

ST CLARE'S CONNECTION

*"One person is of more value than a world."
Sr Mary Euphrasia - Mother Foundress of the Good Shepherd Sisters.*

NEWSLETTER 1 TERM ONE

April 2020

St Clare's School

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Mission Statement

Following the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, St Clare's School recognises the value and dignity of each student and provides a supportive educational environment for adolescent girls.

The Good Shepherd Sisters

St Clare's is an apostolic work of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. St Clare's carries forward the spirit and traditions of the Good Shepherd Sisters.

www.goodshepherd.com.au

Acknowledgement of Country



In continuing St Clare's commitment to Reconciliation and in line with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tradition, it is customary to acknowledge country as we pass through. Today, we acknowledge and pay our respects to the Noongar, Whadjuk people, traditional custodians of these lands and waters and thank them for their continued hospitality.

Important dates

Last day of term: Thursday, April 9

First day of term 2: Tuesday, April 28

For important dates and showcase photos refer to St Clare's website www.stclares.wa.edu.au

Also, check out our Facebook page!

www.facebook.com/stclareschoolcommunitypage/

Prayer



Principal's Message

Pope Francis' prayer to Mary in the time of COVID-19.

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide for us, so that, as you did at the Wedding at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to do the Father's will; what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself,

and bore our sorrows to bring us,

through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

St Clare pray for us

St Mary Euphrasia pray for us

We can hardly believe what has happened and changed in this term. I am so proud of all our staff and students for the way that they are embracing new ways of learning and connecting together. Please accept my deep gratitude for all your efforts. Have a wonderful Easter and Term One holiday.

God Bless
Clare Kanakis
Principal

Move to Remote Learning



The staff at St Clare's are committed to give the students every opportunity to engage in their education in order to open-up opportunities for the future. In the face of social distancing due to COVID-19, the staff have taken up the challenge to move all courses online using the Microsoft Office 365 suite. In a little under a week, teachers had thrown themselves into professional learning and gained the skills to move all their classes to Teams, using OneNote as an exercise book.

By Week 8, teachers were facilitating hybrid classes, with some students in the building and others at home joining in and learning together. Now as we look towards Term 2, all classes in a slightly slimmed down Remote Learning timetable are now able to be delivered to students remotely.

The Student Support Team have been making regular contact with students at home to make sure that they are continuing to engage with their learning and to work through any issues. Students are checking in each morning between 9.00 and 9.15am to have a chat on the Pastoral Care Team. They can request to talk to someone on the Student Support Team at any time during the school day with a virtual Yellow Slip, found on each one of their Teams. Students and teachers have worked hard to minimise the impact on learning and should all be congratulated at how smooth the transition has been – well done everyone!

Student Leadership 2020

Congratulations to the students who were elected to the Student Leadership team for 2020.

We were very pleased that quite a few students nominated for leadership and that elections had to be held.

Well done to Mel, Micayla, Talia, Milly and Lola. We are sure that they will add maturity and leadership to our school community.



A Baby Boy for Lucila



On 31st March we bid a warm farewell to our full time Youth Worker Lucila Lopez-Gibson. This was celebrated with students and staff with gifts, cards, hugs and tears.

On 1st April 2020 6.50am Lucila and her husband welcomed to the world their beautiful healthy baby boy Rafa. Both mum and baby are well and full of happiness. The St Clare's community wish them all the best, love and joy. We look forward to meeting him.

Student Leadership and GRIP Conference



What a busy start to Term 1, we welcomed our new student leaders Belinda, Molly, Lola, Micayla, Talia and Melissa! Straight into their roles they came up with great examples on what a student leader is all about and also exciting ideas for events we have had. They have been a great friend and support to many of the students.

The student leaders and Student Support Team were invited to GRIP Student Leadership Conference at the Perth Convention Centre. There was so many fun and engaging presentations and activities about what it takes to be a student leader for your school in which our student leaders got involved in. It was a fun and informative day! And we all left with fabulous new ideas!

Clean up Australia Day

February 28th saw the St Clare's students head down to Optus Stadium to engage in all of the positive community behaviours that is Clean Up Australia Day. Everyone prepared themselves with sunscreen, gloves and bags to collect any rubbish that could be found.

It was awesome to be out in the sunshine and fresh air and we managed to fill two bags with rubbish. For some of our students, it was the first time they had walked on the Matagarup Bridge, the suspension pedestrian bridge crossing over the Swan River. The afternoon finished with a 15 minute play at Optus Stadium's sensory playground.



ViSN Camp

Students at St Clare's who show aptitude and interest in ATAR subjects are encouraged to apply to study a course via CEWA's Virtual Schools Network (ViSN). This year, one of our Year 12 students, Melissa Burrows decided to give ATAR Human Biology a go! She joined 150 students from across the state to spend two nights at a ViSN Camp in the University of Western Australia's St Thomas Moore College in Crawley.

