



# News from the Heart

Together we Grow & Rejoice

Thursday, 20th June 2019

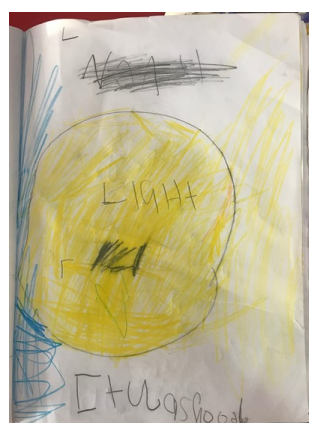
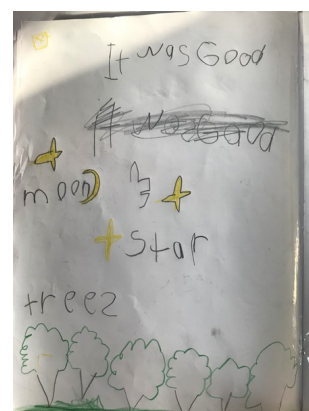
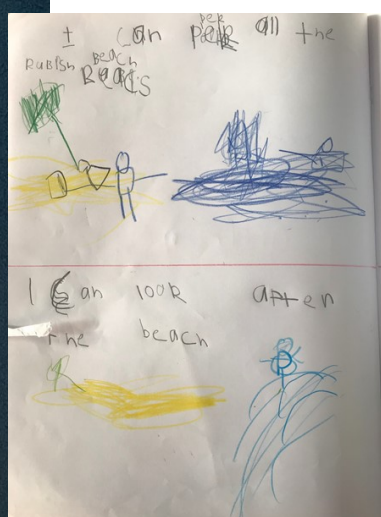
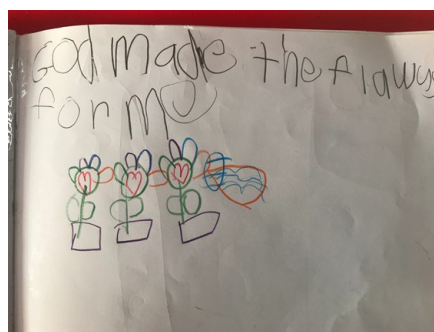
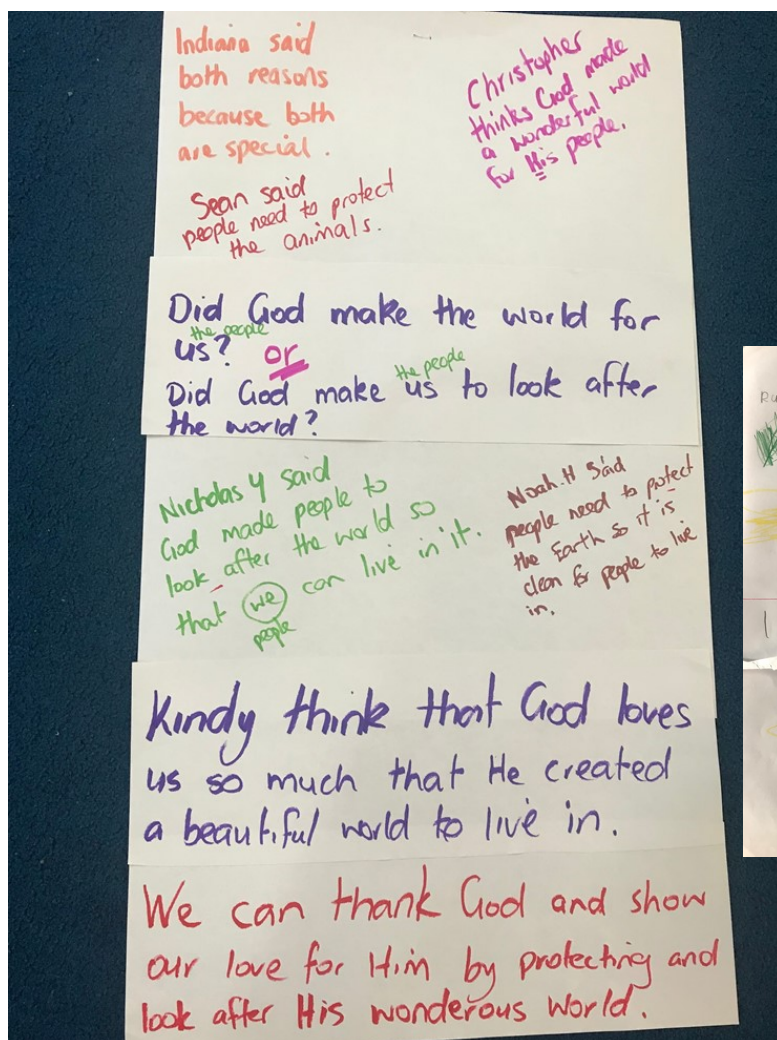


