



St Alipius Parish School Newsletter

19th May 2016

Dear families,

I'm not sure of it's the weather, the time of year or the complexity of school life but, at the moment we are managing a number of friendship issues across our school.

It doesn't really surprise me that not everyone gets along all day every day. After all, if we put 280 adults in a similarly close environment for the amount of time that our students are together I'm not sure that there would always be harmony and happiness.

Schools are places of learning. We are learning skills on reading, in writing, in thinking, in manipulating number amongst others. Importantly, we are also learning how to be friends, how to live in community and how to be resilient, connected social beings.

Learning is complex. We teach all our students reading skills and behaviours. Students come with a range of skills and we teach them the next level of skills they need for success. If they take longer to learn them, we give them additional time and support and explicitly teach the skills they need. Sometimes this happens within the general classroom program and sometimes we think extra time in a targeted program is needed. We call this equity – not that everyone gets the same but that everyone gets what they need.

When it comes to social skills and behaviours we have the same approach. That's we teach the skills and behaviours to everyone and give additional skill support to those who need it. That's where Emily C comes in. The interesting thing is that children learn these skills from each other as well as learning them from you and from us.

Skilled readers help other children to be skilled at reading. Children skilled in social behaviours also help others to learn these skills.

I love it when I hear children say 'We don't do that at St Alipius' or 'That's not how a friend acts'.

We really want to be in a supportive partnership with parents about children's learning. Whether it's learning about maths or reading or about learning how to tell another child how they feel, it all works best when we do it together.

DATES TO REMEMBER	
13 th May	Whole School Prayer 9am
16 th May	Assembly 2.45pm Year 1/2 L/C
23 rd May	Bravehearts Info Session 2pm
24 th May	Family Learning Program 9am
24 th May	Eucharist Program Session 1 7pm McInerney Centre
26 th May	Cluster Day with Emmaus
27 th May	Whole School Prayer 9am
30 th May	Assembly 2.45pm Year 3/4 L/C
31 st May	Eucharist Program Session 2 7pm McInerney Centre
3 rd June	Whole School Prayer 9am
10 th June	Whole School Prayer 9am
11 th June	Celebration of Eucharist 6pm
12 th June	Celebration of Eucharist 10.30am
13 th June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
16 th June	Confirmation Enrolment Meeting 9.15am or 7pm
17 th June	Whole School Prayer 9am
24 th June	Last Day of Term 2
11 th July	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY (First Day of Term 3)
12 th July	Confirmation Session 1 7pm

I thank parents who pop in to see teachers, or send an email letting us know how things are from a home perspective – It helps us make better decisions. We value your feed-back and welcome your insights.

Sometimes we need help in supporting children with the ups and downs of life.

I recommend the following opportunities to you:

- Andrew Fuller – Building Resilience in Children
When: 4-6pm Tuesday 24th May
Where: Ballarat South Community Hub – Tuppen Drive Sebastopol
Cost: Free of charge.

(We still have 5 tickets available at the office) See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more information on the topics that will be covered.

- Look out for a session that Emily Clarke will advertise to support families in helping their children when things get tough.

And finally:

If you have any suggestions about how we can improve our school community, you may like to make use of the 'Suggestion Box' made by Jack Leech and his dad.

Regards,

Eileen

A New Suggestion Box thanks to Jack



Jack Leech wanted to give students and families the opportunity to put suggestions somewhere to help with school improvement.

Jack and his dad Brett spent some hours in the garage making the very strong metal suggestion box and with the help from his mum Tracey the stickers for labels were made.

Jack presented the suggestion box to Eileen, and with Frank's maintenance help, the box will be up on the wall and ready for use.

