

Sacred Heart School Thornlie



From the Heart - 24 February 2021

Principal's Message

Dear Parents

A big thankyou to all our families that were able to attend our Parent Information sessions. The sessions were well attended and feedback has been positive. If you were unable to attend I encourage you to contact your child/ren's teacher/s for information you may have missed on the night.

On Friday the school P&F hosted our first community event of the year, the annual, 'Evening on the Green'. It was one of the best turnouts we have had and the P&F did a fantastic job in facilitating the ordering, delivery and distribution of a huge amount of pizzas. We look forward to further community gatherings throughout the year.

This Friday our staff will be engaged in a professional development day learning more about Talk 4 Writing, specifically how to approach the teaching of poetry writing. A recent school Facebook post highlighted some of the 'hooks' that had been used to grab the student's attention and engage them in the writing process. If you are yet to follow the school FB page, I encourage you to do so as it is updated regularly with lots of information about what has been happening within the school.

In this newsletter, in the pages following, we will profile our new staff. You may have seen some of these lovely people around the school but not be sure of their roles. Please take the time to read about them so you can say hello and make them feel welcome if you see them around the grounds.

We have a long weekend coming up so effectively the children will be away from school for Friday and Monday. I trust they will enjoy the extended break.

This week's Parenting Ideas article is about Grandparents as Carers. Many families rely heavily on the support of grandparents and in some circumstances grandparents are the main carers either for a short term or a more long term basis. I hope the article is of some use.

God Bless

Steve Gibbs

Principal



This Term we are focusing as a school on our core value of RESPECT.

Respect is demonstrating regards for the feelings, wishes and rights of other.

“Everyone should be respected as an individual, but no one idolised.”—**Albert Einstein**

“Respecting someone indicates the quality of your personality” - **Mohammad Sakhi**

Parenting Ideas

Grandparents as carers

At school pick up time it's common to see people in their '60s, '70s and older greeting young children after school. In secondary school many students are welcomed home by someone in that age group. You may well think that these are grandparents doing a spot of childcare while parents are at work, but increasingly grandparents and relatives of a grandparenting age are caring full-time for children.

A time of mixed feelings

Grandparents who care full-time for children usually do so following a family crisis or loss. Becoming the full time carer can come as a shock. Many grandparents report that their world is turned upside down when they take on full time parenting roles. Not only are they prevented or restricted from participating in their ongoing interests, many experience their life in limbo as they may not know whether the parenting role is permanent or temporary.

While grandchildren may feel safe being with grandparents after a crisis or experience of loss, it's difficult to move from a highly relational grandparent mode to be the person who sets boundaries, makes sure homework is done and gets kids to school on time each day. On top of this many grandparents experience a mixture of emotions including grief for the death or disappearance of a child, anger for being placed in a situation they didn't want or shame for a difficult family situation.

The benefits of being grandparent carer

Conversations with grandparent carers reveal that many grandparents cherish the opportunity to be close to their grandchildren. For men, in particular, the chance to make up for time and milestones that they missed with their own children helps make their time looking after grandchildren worthwhile. Some grandparents also report finding a new lease of life when they become carers.

Mark, a grandparent raising four primary-aged children appreciates the benefits that experience provides. He claims, "I don't stress nearly as much as I did when I was bringing up my two children. Some of the things I used to fight over with them seem ludicrous now. I'm more patient, more understanding and more fun to be around now with this lot. I laugh more now too."

Looking after yourself

According to the Raising Children Network, grandparents who care for children "have higher levels of depression and anxiety and (experience) more physical and emotional health problems than grandparents who aren't carers." The extra responsibilities that come with being a grandparent carer such as dealing with money worries, facing legal issues and lack of peer support means that grandparent self-care is paramount. Age-related exercise, social interaction, a good diet, enough sleep and regular medical check-ups need to be part of the wellbeing regimens for grandparent carers.

In closing

Like parents, grandparents benefit from being part of a school community. A welcoming school community can be a wonderful asset for those who are raising children the second time around.

