



Term 2, Week 6, 30 May 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This week I was on retreat for two days at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston. As I have mentioned before it is located in a beautiful part of the world as the photographs show! We were privileged to have a number of guest speakers who provided both insights and challenges to the group.

There were several moments during the days of the retreat which made me pause and think and I'd like to share two of them with you. The first one involved watching Brene Brown speaking on the power of vulnerability. Her extensive research (which is currently accessible on Netflix) identified that to be vulnerable is actually a strength of people who live wholeheartedly. In simplifying this work she suggests we need to: let ourselves be seen, love with our whole hearts, practice gratitude and lean into joy and believe we are enough. I have been involved in a number of professional learning experiences where this particular TED talk has been used. However, on this occasion it really called me to respond in a way that calls me to action. I'm hoping as I return to the reality of school and life and all that is presented in the course of our days, that I can remember these key messages.

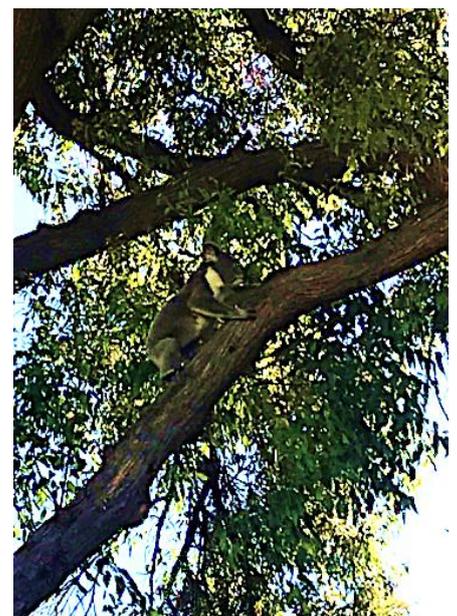


The second moment was so simple but it made me gasp! We were invited to take some time to read selected pages from the book, *Perspective The Calm within the Storm* by Robert J. Wicks. I grabbed a picnic blanket and secured a spot that enabled me to see the water. As I flicked out the blanket I caught a glimpse of the expansive sky. In that moment, I stopped and couldn't remember the last time I had just looked at the sky. So many times I am worried about the past or planning for the future that I miss the very things happening right now!

Within the pages of the book I then read the following:

Jerry Braza, in his book *Moment*, notes this in a reflection on his daughter's appreciation of "the awe of the now":

I recall a time driving my young children somewhere when we approached a railroad crossing as the lights began to flash and the safety gate went down. My first thought was "Oh no! We're going to be held up by a train and be late." Just then, my daughter called out from the backseat, "Daddy, daddy, we're so lucky! We get to watch the train go by!" Her awareness of the present moment was a wonderful reminder to stop and enjoy what the journey had to offer along the way (p.13).



And so I encourage you to look at the sky, smell the roses and enjoy the moments you are stopped in traffic because as Ronald Rolheiser states, "Too often we are not present to the beauty, love and grace that brims within the ordinary moments of our lives. Our lives come laden with riches, but we are not sufficiently present to what is there".

With every good wish,

Kim. PS We even had a koala run across the grass and climb a tree in front of us!



### Primary Learning Leader (PLL)

The PLL works with classroom teachers to support planning of teaching and learning experiences for the students within our school. The PLL is a member of the leadership team. In 2019, Mrs Jo Stower was appointed to this position. Unfortunately, Jo has notified me that she will be finishing in this role at the end of this term and joining her husband Peter in Townsville. In finishing her time at Holy Spirit School, Jo will also be finishing her 38 year career with Brisbane Catholic Education. To celebrate and honour this contribution across many schools we will be having a liturgy and afternoon tea on the 14 June 2019. In the coming weeks we will advertise for a new PLL.

### Where have the teachers been?

Last week all classroom teachers worked with Jo Stower, Peter Drew and Sue Williams in planning for the next cycle of learning. Part of this process involves reflecting on what has been taught, considering learning needs, viewing the data and identifying content and how best it can be shared in the classroom context taught.