## Kindergarten—Faith Page



### Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath (Gen 1:1-31)

In Kindergarten we have been focusing on the scripture 'Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath (Gen 1:1-31). They are growing in awareness of God's creation. As part of their learning, Kindergarten recorded one part of God's creation and how they can care for it. Kindergarten also responded to the question 'Why did God make the world?'



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### Student Attendance

Regular school attendance is critical to student achievement and wellbeing.

*Congratulations everyone, we have reached our attendance goal for this week!*



**SACRED HEART PRIMARY**  
**CURRENT** attendance - 90.3%  
**TARGET** attendance - 90%  
Attendance increase



### Uniforms

As the weather becomes cooler it is acceptable for students to wear gloves and/or scarves on the playground before and after school on the playground, however, please ensure these items are in line with our school uniform and are **navy only**. Coloured scarves and gloves are not appropriate.

*Please note:* all learning spaces are heated and students will not be permitted to wear scarves or gloves inside as they are not needed and can become a distraction/hindrance to learning.

### Staffing Update

We have several staffing changes for the remainder of Term 2. Mrs Nadia Esposito and Mrs Louise Kingsley have both taken leave for the rest of the term and Mrs Catherine Clarke has extended her leave until the end of term. Mr Frank Pagano will also be on leave from the end of week 9. We keep them all in our prayers and look forward to welcoming them back in Term 3.

### Birthdays

Congratulations to all those in our community who celebrated a birthday over the last few weeks. Hip, hip hooray!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Friday 21st June

Stage 2 Assembly 2:30pm

### Monday 24th June

Infants Sports Games 8:50am-10:50am

### Wednesday 26th June

Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day

### Thursday 27th June

Student Learning Reports Sent Home

### Friday 28th June

Sacred Heart Feast Day  
5:30-6:30pm Sausage Sizzle  
6:30-7:30pm Disco

### Monday 1st July

Parent Teacher Interviews

### Tuesday 2nd July

Parent teacher Interviews

### Wednesday 3rd July

Parent Teacher Interviews  
Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala day

### Thursday 4th July

School Athletics Carnival

### Friday 5th July

Last Day of Term 2  
Kindergarten Assembly 2:30pm



### Parent Teacher Conferences

Reports will be sent home on Thursday 27th of June (week 9) for all students K - Year 6. Parents will note a change to the Religious Education, English and Mathematics comment format which will now be communicated as dot points. Teachers will highlight 3 specific areas of achievement and 1 critical next step (a next step will not be given for Religious Education). It is hoped this change in format will give parents a clearer indication of their child's achievements and a specific area for improvement in these Key Learning Areas. The general comment at the end of the report will remain unchanged.

All parents are invited to attend a Parent Teacher Conferences in week 10 (Kindergarten conferences will be held during week 1, Term 3), where further information will be shared in greater detail. Students are also encouraged to attend and be part of the conversation about their learning.

The following tip sheets from Michael Grose, one of Australia's leading parenting and educational writers and speakers, may help when reading your child's report and preparing for Parent Teacher Conferences to ensure the best possible outcomes for you and your child.



### Reading your child's report

By Michael Grose

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

*Could try harder... always does her best... lacks concentration... easily distracted... a pleasure to teach...*

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

**1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?** Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

**2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?**

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

**3. Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?** Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report:

**Focus on strengths.** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

**Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning.** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

**Broaden your focus** away from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.

**Take note of student self assessment.** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

**Discuss the report** with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child's efforts.



## Michael Grose's Top 10 Parenting Tips for School Meetings

By Michael Grose

Conferences and meetings between parents and professionals offer an opportunity to discover a child's progress; share information or resolve social and learning challenges. They can also be the source of conflict and stress as views can differ so it helps to remember that everyone's goal is to work from the best interests of a child or young person. Here are some tips to help make the meeting or conference more productive and less stressful for everyone involved:

### 1. Confirm the meeting

If the meeting has been called by someone at the school then confirm that you will be attending. Confirm also if someone such as another parent, family member, friend or professional will be attending the meeting. If in doubt, find out if more than one person will be attending from your child's school, including an outside professional such as a speech therapist or other specialist.

