

NEWSLETTER NO. 25

12th August 2021

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school stands

Dear Parents,

Reading back on last week's newsletter....how quickly can life change in 24 hours? Just when we thought that a 'donut' day saw us heading on the right COVID trajectory, we were called on to implement Remote Learning 6.0. Despite the short notice we are getting more and more efficient at implementing the transition to Remote Learning. The first time we sent all tubs and devices home last year it took us two days to roll out. The last time we sent out all tubs and devices home during the July 2021 lockdown it took us one day. This time we were able to get all 295 tubs and devices out to families in 3.5 hours! How is that for becoming more and more agile!!!

Thank you to the SFX staff who take on these disruptive challenges in their stride. Their acceptance of changes that have been made to the way they operate on a daily basis speaks so much about their professionalism and their desire to always do their best for the students. For many teachers, 'Remote Learning' is never the job they signed up for. Yet they have had to adapt and change....plan things 3 or 4 times only to see them cancelled at the last minute due to lockdowns....balance the priorities of their own families and children to ensure that learning continues to happen at SFX. Thanks also to the SFX parents who realise that Lockdowns are not a thing of our making, simply accepting that when they are called, parents need to change into another mode for the benefit of the children.

These are unsettling, sometimes troubling and difficult times however we must continue to see that light at the end of the tunnel that keeps us going from day to day. Finally and most importantly thank you to our students for once again demonstrating the school value of 'resilience'. We know that this is not easy or even 'normal', we know that you want to be at school learning with your friends, we know that you do not want to miss out on all the extra-curricular activities that SFX offers, yet you turn up on time to your Google Meets each day, dress in your uniforms, switch on

your cameras, join into discussions and do your best to complete set work with the support of your family. We are so proud of you!

LEARNING IN 'BUBBLES'

One of the clear COVID Directives that came out in the July Lockdown was that students needed to be contained to the same work spaces and play areas both in the normal school day and when the students are participating in Remote @ School. We call this our 'Bubble'. Whilst this is not ideal or fun or even practical in many ways, the directive is aimed at minimising COVID spread in the event of an outbreak at a school.

The timetables and groupings for the current Remote @ School have been designed to separate students who start the week together in the same grouping finish the week together; those who are in for a couple of days go into another grouping. It is a complex task creating these groupings so we are asking that:

- + Parents who are eligible to have their children at school because they are not working from home and commit to certain days for Remote @ School ask for days not drop out at the last minute. This often precludes others from the Remote @ School program when we are at capacity.
- + Once the booking form for Remote @ School is pushed out to families, you fill it in without delay. Once the form is closed the timetabling of staff and groupings begins for the days ahead and changes/additions cannot be made as ratios and 'bubbles' need to be maintained.
- + That students for Remote @ School arrive with a fully charged IPAD/Chromebook, their headphones and their tub.
- + Parents explain to their children why we are moving in 'bubbles' at present. It is to keep everyone safe, healthy and schools open.

WE ARE REMAINING OPTIMISTIC....

Due to a cancellation from Camp Oasis in Mt. Evelyn we have been offered new dates for our Year 3-4 School Camp. The Year 3-4 Camp will take the same format
Year 3 Day Camp – Monday 23rd August

2021 SCHOOL THEME – TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING

Year 4 Overnight Camp – Monday 23rd August & Tuesday 24th August

Let us keep our fingers crossed and say lots of prayers that COVID goes away and allows this important school event to happen.

UNIFORM SHOP – NEW OPENING HOURS

Thank you to Susan Roberts (*mother of Abbie in Yr 3AB & Lenny in Prep EP*) and Rachael Hudson (*mother of Ellie in Yr 3AB*) who have generously volunteered to run our SFX Uniform Shop. As you can imagine this takes many hours of ordering, planning and preparing especially for our peak times such as the start of the year and in a change of season. Please always show your appreciation to these two ladies for their time and effort in keeping our uniform shop onsite and adding to the convenience for parents.