### Celebrating our School Feast Day

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, all students will be visiting the Cathedral of St Stephen on Friday 7 June. If you work in the city, please come and join us for Mass at 10.00am. Thank you to those parents who have indicated their availability to supervise during this excursion. We appreciate your support.

### Chinese Language Competition

Congratulations to Abbey W, Siena M, and Sofia F for to their outstanding efforts in the language competition held on the weekend. They competed against 62 other students in their division and really demonstrated excellent skills. Thank you to these students and their parents for supporting their involvement in this competition. Thank you to Mrs Wong for your encouragement and coaching.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### JUNE

- 7 NO TUCKSHOP**  
Whole School Cathedral Visit
- 9** School Family Mass, 9am
- 12** School Board Meeting  
P & F Meeting, 7pm
- 15 P & F Trivia Night**
- 26** Orange Sky Laundry Day
- 28 NO TUCKSHOP**  
Zone 6 Athletics  
**(note new date)**  
Last Day of Term 2

#### JULY

- 15** Term 3 Commences



## Invito' – From the AP-RE

### **Visit to Cathedral of St Stephen – What a great day!**

Next Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Holy Spirit School will visit the Cathedral of St Stephen in the city. Thank you to those parents who have offered to come along on the day, we'd like to invite you all to join us.

Our Year 4s & Middle School will tour the Cathedral with volunteer guides and the Prep, Years 1, 2 & 3 will visit different parts of the Cathedral precinct.

### ***Pentecost Sunday***

Next Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June we will gather as a whole community at 9.00am for Mass. Everyone is invited to come along and share in the celebration. Our students will be involved in the celebration as readers and singers. After the Mass we will gather in the hall where our Holy Spirit Choir will share their amazing talents. Come along and join us for this very important celebration.

### **Sunday Gospel Reflection**

'My peace I give you.' Jn. 14:27 In the Gospel when Jesus offers peace to his disciples, the word Jesus uses is the Hebrew word **shalom**, which means welfare and wholeness. **Shalom** is used as both a greeting and a farewell – usually between two friends wishing the best for each other. But Jesus doesn't simply **wish** his disciples peace; he **gives** it to them. The peace of salvation. The tranquillity of knowing that he has restored them to his Father in heaven. The joyful certitude that everything has been put in its proper order, and all hindrances to peace have been removed.

Jesus gives that peace to you too. It matures every time you stop yourself from getting agitated by what you see around you or within you. As you cultivate that eternal peace, it will begin to extend out from you into your relationships. You'll be less likely to respond in kind if someone blows up at you. You'll find it easier to keep smiling when someone cuts you off in traffic. You might even seek reconciliation with an estranged relative or show kindness to an unfriendly neighbour. And from there who knows? As each of us cultivates peace, it will make the world a more and more peaceful place.' The Word Among Us.



Thank you to Year 1 for leading Mass so prayerfully today!

Have a great week,  
Sue Williams  
AP-RE





## Student of the Week AWARDS

PREP S	Isabel P Max L	Your growing confidence when participating in classroom activities. Your enthusiasm when working on maths activities.
PREP H	Indiana W Evelyn W	Being a great listener and always trying her best. Showing her happy smiling face very day.
YEAR 1S	Claudia V Alexander M	Working tough on maths tasks. Working towards showing whole body listening.
YEAR 1H	Victoria S Hank M	Being a caring and considerate student who is always ready to help. Enthusiastic approach towards all aspects of school life.
YEAR 2H	Penelope R Georgia V	Listening carefully and following instructions. Your hard work across all learning areas.
YEAR 2S	Chloe J Bella E	Consistent hard working attitude towards learning. Always working tough in learning.
YEAR 3S	Danyella C Jacob A	Always engaging your learning with enthusiasm. Your persistence and growth mindset when writing texts.
YEAR 3H	Lucia W Oliver Y	Clear, logical reasoning in our first solids v liquids activity this week. Outstanding classroom behaviour.
YEAR 4S	Quinn C Nicholas M	Improved output of work due to your extra effort and concentration. Your amazing effort this week.
YEAR 4H	Flexi S Christopher D	Showing persistence during Mathematics. Working tough during every class activity.
YEAR MSH	Rocco A Mia B	The effort you are showing to plan and design your building in Maths. Seeking feedback and asking questions to reach your learning goals.
SPORTS AWARD	Felix S	Participating with enthusiasm in PE