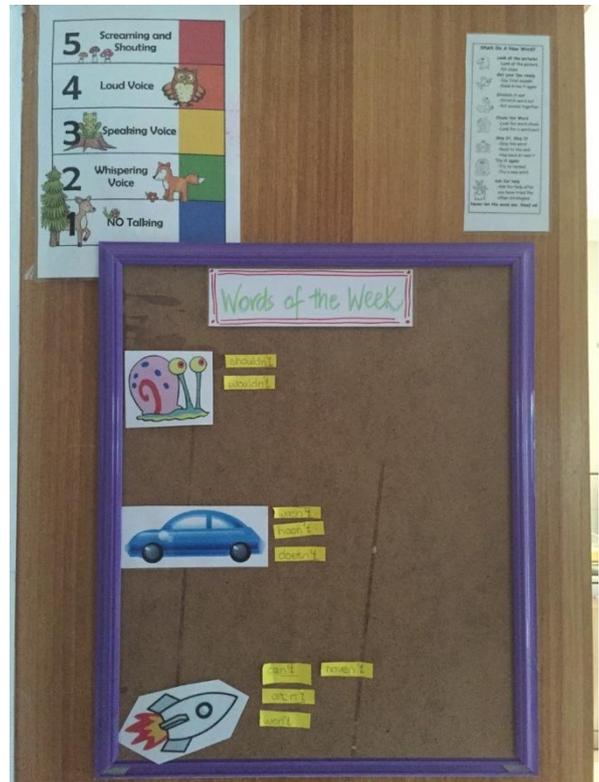
Congratulations Jack on your consideration towards your school.

Family Learning Program

Please feel free to join us for the Family Learning Program each Tuesday in the Office Meeting space from 9-10.30. Pre-schoolers are welcome to come along.

Over the past couple of weeks we have looked at activities to support children with reading writing.

Join us this Tuesday for some fun maths ideas and games to play at home with your child/children.



A Reflection

Over the next week we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. It is a time in our year when we stop, contemplate and celebrate all that makes us who we are at Saint Alipius Parish School in relation to the broader context of Catholic Education in our Diocese. This year the focus of our celebrations is 'The Face of Mercy'. As followers of Jesus we are all called to live in a way that we become God's face of mercy in our world.

As we prepare for this celebration I encourage to reflect upon these questions.

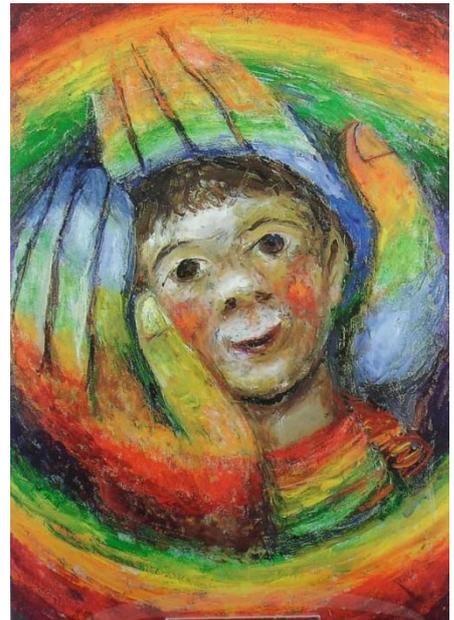
What does it mean to show mercy?

How might people be 'The Face of Mercy'?

When have you have searched for a face of mercy?

When have you been the face of mercy to an-other?

How does this art piece inspire you to become a face of mercy?



Artwork by **Sieger Köder**

MERCY CORNER

Are we a Church that calls and welcomes sinners with open arms, that gives courage and hope, or are we a Church closed in on herself. Are we a Church where the love of God dwells, where one cares for the other, where one prays for the others? – Pope Francis

Consider the questions Pope Francis ask of us.

You may like to spend time in prayer with these thoughts.

Make a practical resolution to be a more welcoming and merciful community.

Hot Lunches – Thursday's

Students will need to place their order into the class message bag by each Thursday morning.

On a brown paper bag please write:

Your child's name

Class

Order, clearly stating if large or party size

and if money in another child's bag, who and which class

CORRECT MONEY is also required.

Party Pie	\$1.00
Party Sausage Roll	\$1.00
Party Pastie	\$1.00
Pie/Sausage Roll (Full Size)	\$3.50
Sauce	\$0.50

No staples, glue and or sticky tape is needed on the bag.

This make the job a lot easier for the couple of parents who volunteer their time to make hot lunches available each week.

Meal Care Program

The St Alipius School Council have been reviewing the Policies by which the St Alipius Parish School operates. Included in the policy review is the Pastoral Care Policy and the aspect of how the school and community partnership to provide pastoral care to those persons or families that may need support.