The new times will be:

Wednesday 8am – 9am and 3.30pm – 4.30pm

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

Hello lovely Year 3 and 4 Parents,

Year 3 and 4 families have been asked to donate prizes for the upcoming Father's Day raffle. I know it is hard in these times to get donations as everything is in lockdown. Hopefully you have some creative ideas for our dads. I am asking if you could please try your best and we will hopefully collect your donations once we return to school.

Some donations have already come in before lockdown, which is awesome. Huge thank you to those families who are so generous. We had such an amazing and generous response to our Mother's Day raffle donations, this blew our minds. A massive thanks to the wonderful support our community gives to our fundraising efforts.

The information about the raffle will be announced once school returns.

Thanks again. PA Fundraising Team

LETTER OF THE MONTH

It takes just a little bit of positivity and kindness to make someone's day. Thank you to the parents in our school community who send us messages to buoy our spirits. It truly makes a difference!

"Hi Patrizia

Please pass on our thanks and best wishes to all the SFX staff. You are all amazing. Three lockdowns in only a few weeks will be wearing you all down especially how quickly this last one was called. We appreciate all of their dedication, support, care and hard work.

Take care stay safe"

BOOK WEEK - 2021

Book Week officially runs from Monday 23rd - Friday 27th August, with Friday 27th being the culmination and our annual Dress Up Day. We have lots of fun activities planned and competitions in the DC and a flyer with full details will follow soon.

Dress Up Day Friday 27th August is still happening at this stage!

Students can come to school dressed in either a costume related to the theme "Old worlds, New

worlds, Other worlds", or as a book character of their choice. It would be great if they could bring along the book on which their character is based. As in previous years, there is no expectation that students hire/buy costumes, and it is a good opportunity to be creative and make a costume from things you have at home.

COMPETITIONS, COMPETITIONS, COMPETITIONS !!!

While you are at home, it might be a good time to prepare entries for our competitions. Thanks to those students who have already returned their entries.

You could -

- Make a poster to tie in with the theme "Old worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds".
- Design a new world on paper
- Design a future world in a box (Diorama)
- Write a story about travelling from an old world to a new/other world.

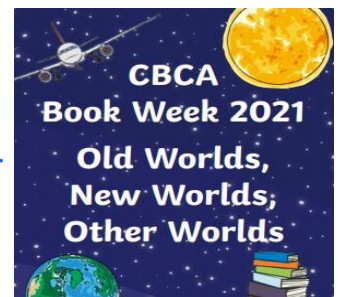
Book Fair postponed until Term 4.

Guest authors postponed until Term 4.

Felice Arena (Year 3-6) and Mark Carthew (Prep-Year 2).
Happy reading.

Mrs. Johnson

Discovery Centre Specialist
Teacher



BOOKING FORM FOR REMOTE @ SCHOOL

(IF NECESSARY & SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVE)

Here's the link for Monday 16th to Friday 20th August.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZpmyQo00s74X0SSu5Lot80zE4iLLD8qcMH_P17nVJc/edit?ts=61134410

Please only apply for Remote @ School if you are an authorised worker or fulfil the other conditions of enrolment for this program.

This form will close at midday on Saturday 14th August.

TERM 3 2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

23rd August – Book Week 2021 begins

23rd/24th August – Year 3-4 School Camp Mt Evelyn

24th August- School Tour for Prospective Parents@ 11.30am

24th August – School Advisory Committee Meeting @ 7pm

27th August – Book Week Parade @ 9am

27th August – Book Week Author visits Mark Carthew (P – 2) & Felicia Arena (3 – 6)

16th September-School Tour for Prospective Parents@ 11.30am

17th September – Term 3 concludes at 1pm

Hang in there everyone. Be kind. Be positive. Be safe.

Philip Cachia
Principal

2021 SCHOOL THEME – TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING

LOCKDOWN 6.0 WAS TODAY EXTENDED BY ONE WEEK UNTIL NEXT THURSDAY 19TH AUGUST. REMOTE LEARNING WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THIS DATE.