### 2. Work from a fresh slate

Sometimes meetings can be marred before they start as negative past experiences can carry residual resentment. Every new meeting offers a fresh opportunity to create better outcomes for your child.

### 3. Prepare well

Before a meeting or conference, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep the questions short and to the point. Similarly, it may be useful to list some of your child's strengths and areas of improvement that you've seen at home. Writing information down in advance ensures that your point of view is expressed and that critical information is covered. Similarly, make sure you take notes during the meeting so that vital information isn't missed.

**4. Listen first** Give the teacher a chance to make an assessment of your child's progress or behaviour. This may sound obvious but some meetings never get off the ground because an enthusiastic parent takes over.

### 5. Ask specific questions

Clarify the information you don't understand, asking for concrete examples. Drill down to get a clear picture of any issues involving behaviour or learning. *"So he doesn't listen in class."*

*Specifically, when does he seem to tune out?"* If your conference is student-led then take your cues from teacher and your child. Be prepared to ask specific questions that show your interest; display your understanding of what your child is showing you and also may help you form a true picture of your child as a learner.

### 6. Stay solution focused

If your child's behavioural or learning challenges are discussed it's tempting to be defensive or sceptical. Ask for concrete examples to help you gain a clear understanding from the teacher's perspective. Look over the proof offered such as observational records or testing results using these as the basis for moving towards a solution. Ask the teacher and other professionals what any test results may mean in terms of progress, strengths, needs and further support.

### 7. Remain calm

If the meeting doesn't go well, stay calm. Meetings involving your own child can be very emotive because you and your child's teacher are often discussing issues that are outside your direct control. Calmly stating your needs and views is far more effective than general accusations or inflexibly taking a stand. Ask for a break if you need one, even suggesting you meet at another time if your emotions are taking over.

### 8. Consider there are many ways to be right

Keep in mind that everyone wants the same thing- your child to make progress. Teachers view your child through a different lens than you and their conclusions and solutions can seem at odds with your own views. It may be at these times that you need to trust the professionalism of your child's teacher who has more than likely experienced these same challenges before.

### 9. Ask what you can do

Show your commitment to producing better results by asking for exercises that you can do at home to develop skills. It may be a good opportunity to ask for recommendations for outside resources to help you and your child. Often teachers know about camps, activities, organisations or events that can encourage educational and social growth.

### 10. Consider how to discuss at home

Once a meeting is over consider how you will talk about it with your child. Discuss areas that need work in positive, specific terms. *"We talked about your reading and your teacher suggested that we need to..."* Involve your child in discussing plans for improvement. Make sure these plans are doable rather than overwhelming him or her with an exhaustive list of suggestions. Small inroads in progress or improved behaviour have been found to have a snowball effect, impacting on broader areas of improvement.

Parent teacher meetings and conferences take many formats including the direct involvement of children. Regardless of the format you will be more effective if you go in with a positive attitude, an approachable demeanour, and a willingness to work collaboratively with your child's teacher to reach the best outcomes possible for your child.

## First Communion

Over the past month a group of Stage 2 students have been preparing to make their First Eucharist as part of the Sacred Heart Parish. Last weekend the first of this group made their First Eucharist and the remaining students will make their First Eucharist this Sunday. Congratulations all these students and their families. We wish them every blessing as they embark on their next step in their spiritual journey as part of God's family.

### Student Reflections

For my First Holy Communion we had Holy Communion classes every Wednesday. When I received the communion I felt happy and different because I have Jesus in my body and I became closer to God. It is important that we receive the communion because when we receive the communion you become closer to God and you will become a new person not in how you look but how you feel. When I walked up the altar I felt like a new person in my heart. It felt loving and kind and new. When I was in the church I saw the things we learnt about in Holy Communion classes like the wine, the Eucharist and the Altar. The most important thing of all was when I received Jesus in body and became closer to God. When I was praying I thanked God for my family and for the body that I have just received.

*Joseph Khattar (Yr 4)*

Receiving my First Holy Communion was important because I received the Body of Christ for the first time. The Body of Christ is very important because it's Jesus' body. It is important because I now have the responsibility to come to church every Sunday and receive the bread. I felt very happy on my Holy Communion because I had the body of Christ and I can get to eat the bread that the priest blesses from Jesus and God.

