help me. I appreciate that."

Teach kids to seek consent

While teaching kids the right to say no is a central consent message, children and young people should also develop the habit of seeking consent from others. "Ask your sister if it's okay for you to play that game next to her." "Ask grandma if she feels like a cuddle right now." Permission-seeking is another piece in respectful relationships puzzle that you can reinforce with kids.

Model consent

The use of consensual language is a community concern. A grandparent may need to be respectfully reminded to ask young children if they'd like a kiss or hug. Similarly, a relative should abide by a young child's wishes if they ask them to

stop tickling or playing with them. A doctor should ask a child, "I'm going to take your temperature. Is that okay?" It's up to adults to frame requests in ways that children feel safe and comfortable.

Fathers step up

Dads can't leave consent and sexuality education to mothers, which still appears to be the case in many families. Fathers can help their daughters develop the confidence to say no by regular interactions with their daughters and encouraging them to be assertive. If they feel comfortable telling you to stop a game, they are more likely to feel comfortable saying no to other males in their lives later in life. Open the door to conversations about sexuality, relationships and consent with your teenage daughter, and she'll know she has a willing ally in you.

Fathers can model respectful behaviours for their sons through their treatment of women at home, and in the community at large. Start the by calling out displays of derogatory behaviour towards women by men or young people. Reinforce in your sons that they the standard of behaviour they ignore is the standard of behaviour that they accept. There are many powerful lessons that boys can absorb from their fathers.

In closing

The best age to start teaching your children about consent is when they are young. The second-best age is whatever age they are right now. Consent education is too big an issue to ignore or leave to schools to manage. It's something we all have to commit to if we want real change to occur.

St Joseph's Sustainable Garden

This week we had a Sustainability fundraiser. The students at St Joseph's added a touch of green to their outfit and donated a gold coin. We were able to \$465. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the families who contributed. We look forward to purchasing some garden equipment to use in our garden! We also were able to plant our seedlings which we have been growing from seeds in our new garden beds!



Community Updates



Chelsea Heights 
TENNIS ACADEMY

Free Trial for Juniors and adults

www.chelseaheightstennisacademy.com.au

leigh_holland@hotmail.com 0439 616 748

Venue- Chelsea Heights tennis club.

Thames promenade.

2021 Term Dates (red indicates additions/changes)

Term 2,

Week 3

Fri 7th May - Yr 5/6 sport vs St Louis, NO assembly

Sun 9th May - Mother's Day

Week 4

Mon 10th May - 9.30am tour, I see, I care workshop Marine

Ambassadors

Tues 11th May - 9.00am Naplan Yr 3 & 5 Writing, 9.30 tour

Wed 12th May - Circus practice 1 begins

9.00am Naplan Yr 5 Reading,

12pm Naplan Yr 3 Reading, 2.15pm tour

2.30pm Tim Richardson talk to Yr 5/6 students

2.40 Opening and Blessing of hall and grass

Thurs 13th May - 9am Yr 3 & 5 Conventions, Circus 1 continues,

Fri 14th May - Level update 2 go out W 5,6,7
Yr 5/6 sport vs Chelsea Heights, 2.30 assembly

Sat 15th May - 8am working bee

Sun 16th May - Feast of the Ascension

Week 5

Mon 17th May - 9am Naplan Maths 9-11am

Wed 19th May - Circus 2

Thurs 20th May - Circus 2, 9-11am Yr 3/4 excursion to JPC

Fri 21st May - Mark Dreyfus talk with Yr 5/6 students
Yr 5/6 sport vs Aspendale

Sun 23rd May - Pentecost Sunday

T2 19th April - 24th June

T3 12th July - 17th September

T4 4th October - 15th December