St Patrick's Primary School, Tongala

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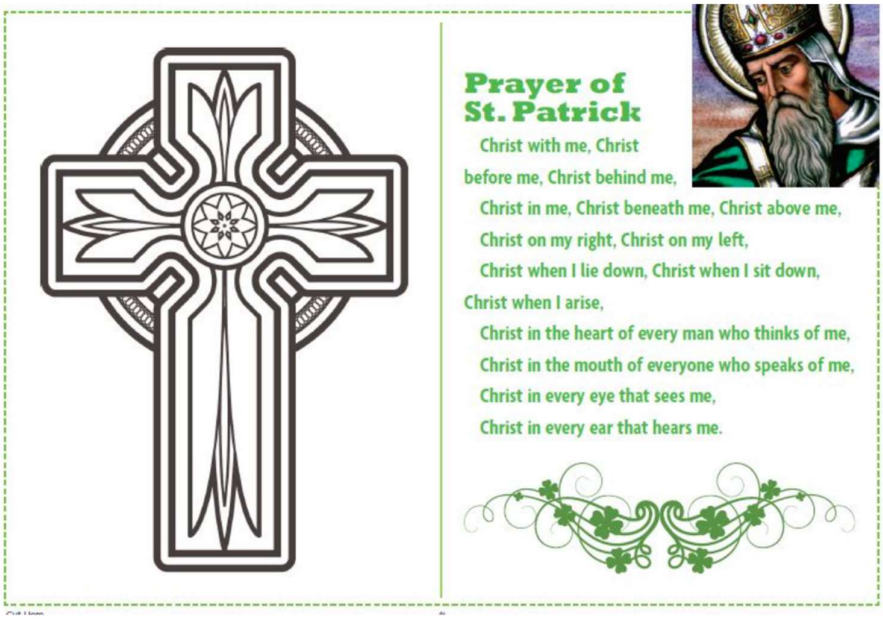
Fax: (03) 5859 0631
Email: **principal@sptongala.catholic.edu.au**
Strength & Kindliness

St. Patrick's will provide a child safe environment where all children have the right to be treated with respect and will be protected from harm.

Principal's Message



Thank you to all of the families who attended our 'Hello Night' last night. It was wonderful to see so many families back in the classrooms and the school yard. The interactions amongst families and staff and the overall buzz within the group was really heart warming. It is one of the qualities of our small school community that makes us so unique. I hope that from this opportunity families could see the warm and inviting classrooms the teachers have created. They could also look at the amazing work their children have completed during their first term at school this year.

Our next planned whole school gathering is our St Patrick's Day Mass, celebrated on Thursday the 17th of March at 2pm. Due to the capacity limits in the church this event will be live streamed for families to watch. On this date we will be celebrating St Patrick with multi-age activities and a yummy green morning tea. The students are encouraged to dress in green clothes to celebrate the day and they will be involved in a parade in the morning. This parade will take place outside at 9am and all parents are welcome to attend.

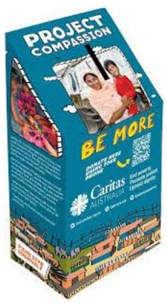
Congratulations to the Grade 5/6 students for the outstanding way they conducted themselves in Queenscliff while they were on camp. Their attitude, behaviour and engagement was outstanding! Thank you to Ms Rasmussen and Harry for ensuring the trip was a great success.

Next week we will wave goodbye to our Grade 3-4 students as they head off to Malmsbury for camp. The students will enjoy exciting adventures with Ms White, Jaleigha and Harry. We can't wait to hear all about it when they return.

Well done to all the Foundation learners who have settled so well into school routines and to families for supporting this. It's amazing to see how they have adjusted and the learning that is already happening. Up until this week Foundation students have been having a 'rest day' on Wednesday's. Next Wednesday will be their first Wednesday at school.

The School Advisory Council plays an integral part of the governance of the school. I would like to thank our 2021 members who have agreed to continue to be a part of this group; Kieran Brennan, Rachael Currey, Ryan Grant and Leigh Morris. We also welcome a new member- Mel Dillion. The first School Advisory Meeting will be held on the 21st of March at 6:30pm. It is not too late to join the group, if you wish to join just email me: principal@sptongala.catholic.edu.au

A BIG thanks to our 'Friday Feeds' volunteers. They have been providing us with yummy, nutritious food. The most amazing part has been seeing the looks on the faces of the students when they see their mum/sister preparing and serving the food.



As we move through Lent there will be a big focus on awareness and fundraising for Project Compassion this year. Each class has received a Project Compassion box to accept donations. Families are invited to send small change with their child to school to contribute at any time. Donations to Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice. We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving by supporting Project Compassion.