The Pastoral Care support offered can take many forms from greeting a new family to the community to helping out a family who has a sick family member. One example of pastoral care that has recently been re-introduced to our school community is the Meal Care Program run by Emily Clarke. This program provides a meal for those members of our community who may be doing it tough in some way

The School Advisory Council commends Emily Clarke and endorses her great work and hope that you will support your community and the families who need that support. A notice was sent home last week asking for volunteers to cook a meal according to a roster or even at short notice or to provide a purchased meal if preferred. This is our community helping each other. If you are able to help out, please contact the office at the school.

Phillip Horne.

Dear Friends of Brown Hill,

The Brown Hill Progress Association is leading a project to collect information about the history of Brown Hill with the aim to put together a book with the assistance of local author and historian Dot Wickham. They are holding their first historical collection day from 10am to 4pm on **Sunday 29 May 2016** at the Brown Hill Hall in Humffray St.

Do you have some stories to tell about people and places in Brown Hill? Perhaps some old photographs, letters, artifacts, videos or other paraphernalia to show? We will scan old photographs and letters and photograph any old artifacts that are brought along.

People who have stories to tell about living in Brown Hill over the past 100 years, are invited to come along and share their stories over a cuppa.

With permission, these conversations will be recorded to contribute to the oral history component of the project.

If you know people who have lived in Brown Hill who may be interested in sharing their stories or artifacts, please pass on this invitation to them.

For more information, please contact Secretary Brendan Stevens via email: bhpasec@gmail.com or phone 0439 560 910 or 53348014 in the evening.

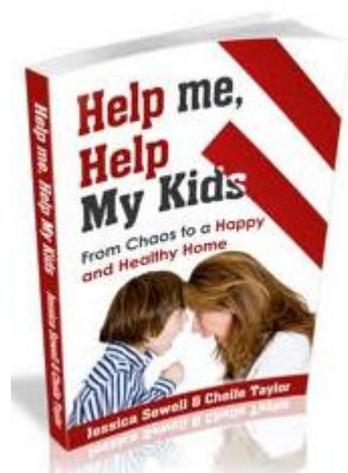
Dear Families,

The wonderful ladies at Blossomtree Psychology, Jessica Sewell and Chelle Taylor, will be releasing their first parenting book in November this year!

'Help me, Help my Kids' is a resource for parents containing tips and strategies to support parents in bringing up great kids when it all seems to be falling apart. We all know that feeling from time to time...

I often refer families to Blossomtree Psychology as Jessica and Chelle are experts in their field and are brilliant at what they do.

Jessica and Chelle are offering a special pre-release price of \$19.95 plus \$5 postage if you pre order your copy now. The link to the pre-order PayPal page is <http://tinyurl.com/jstn93k>



I can't wait to check it out in November!

Emily Clarke

Student Wellbeing
Special Needs Coordinator 3-6



Building resilience in children

Presented by
Andrew Fuller

To celebrate National Families Week 2016, Relationships Australia Victoria in partnership with YMCA invite parents and teachers to attend this free, fun and informative session on building children's resilience and emotional intelligence.

Topics

- How resilience and emotional intelligence contribute more to career and life success than academic intelligence.
- The active ingredients of resilience.
- How parents can develop these in their children.
- Friendship skills.
- Parenting tricky kids.
- Creating happy kids.
- Building self-esteem and dealing with set backs.
- How to talk to boys and girls.

A range of activities for children will be provided by YMCA during the presentation.

About the presenter

Andrew Fuller is a clinical psychologist and author of books including *Tricky Kids*, *Raising Real People* and *Life: A Guide*. He is a co-author of programs on the promotion of resilience and emotional intelligence. Andrew is a Fellow of the University of Melbourne's Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Learning and Educational Development.

When 4 - 6pm, Tuesday 24 May 2016

Where Ballarat South Community Hub / Neighbourhood Centre, Tuppen Drive, Sebastapol

Cost Free of charge. Bookings are essential.



Bookings and enquiries

Emily Malone
Relationships Australia Victoria
Ph: 5337 9222
Email: ballarat@rav.org.au

Relationships Australia

VICTORIA



Bravehearts Protective Behaviours Session (Bravehearts' mission is to Educate, Empower and Protect our kids)

The community of St Alipius Parish School has been contacted by the Bravehearts Foundation and invited to host an information session about their education program which aims to educate, empower and protect children from sexual harm.