*Olivia El Nahas (Yr 4)*

It is important that we received our First Eucharist because the Eucharist is the Body of Christ and the Eucharist is the bread and body that Jesus shared with his disciples before he died. The first time you receive the Eucharist is special because it is the first time Jesus fully flows inside of you and it is also a religious milestone that only happens once in your life. The holy bread is the bread of life and the body of the Lord Jesus this also makes you closer to God I felt much more proud and closer to God when I received the Eucharist for the first time in your life.

*Julian Boumelhem (Yr 4)*



*A reminder to families who have children making their Confirmation this year. Enrolment forms will be available at masses from 15th June to 21st July.*



## Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day is an extremely important day that is celebrated world wide by most Christians and some other people around the world.

### **The History of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day:**

We celebrate this feast day because of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Also the day is marked spiritually of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. the earliest possible date is May 29, as in 1818 and 2285.

### **When it is celebrated:**

This year we will be celebrating the Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, Friday. This celebration also falls 19 days after Pentecost. The latest possible date is July 2 as in 1943 and 2038.

Overall, the Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day is an extremely important celebration for us Christians and Catholics, remembering that Jesus sacrificed his life for us.

By **Matthew Sakr** (Yr 6)

### Sacred Heart Feast Day

Sacred heart feast day is celebrated on the 28th of June 2019 (but not every year.) This special occasion falls 19 days after Pentecost, this day takes place so that we can recognise our lord, Jesus Christ and his sacred love for all his people. Lots of families and community's gather altogether to praise the eucharist/ the body of Christ and to be thankful that Jesus gave us his forgiving love. On this day, we treasure Jesus' unconditional love that he has for us every day and may it serves as a reminder that Jesus is always with us.



### Why Do We Celebrate This Feast Day

We are called to come together on this Feast to celebrate Jesus' love and compassion for all his people, especially the poor and suffering in our world. We preach/teach through out this the Feast day, when Jesus appeared to saint Maraget Mary and showed her his sacred heart that was surrounded by a crown of thorns which was a symbol of Jesus great sacrifice. Jesus wanted saint Margaret Mary to spread his love and devotion to his sacred heart. It is mainly a time when we celebrated this significant day so we can act like Jesus through our words and actions and to live our lives through mercy.

### History About Sacred Heart Feast Day

The first feast of the sacred heart feast day was celebrated on August 31st in the 1670 at Rennes France and it was through the efforts that father Jean Eudes had the privilege to preach on this day. The devotion became quite popular after saint Maraget Mary's death in 1690, but because the church had some disbelief about saint Maraget Vision, it wasn't until 1765 that the feast was finally celebrated in France. After that almost 100 years later, in 1856, pope Pius informed the bishop to extend/spread the feast to all churches so that sacred heart Feast day would be celebrated every year.



Sacred heart feast day helps us to be United With Jesus and to always remember that Jesus will always love us. This feast is about Jesus' love that he has for everyone and to always be thankful for what he has given us. Even though there is one sacred heart feast day every year, but we should be celebrating it every day because of how much Jesus shows his love, compassion and mercy. Sacred heart feast day is how we show our love compassion and mercy to Jesus and to show how much we appreciate everything that he has done for us and especially how Jesus sacrifice his life for our lives and as children of Jesus, May our hearts come together as one love in Jesus.

By **Priscilla Nader**

## Sacred Heart Feast day

Sacred Heart Feast day is a sacred day that we celebrate every year but is always different because it is 19 days after Pentecost and most of the time near the end of June. We celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus feast day as Roman Catholics because we want to be like Jesus and show devotion, love, hope and faith.

### **Why we celebrate it and when is it?**

As Roman Catholics we celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus feast day because we strive to be like Jesus and show devotion love hope and faith. Sacred Heart often occurs at the end of June but always changes every year and always happens 19 days after Pentecost. This year it is happening on the 28th of June.

### **What does the Sacred Heart represent?**

The Sacred Heart itself represents Jesus love for us and how he always finds a way to forgive and love us. The thorns around our lord's heart represents the pain and suffering he had to go through to open the gates of heaven and forgive our original sins. The flames represent God's boundless and unconditional love for mankind. The cross represents God's victory and glory in heaven.

### **What is it/where did it originate from?**

The Sacred Heart of Jesus originates from a Roman Catholic nun in France who was St. Margaret Mary. She said she had learned the devotion of Jesus during a series of visions between 1673-1675.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most celebrated feast days in the Catholic history because he is our saviour and God.

By **James Baltasar** (Yr 6)