Term Dates 2021

TERM ONE	
Staff Commence	Thursday 28 January
Students Commence	Monday 1 February
Term ends for students and staff	Thursday 1 April
Pupil Free Days and Public Holidays (School Closed)	
Pupil Free Day	Friday 26 February
Labor Day	Monday 1 March
Good Friday	Friday 2 April
TERM TWO	
Staff Commence	Monday 19 April
Students Commence	Tuesday 20 April
Term ends for students and staff	Friday 2 July
Pupil Free Days and Public Holidays (School Closed)	
Pupil Free Day	Monday 19 April
ANZAC Day	Monday 26 April
WA Day	Monday 7 June
Pupil Free Day	Tuesday 8 June
TERM THREE	
Staff and Students Commence	Monday 19 July
Term ends for Students	Thursday 23 September
Term ends for Staff	Friday 24 September
Pupil Free Days (School Closed)	Friday 24 September
TERM FOUR	
Staff Commence	Monday 11 October
Students Commence	Tuesday 12 October
Term ends for students	Friday 10 December
Term ends for Staff	Friday 17 December
Pupil Free Days (School Closed)	Monday 11 October



News from the Finance Officer

Parents/Guardians are reminded that school fee statements were emailed out last week. If you have not received your statement, please contact the Administration Office immediately or email accounts@shthorn.wa.edu.au¹

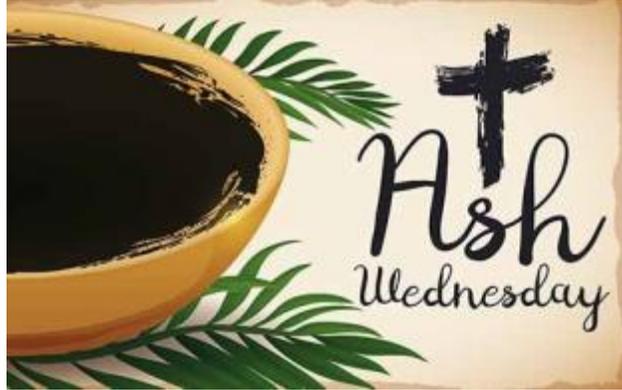
If you hold a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card issued by Centrelink and the discount has not been applied to your school fees for 2021, please bring your card into the Administration Office or email a clear photo of the front and back of the card to accounts@shthorn.wa.edu.au²

PLEASE NOTE: Your child's name(s) must appear on this card.

If you have any questions about your 2021 School Fee Statement, please contact the Administration Office on 9251 3000 and ask to speak to our Finance Officer Lindy Munnings. All families are reminded of their commitment to pay their children's school fees which help to ensure the ongoing operation of the school.

¹<mailto:accounts@shthorn.wa.edu.au>

²<mailto:accounts@shthorn.wa.edu.au>



Ash Wednesday Mass







W e l c o m e

Meet our new staff

Mrs Sharlene Epis - Social Worker

I am delighted to join Sacred Heart primary school as the Social Worker. Having already introduced myself to each year level, my highlight has been the sense of community and interest which surrounds every aspect of the school. I look forward to meeting parents over the coming months.



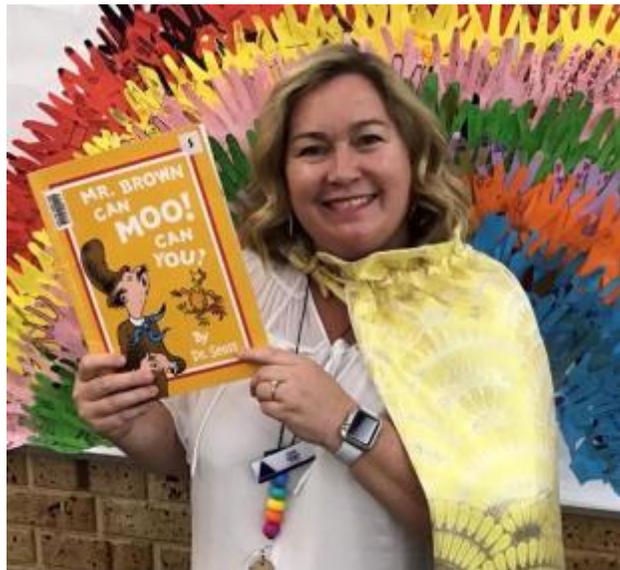
Miss Josephine Barbera - Year 1 Teacher

Parents of Sacred Heart, my name is Josephine Barbera and I will be teaching Year 1B this year. I look forward to working with you all and being part of the school community.