We are proud to accept the invitation and delighted to host a meeting at St Alipius on Monday 23rd May at 2pm.

We hope you can join us as we explore ways we can build protective behaviours in the most vulnerable members of our communities - our children.

At this meeting Bravehearts will share some information regarding the work that they do and look at ways they might be able to work with school and kindergarten communities in Ballarat in the future.

As a follow-up to this meeting, the Geelong Education team will visit Ballarat on Thursday, June 16th to bring the 'Ditto Keep Safe' show to the Early Years students at St Alipius Primary School at 2.15 pm. Please contact our school office with the names and numbers of people who will attend the meeting and information session on May 23rd. RSVP by 20th May

ST ALIPIUS SCHOOL COMMUNITY FAIR

SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER From 10AM

Raffle and spinning wheel

We have received a very generous donation from Regent Entertainment of a private screening Kids party for up to 18 children which will be our major prize for the raffle at this year's fair – a valuable prize for any family! The prize includes private screening room, party area and your choice of the popcorn or hot chips package.

Other donations are coming in each week and include fabulous (and delicious!) offerings from The Little Cupcake Ballarat, The Freight bar, Mars Confectionery, Hair and Beauty on Dana and Crockers, which will all be offered up as prizes for the raffle and spinning wheel on the day. We extend a huge "thank you" to these businesses for their support of our Fair.

Stalls

We have secured a number of stall holders for the day but still have 2 stall places remaining. If you or someone you know would like to have a stall, please ask them to contact Sue Rowles on 0402083391 or lucasandsue@optusnet.com.au for more information.

Mystery jars still needed

We have received some great mystery jars but still require lots more for this VERY popular stall at the fair. If you can help, donations can still be made at the St Alipius School Office. Mystery jars can be glass or plastic jars or containers filled with non-perishable goodies.

Showbags and Rides

This year we will also offer several types of showbags, a jumping castle and a swing ride for the kids too!

Facebook page

Look out for our facebook page “St Alipius School Fair and Fete” as well as the **Skoolbag** app under “St Alipius Parish School” for regular updates.

Entertainment Book

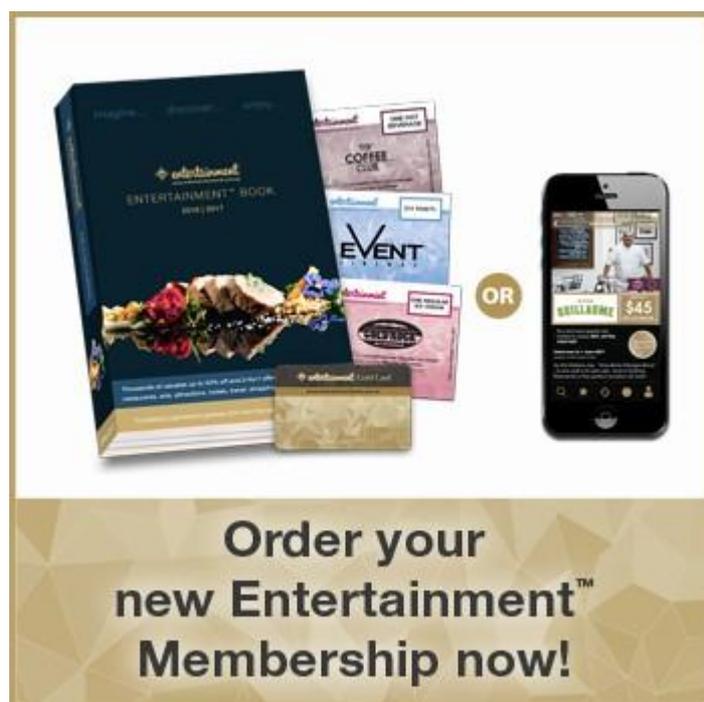
We are fundraising with Entertainment Memberships! The Entertainment™ Book gives you access to thousands of **up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers** for Geelong and Ballarat’s best restaurants, cafés, attractions and theme parks. Plus, it has best in market prices for over 1,500 hotels and resorts that you can use whenever you like until 1st June 2017. The Books sell for \$60, and we keep \$12 for every one we sell. You will easily recoup your investment just by using the book a couple of times.

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Please contact Sally Poulton if you would like any further information – 0407 841 972 or sally.poulton@me.com



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