EASTER RAFFLE

We are beginning to prepare for our annual Easter raffle.

We would really appreciate it if each family could donate an Easter egg or Easter themed object.

This donation can be dropped off at the school office.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and continued support

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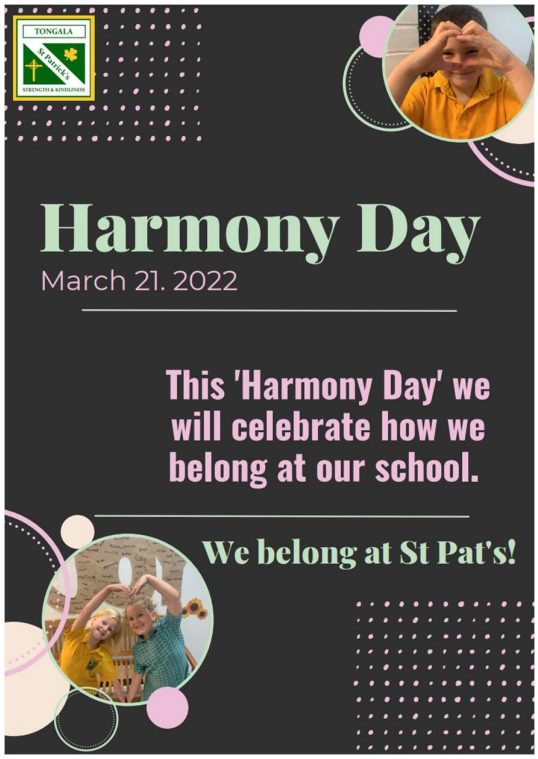
OPEROO

PLEASE DELETE ANY MESSAGES FROM OPEROO AND DO NOT UPDATE ANY STUDENT INFORMATION

THIS PLATFORM HAS BEEN REPLACED BY SIMON EVERYWHERE

UPCOMING EVENTS:



PBIS AWARD WINNERS

Foundation: Will Fitzgerald

Grade 1: Sydnee Hocking

Grade 2: Jim Micheel

Grade 3-4: Xavier Mulcahy

Grade 5-6: Kaisha Shephard

SPECIALIST CLASS AWARD WINNERS

Italian: Caleb Greenshield

STEM: Stevie stagg

CLASSROOM AWARD WINNERS

Foundation: Henley Mitchell & Harvey Parker

Grade 1: Eden Kurien & Liam Parsons

Grade 2: Archer Greenshields & Parker Mackrell

Grade 3-4: Colman Hargraves & Cyril Cleveland

Grade 5-6: Hayley Wickham & Mia Clydesdale

READING AWARD WINNERS

Grade 2 have been working on adding more interesting vocabulary to our writing pieces. We have been practising making some very plain sentences much more interesting!

This week, we had to turn the sentence "The dog jumped" into a more interesting sentence.

Some of the great sentences we ended up with included:

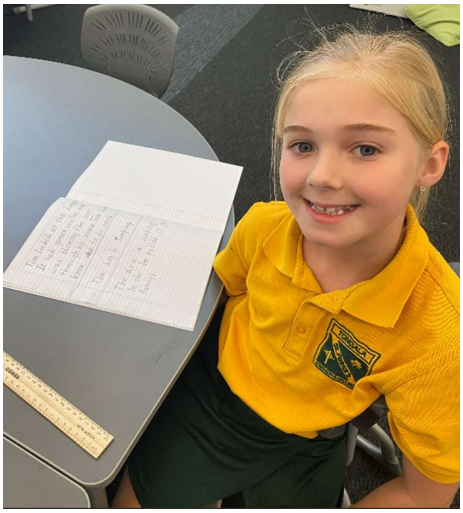
The brown dog is jumping in the white house.

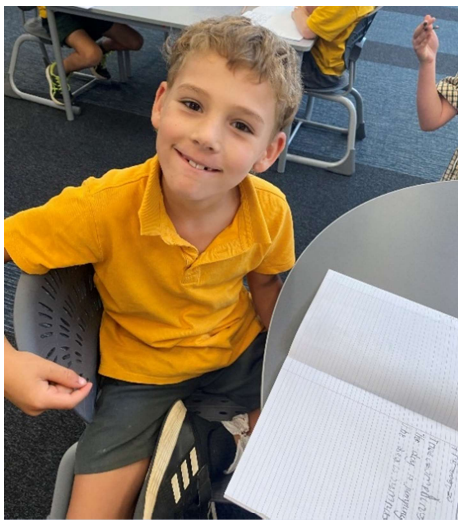
The little brown dog is jumping in a muddy puddle.