### TUCKSHOP ROSTER

#### FRIDAY 31 MAY 2019

**Wed Ordering:** Therese Selfridge      **Wed Prep:** Sorkunde Gogenola /Lou Lou Boghossian

**Shop Order:** Shannon Schweizer      **Sushi Pick up:** Rebecca Patterson

**Friday Label:** Kim Freeman      **Duty Leader:** Leanne Cutuli

#### **FRIDAY TUCKSHOP**

Shelly Pearson, Carol Dibe, Patricia Park, Tricia Read, Laura Butler, Sarah Van der Westhuizen

#### FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2019

**NO TUCKSHOP:** Mass at Cathedral St Stephen

# TRIVIA NIGHT 2019

**Saturday 15 June**  
6pm til 11.30pm

**Come as your  
Favourite Band,  
Musical Genre or  
Musical Era!**

Get your tables of 10 ready now and table name too. Tickets available on Flexischools. Price \$40/ticket or \$400/table (includes meal). Cash bar available on the night and tickets for major raffle. Purchasing individual tickets and don't have a table, leave it to us, we'll find a table for you!



## Message from Jo Stower – Primary Learning Leader

### **Is grammar still being taught in schools? Yes!**

**Grammar is how we organise language in order to communicate meaning to others.**

‘In the light of the moon, a little egg lay on a leaf. One Sunday morning the warm sun came up and pop! Out of the egg came a tiny and very hungry caterpillar’.

Eric Carle’s book, ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ was first published almost 50 years ago and it still has the ability to enthrall and engage younger (and older) readers. It is Eric Carle’s ability to use language effectively (grammar) along with amazing visuals that have allowed this book to endure. Learning about grammar through rich literature allows children to see and understand the richness of language and the difference it can make to a story.

### **Speaking and writing are different**

What we can do with written language is very different from what we can do with spoken language. When we write, we have time to hone and craft our language. The grammar of writing is very different from the grammar of speaking. If grammar isn’t taught in a meaningful way when teaching children to write, creativity is stifled and possibilities are limited. Children will fall back on what they intuitively know about language, and as a consequence they will simply write the way they speak. It’s because of this that teachers teach grammar using rich texts. Grammar, spelling and punctuation only make sense when they are seen in the context of what is read or written.

According to Misty Adonlou from the University of Canberra, the best way to teach grammar is through exemplary literature. In great writing we can notice how the author uses their knowledge about language and how they organise their words and sentences to make us notice, feel, see or imagine something.

Great writers know how to use language to lure readers into their world. Roald Dahl knew this when he was describing Miss Trunchbull in Matilda. ‘She was a gigantic holy terror, a fierce tyrannical monster who frightened the life out of pupils and teachers alike’. So too, did Mem Fox when she wrote. ‘Once upon a time, but not very long ago, deep in the Australian bush lived two possums. Their names were Hush and Grandma Poss’. This is grammar at its best.

It makes sense to immerse our children in great literature and our teachers know this. Misty Adonlou is calling for a ‘Grammar Revolution’ where classrooms are filled with great literature and where the power of sophisticated language knowledge is both evident and inspiring. This is already happening in our schools in Brisbane Catholic Education. Your children are taught English each day through great literature and so by continuing to read and share incredible stories from great story tellers at home, we are working together to ensure that our children continue to develop a deep love of reading and writing.

# Pentecost Sunday

Happy birthday to the Catholic Church!  
Like any birthday, it's a cause for  
celebration.

Please join us for a  
celebration of our  
Multicultural Parish  
Community.

9am Sunday 9 June 2019

Please note: On this day there will be no  
7am, 8am or 9.30am masses.

A morning tea will  
follow this special mass  
at the School Hall at 10am.  
Tea and Coffee will be  
provided. Please bring a  
plate of food from your  
culture to share.