During the camp she had the chance to meet her classmates and to try out the course for size. In 2020 ViSN involved 200 students, enrolled at 23 CEWA schools, with staff and students taking part from as far north as Broome, as far south as Manjimup, and as far east as Kalgoorlie.

St Patrick's Day



St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, bringing the Christian faith to the people of Ireland in the 5th century. Because the Irish have had such a big influence on Christianity and culture in Australia, St Patrick's Day is a special celebration for us. With lots of colourful images of St Patrick and Shamrocks, the students got in the spirit of preparing for the day. Then, on March 17th, there was a sea of green at St Clare's school.

Congratulations to all the students who wore some green clothing or accessories! This was a nice bit of fun in an otherwise serious week! Most students attempted the quiz, which was more tricky than most expected. (Yes, St Patrick was a bishop, not a leprechaun!) Micayla and Lola received the highest score, and several green prizes were given out. Overall, a great bit of fun was had by all, and hopefully we'll do it all again next year.

Fairy Godmother's Lunch & International Women's Day



St Clare's held a special celebration for International Women's Day where we were provided with a delicious luncheon by our Fairy Godmothers. It was so good there were no problems dealing with the leftovers - there weren't any. The students came well prepared wearing purple clothing (school uniform requirements suspended in exchange for purple outfits) and bringing healthy appetites for healthy food. Good thing there were no limits to the helpings – some had seconds and some lost count.

It was a memorable day as the Fairy Godmothers were asked to give a brief outline of their paths to where they are today, and their stories were inspiring. They encouraged the students to strive to achieve and that will bring success, maybe not by being the best at schoolwork but by overcoming life's obstacles to build a satisfying life for themselves.



Presentation of Dixie's work to Dr Bill Leadbetter



Dixie Bonney's Fra Angelico winning painting titled 'Oneness' was presented to Dr Bill Leadbetter who had purchased it on behalf of St George's Cathedral where it will be displayed. Dr Leadbetter said 'it spoke to me, the painting is just so special and it has the capacity to hit you out of the blue'.

The work will be hung in the transept of St George's for all to see much to Dixie's surprise and delight.

Parent & Carers Afternoon Tea

On Tuesday February 25th we held our annual Parents Afternoon Tea. This was an opportunity for parents of new students to meet the staff at St Clare's and for the parents of existing students to catch up with support staff and teachers.

Two new members of staff, Niari Purdy and Klaudia Chahin, were introduced to the school community and Brianna reminded us all of the Code of Conduct and the expectations we have for students. Kerri and Tia outlined the opportunities within the curriculum for all the students at St Clare's. The meeting ended with an afternoon tea of delicious goodies.

Thanks to everyone who attended, it was lovely to see so many families and carers and we look forward to working together over the coming year.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Here are some links with information about Covid-19 for parents/carers and our young people.

<https://beyou.edu.au/resources/news/covid-19-supporting-schools>

Australian Government – Department of Health Apps

Apple Users:

<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/coronavirus-australia/id1503846231>

Android Users:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.gov.health.covid19>

Mental Health & Wellbeing

News of Covid-19 is everywhere and many parents are wondering how best to discuss this topic with their children and provide reassurance.

Key messages:

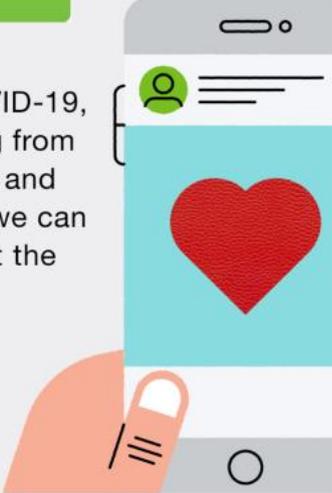
1. Speak to your child when you are calm and have time.
2. Be open and honest.
3. Provide age appropriate information.
4. Provide facts without causing alarm.
5. Give small amounts of information, wait and then listen if they have any questions. It's okay if you can't answer everything.
6. Be reassuring. Let your child know they are safe and that it is normal to feel a little worried.
7. Limit your child's exposure to media and adult conversations.
8. Keep talking.

<https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/>

<https://headspace.org.au/tips/>



In response to COVID-19, we are transitioning from in-person to phone and online services so we can continue to support the mental health of young people.



As of **Monday 30th March 2020**
We will only be providing phone and online services.

Please call us on **9393 0300**
or email
reception@headspacearmadale.com.au

Hygiene Aware



WASH HANDS

often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES

with your inner elbow or use a tissue and dispose of immediately.



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE

especially your mouth, nose and eyes.



SOCIAL DISTANCE

yourself 1.5m from others and avoid physical contact.



STAY HOME

if you are sick.



CLEAN SURFACES

and objects such as desks, keyboards and phones regularly.