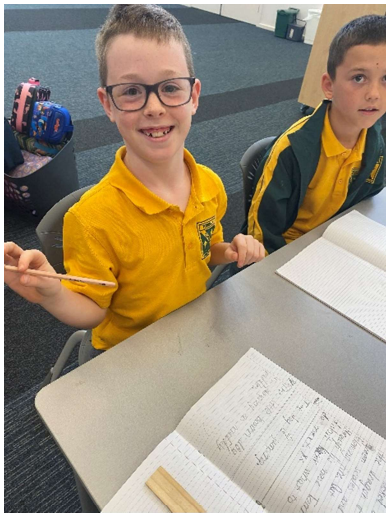
The dog is jumping in a puddle and it is funny!

The dog is jumping up high.

The scary dog is jumping at me.

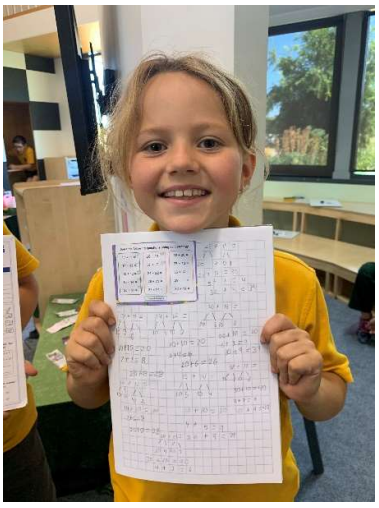


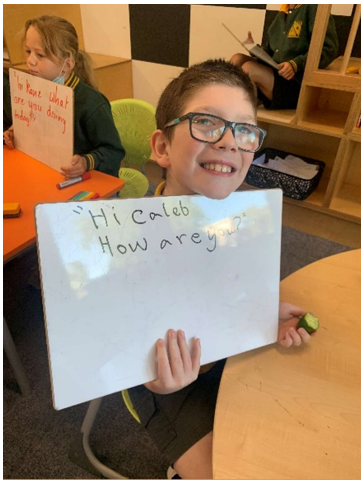




In 3/4 this week, the children have enjoyed learning different strategies to work out addition problems.

In writing, they also enjoyed a warm up activity with Miss Bennet when learning about quotation marks. The students had to have conversations with each other using their whiteboards





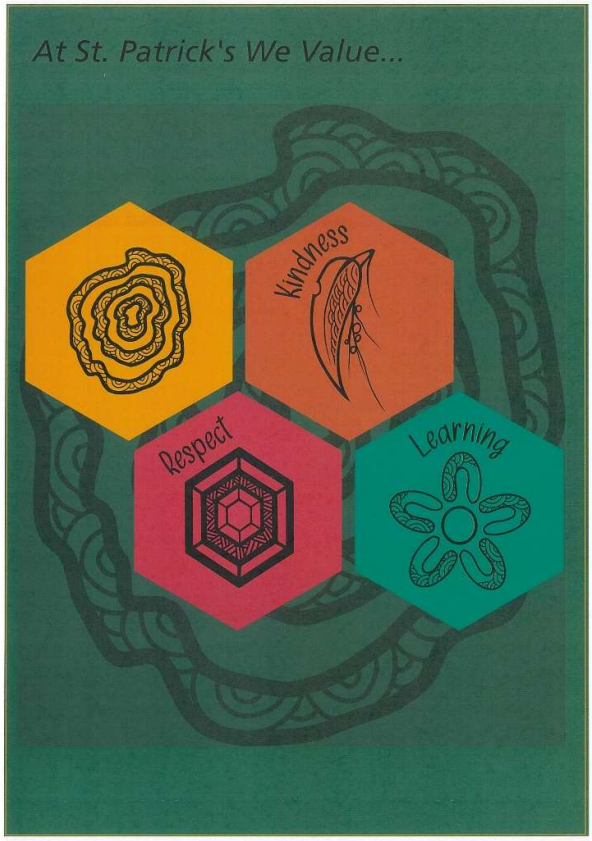
PBIS

Last year staff, students and families completed surveys and answered different questions around what things they value and what they think would be valuable qualities for students to learn. From these surveys it was evident that the values that we were using no longer aligned with the outcomes that we want for our children/students.

The St Patrick's Primary School Values are now:

We Value … Kindness, Learning and Respect.

Towards the end of last year, we worked with an Indigenous Artist as well as a graphic designer to create the following logos and the meaning behind the images. Over the next few weeks, students will be learning about each value and the story behind the image related to that value.