LOCKDOWN 6.0 -THE NEXT PHASE OF REMOTE LEARNING AT SFX

As you are by now aware, lockdown 6.0 has been further extended, something we were all praying would not happen. As such we are going to move to the next phase of Remote Learning for our students.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday will continue to look similar to this week, e.g. live whole class meets, small group meets, group work, independent work in our key learning areas of English, Mathematics, Inquiry & Religion. Classroom teachers will continue to provide you with an outline of the daily expectations the afternoon/evening before and provide your child with both whole class and small class meets so that their learning is supported and continues. Classroom teachers will be available from 8:40am - 3:40pm as per their normal work on these days.

Wednesday will see a slight change to include Specialist subjects. Classroom teachers will continue to have morning meets on Wednesday, (9am - 11:00am) with some whole class activities, including a wellbeing focus. **From 11am** classroom teachers won't be available as they will use the rest of the day to plan for future learning. This means they will be unavailable to answer emails etc.

This week our specialist team has been working on setting up Google Classrooms for their specialist area and inviting students into these. (Seesaw uploads for Prep). **Beginning on Wednesday 18th**, students may choose to complete specialist activities. These are **optional**, however our teachers have really worked hard to provide some engaging activities for the students and **we encourage** all students to participate in some aspects of specialist subjects. Although Wednesday will be called '**Wellbeing/Specialist Wednesday**' it does not preclude your child from choosing a specialist area on the afternoons of other days should they finish classroom work or so choose to do so.

Also beginning next week will be Intervention/Enrichment classes through Google Classroom for those students selected for this program. Parents of those students involved would have been contacted by either Ms Tierney, Ms O'Connor, Ms Cusack, Ms Butler or Ms Godden and they will provide further information about session times to you.

Please note there may be a day where your child's class teacher is required for onsite supervision, at this may impact face to face online lessons. You will be notified if this is the case.

Should you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact your classroom teacher or specialist teacher. All staff emails are available on the school website:

<https://www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au/page/251/Staff-2021>

Prep AB	Ashton O'Connell	For always having a go with his work and trying really hard to be a respectful student in class
Prep EP	Angus Locarnini	For having a chat with his teachers and always being kind to his friends. Well done, Angus.
1HS	Alice Spencer	For always trying her best and being so responsible.
1KG	Ren Nolan	For always having a positive attitude and learning well with others. Thank you for always making us smile!
2JV	Isabelle Reale	For being a good friend, thank you
2AS	Poppy Blair	For setting up for Morning Prayer responsibly. (From Emmanuelle)
3GT	Keira Stevenson	For saying 'Good Morning' to me everyday
3AB	Tyler Kennedy	For letting others play downhill. (From Abigail)
4CN	Sebastian Sequenzia-Netto	For being a supportive friend by saying kind words to me
4AH	Darcy Rooks	For all his effort in Maths class, showing resilience and making connections.
5FG	Lucas Calabro	For being a good friend! (From Jobe)
5SK	Annabelle Harford	For lending me her script - from Stella
6VM	Maddy Dix	Being responsible and helping me in class when I need it! - Lucy
6DM	Talia Southey	For practising my lines for the concert



BUCKETFILLER AWARDS 2021



Prep AB	Sonny Loney	For being polite and using his manners in class
Prep EP	Griffin Thompson	For always helping others and using his manners in the classroom. Well done, Griffin.
1HS	Benjamin Harford	For sharing his things and looking after his friends.
1KG	Chloe Warren	For being polite to others and helping her friends when they need her. Thank you, Chloe.
2JV	Alexander Pysk	For helping me when we were playing a game
2AS	Jobe Warden	For letting me play with him (From Camden)
3GT	Keegan Douglas	For keeping his friend company during play and lunch times
3AB	Abigail Fisher	For letting others lead a game together.
4CN	Archie Celotti	For helping his peers and teacher during Remote Learning with his problem solving skills
4AH	Ella Sommerville	For being a good friend and for all her hard work in class.
5FG	Maddie Hamilton	For being kind and funny - and making sure I'm a 100% at recess and lunch
5SK	Roxy Raynes	For being a good friend
6VM	Sofia Cifone	Helping me with my Google Slides - Giselle
6DM	Emmy Wilson	For working on a project with me

Congratulations to all our Bucket Filler Award recipients in Week 1 & 3 of Term 3 2021