Mrs Amy Edgar - Health Specialist

My name is Amy Edgar and I am the Health Specialist in the Library. I look forward to saying hello to all our parents this year and wish you all a happy and safe 2021.



Miss Veronica O'Brien - 3 Year Old Kindy Teacher

Miss Veronica is an Early Childhood Teacher who loves travelling and has enjoyed teaching both in Australia and in the UK. She is so excited to be teaching 3-year-old Kindy this year and is looking forward to getting married next term.



Mrs Emma Pereira - Special Needs Education Assistant

My name is Emma Pereira, some families may have seen me in Kindy and Year 1/2 classes last year and this year I am excited to be a part of the Inclusion Support Centre.

Thank you for welcoming me into your Sacred Heart Community!



Miss Polly Redburn - Special Needs Education Assistant

Hi, my name is Polly Redburn. I am 18 years old and I work in the Inclusion Support Centre in Pre - Primary and Year One. This is my first teaching job and I am thoroughly enjoying being in the positive school environment and getting to know everyone.





Sacred Heart Charity Walk (Years 3 to 6) - 5 March 2021

This annual Sacred Heart event is taking place this year on **Friday 5 March at 9.00am**, after the COVID-19 pandemic caused its cancellation last year. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be walking the usual 5km. The walk is an effective way of raising vital and significant funds for PROJECT COMPASSION; the Lenten fundraising appeal conducted by CARITAS.

In 2019 the Sacred Heart School community managed to raise over \$8,000. This fantastic amount was due to:

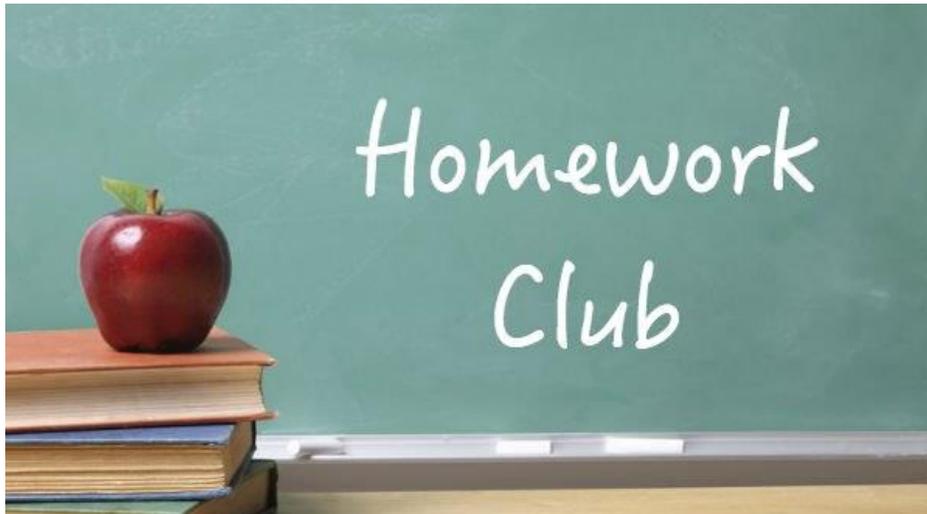
- Our families finding sponsors,
- Our students completing the walk
- And finally, families and students collecting all funds before Term One ended!

The COVID-19 pandemic has left even more communities around the world disenfranchised in regard to HEALTH, FOOD, WATER, SHELTER and SECURITY. Thus, it is clear our Lenten call to alms is vital in 2021!!

SPONSOR CARDS will go home this week. On the back of the cards, you will find all the information you need about the SACRED HEART CHARITY WALK for 2021.

IT WOULD BE FANTASTIC IF ALL SPONSOR CARDS BE BACK IN THE CLASSROOM BY WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH.

Mr Milne (On behalf of the Teachers of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)



HOMEWORK CLUB is BACK!! Commencing Wednesday Week 5, Wednesday 3 March 2021

This is an opportunity for students from Years 1 to 6 to complete their homework with the help of a teacher in the library.

