



EMMAUS NEWSLETTER

November
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A message to the community

A PRAYER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE & EQUITY

By Hosam Nadim, Archbishop of Jerusalem

O God of all justice and peace
We cry out to you
in the midst of the pain and the trauma of violence
and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.
Be with those who need you
in these days of suffering.
We pray for people of all faiths,
Jews, Muslims and Christians,
and for all people of the land.
While we pray to you, O Lord,
for an end to the violence
and the establishment of peace,
We also call for you to bring justice
and equity to the peoples.
Guide us into your kingdom,
Where all people are treated
with dignity and honour as your children.
For to all of us, you are our Heavenly Father.
In Jesus' name we pray
Amen.

Dear Families,

The weeks seem to be slipping by quickly and the end of the year is approaching. The end of the school year is always very exciting with so many great things happening. It is also a time of change for many. While some children are very excited about the next year of schooling, other children worry about it. At this time of the year we do all that we can to celebrate the year of learning and to get our students ready for their new class and new teacher. We have asked the children to choose four children they would like to learn with next year. The children are guaranteed to have at least one child they would like in their class and we will ensure this will happen.



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Some children will be disappointed when they don't get their first choice. We understand this and will work with the children. We have 470 children and it is impossible for every child to get their first choice. As adults we need to support our children with their disappointment. Our children do not have to be friends with everyone in the class but they do have to respect each other. There are always going to be children that don't get along but we need to teach them how to be respectful of one another. Our students are still learning this and will make mistakes. We will all support them with this. As I often say, there are adults still learning how to do this.

Hot Dog and Pyjama Day

Today was our Hot Dog and pyjama day. A BIG thank you to our amazing parents who continue to give up their time for others (especially those who dared to wear their pyjamas!!). The children donated a gold coin to the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal.. We raised \$404. At Emmaus we believe it is very important to give to others. We thank our students for their generosity today. This money might just put a little more on someone's Christmas table this year.

Mini Fair

Next Friday we have our Emmaus Mini Fair. This is a great opportunity for our children to have some fun while we raise money for our school. Our Fundraising parents work incredibly hard to raise money for the good of all our children and our school. Please remember to pay the \$5 admission fee by Wednesday 22nd November.

School Fees

Next week we will be sending out our 2024 School Fee Structure. Like everything else our school fees will be increasing next year to cover the costs of the day to day running of our school. Thank you to the families who have finalised their school fees and those who have called to explain why they haven't as yet. I appreciate our parents' honesty and willingness to pay. I am really trying to avoid uncomfortable phone calls and the need to get debt collectors to collect unpaid school fees. When parents enrol at Emmaus and other Catholic Primary Schools they promise to meet these financial obligations.

School Review Report

Next week we will receive our 2023 School Review Report back from Emma Richardson, our reviewer. We look forward to her recommendations. We will develop these recommendations into our School Improvement Framework and our 2024 Annual Action Plan with the team at MACS. We will look forward to sharing these with our parent community early next year.



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2024 Foundation Transition

Over the last two weeks we have been holding our 2024 Foundation Transition mornings. It has been wonderful to meet our new little Preps and their families. They have their last transition morning on Monday, 20th November. Our Years 1 - Year 5 children and new children to our school will have their transition into their 2024 grade in December.

Carpark Safety

I have recently noticed that some parents have 'forgotten' some of our expectations in the car park and on Sydenham Road. Please follow all road rules on Sydenham Road, it is incredibly busy at school drop off and pick up times. Parents can not drop their children onto the street for them to walk into school on their own. Children need to walk with a parent through the carpark. Parents wanting to drop their children off in the car park to walk into school need to use the 'kiss and drop' where we have Michael rostered to open car doors and ensure children walk into school safely.

Parking on Pecks Road

A parent recently told me they received a parking ticket on Pecks Road. I have spoken with the council. Parents can NEVER park in a "No Standing" area. Parents can park very briefly to drop off or pick up a child where the sign indicates "No Parking". Parents cannot leave their car if they are parked near these signs. It is always best to try and park where the sign indicates you can.

Christmas Concert

Our children are practising their little hearts out for our Christmas Concert that will be held on Thursday, 7th December. This year we will be holding the concert in the hall at CRC North Keilor as the CRC Sydenham hall is still being constructed. We are very grateful to Nathan Tomic and Tullio Zavattiero for allowing us to use their amazing facility.

Have a wonderful week,

Jackie



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Dates so far:

November 24th- Emmaus Mini Fair

December 4th-School reports go home

December 5th and 6th- Parent/Teacher Interviews

December 7th-Christmas concert

December 8th- Crazy colour fun run

December 12th- Year 6 Graduation Mass 6pm

December 13th- End of school year- Year 6

December 15th-End of school year- Prep-Year 5