PROJECT + **Parents & Carers**

MAKING CONNECTIONS & SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN

Building your relationships and connections with your children is key to helping them **feel loved**, **safe** and **secure**. Feeling genuine connection also has many **positive impacts on our mental health**, some benefits include:

- HELP DECREASE CHANCES OF ANXIETY & DEPRESSION
- GIVES US PURPOSE
- HELPS DEVELOP GREATER EMPATHY
- SENSE OF BELONGING
- FEELING SUPPORTED
- BUILDS TEAMWORK AND COOPERATION
- ENHANCED HAPPINESS
- INCREASES SELF ESTEEM

WAYS TO BUILD FAMILY CONNECTIONS

- Organise a **family games night**.
- **Really listen** and be there, **without judgement** – look at them when they are talking to you.
- Talk about what **went well in their day** and what they are **looking forward to** the next day.
- Plan a family outing or one on one date with your child/ren – **keep in mind their interests**.
- Schedule **family time** – this could be having dinner together at the table.

For more information on how to **build meaningful connections and support your children** click on the links below.

TRP's **Lael Stone** talks about Connected Parenting

READ ARTICLE

Teenagers talking about relationships with parents from **raisingchildren.net.au**

WATCH VIDEO

raisingchildren.net.au talks about building positive relationships for parents and children.

READ ARTICLE

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

education@theresilienceproject.com.au — (03) 9113 9302 theresilienceproject.com.au

Grade One

Reading

During our reading sessions we have been learning to visualise. The students have been practising to take a picture in their mind based on what has been read aloud to them. Last week we read a poem called 'The Green Giant'. The students had to listen carefully to the descriptive words about the giant and then draw a picture of the giant that they pictured. Here are the giants that the students visualised.

Religion

This week in Reilgion we have been focusing on writing our own prayers. We wrote prayers asking for help and we decorated a prayer bookmark.

The Resilience Project

We have learnt a little bit about gratitude over the last few weeks and we created gratitude flowers. Some things that we were grateful for included friends, family, pets and delicious food. This week we began learning about empathy. We watched two short clips and discussed the different characters' points of view.

Grade 5/6 Queenscliff Camp

The Grade 5/6 students had an action-packed time whilst on camp last week. The activities that wegot to participate in were so much fun and we loved every minute of our time away.

After a long trip on the bus, we arrived at camp and set up our rooms. Our first activity was “The Wild Sling Shot” which involved us trying to catch water bombs that had been launched from over 30 metres away. Lachy got hit the most and was drenched by the end of the activity. After this, we got the most delicious ice creams ever. We tried lots of different flavours and everyone loved what they got. Once we had finished our ice creams we went back to camp and started making pizza dough for our dinner. We had some free time whilst our dough was given time to rise. It was fun to check out our camp surroundings and play basketball, gaga ball and table tennis. When our dough was ready, we got to choose our pizza toppings and watch our dinner being cooked in a wood fired oven. They were the best pizzas we’ve ever had! After dinner, we went into Queenscliff and enjoyes some games of lawn bowls.

The next day was hectic! The first activities we did were boogie boarding and archery. We all looked super cool in our wetsuits and learnt how to catch some waves on our boards. We could have boogie boarded all day! Archery was also lots of fun. We were challenged to hit a balloon on the board. A few students succeeded at this. Later in the day we explored Point Lonsdale which was a lovely walk. Because the weather was so amazing, our camp leaders took us back to the beach for an extra swim. We got to take boogie boards and sports equipment to help us make the most of our time there. When we got back to camp, our leaders played gaga ball with us and we had some more time to explore our camp during free time. We then headed back into Queenscliff for fish and chips for dinner. We managed to fight off the seagulls with the help of a magpie so we could enjoy our dinner with SOME peace. We then walked along the beach and explored the rockpools. We loved seeing all the different types of shells. When we got back, we had a campfire with delicious marshmallows. We shared ghost stories, funny stories and jokes. There were so many great stories!

We woke up on the last morning of camp with significantly less energy than the previous days, however, we knew we were canoeing that morning so we found some last energy. We walked to Swan Bay and were given a quick lesson in canoeing. Before we knew it, we were experts at canoeing – gliding around Swan Bay spotting banjo sharks, crabs and pufferfish in the water. We had a BBQ lunch and hopped back on the bus to go back to Tongala.

We had an amazing time on camp. We had so many opportunities that we loved and enjoyed spending time with our teachers and classmates which helped us to get to know each other better. Our leaders were so much fun and helped us have an awesome time. Thanks to everyone who made our camp this great!

FIRE