It starts straight after school on a **WEDNESDAY from 2.50pm -3.20pm** and students are to be picked up from the carpark afterwards at 3.20pm sharp.

Mrs Sheena Douth, Mrs Klara Wiryadinata and Mrs Anita Urquhart will be supervising this Term.

Students can ask for support with class work, challenge themselves with some extension work or complete home-work tasks.

If your child will be attending OSHC after homework club you will need to contact Mrs Amanda McCorkill to facilitate this and check availability.

Please contact Mrs Urquhart if there are any further enquiries.



Choir

Choir auditions were held last week and Choir commences this Wednesday 24 February. Choir runs every Wednesday morning from 7:30am to 8:15am in the music room. Children who are already in the choir will not need to be auditioned. Every choir member will receive a choir contract to sign and return.



Kindergarten Enrolments for 2022

If your child was born between **1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018** they will start 4 Year Old Kindergarten at the beginning of 2022. Enrolment forms can be obtained from the school office or via our new website <https://ssthorn.wa.edu.au/enrolment-process/> and should be lodged with us as soon as possible.

Formal interviews will commence May/June 2021.

Parents and Friends (P&F)

Evening on the green

We'd like to thank all our families who came along on Friday night, it was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves. We noticed lots of new families this year which was great to see. The P&F would like to thank Anderson WA, Domino's Thornlie and Unicone for their services.

Easter Raffle

Can you believe Easter is almost here! That means our annual Easter Raffle is coming. Please look out for your raffle tickets, they will be sent home in the coming weeks. As per previous years, they will be 3 for \$5 and each classroom will have a 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize. Good luck everyone.

Entertainment book

Buy an Entertainment Membership to support our fundraising! You'll receive 12 months of valuable savings, and 20% of all digital book purchases get donated back to the school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Rebecca Blackman** at pandf@shthorn.wa.edu.au³

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/83356f>

My School Rules Competition

Our school is one of eight schools participating in The My School Rules Competition. **We ask you to please remember to place any of the shopping dockets from Forest Lakes Forum in the Sacred Heart School box located outside Red Dot at Forest Lakes Forum.**

Alternatively, you may place your shopping dockets in the P&F Box located in the Office, which will be collected and placed in the Sacred Heart School box at Forest Lakes Forum.

The totals of the shopping dockets are tallied during the school term and following school holidays. The school with the biggest improvement in points per enrolled student at the conclusion of the competition period compared to the same period the previous year wins the top prize of \$1,000 in shopping vouchers plus all schools win other minor prizes.

We really do value these shopping vouchers as they pay for many of the items we require during the year to carry out fundraising for our school and so we kindly ask you to please support this competition for the benefit of our school.

'Sacred Heart Thornlie P&F' Facebook Page

To keep up to date on all the exciting events that are happening at the school, 'Like' our Facebook Page. This is a great way to keep up to date on the latest events, when forms are due back and to ask any questions the P&F may be able to assist you with.

³<mailto:pandf@shthorn.wa.edu.au>

Search for **Sacred Heart Thornlie P&F**

Containers for Change

We are excited to be involved in the 'Containers for Change' scheme, offering opportunities to raise funds for the P&F, showing our commitment to the environment and encouraging better recycling behaviours in the community. The Containers for Change bin is located in the car park near the other donation points and we encourage you to donate your eligible containers to help the school. Most aluminum, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard drink containers between 150ml and 3L are eligible for a refund.

Eligible containers must:

- Be included on the scheme's list of products. Use our eligibility checker below to ensure your containers are eligible.
- Display the refund mark (e.g. "10c refund at collection depots/points in participating State/Territory of purchase").





Community Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Sue Hart and I am the Community Health Nurse who visits your school.

Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of my work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program.

Community Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. The services provided are free and confidential.

If you have a concern about your child's health or development, please contact me on 63303126 or 0438944984 or sue.hart@health.wa.gov.au⁴

Useful Links

Uniform Shop⁵ Sacred Heart Thornlie Parish⁶

⁴<mailto:sue.hart@health.wa.gov.au>

⁵<https://www.nellgray.com.au/Uniform-Concepts/Willetton-Super-Store>

⁶<http://www.thornlie.perthcatholic.org.au/>