

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Welcome back to Term 3! I trust you all had a relaxing holiday and I am happy to say that the term has begun smoothly. Our students are now settled back into routines and are switched on to their learning.

In my recent professional reading, I have come across some worthwhile information about developing growth mindsets in our children. Particularly relevant after families have received the Semester 1 school reports, the development of a growth mindset is important to ensure that all students (and adults) believe in themselves and never give up!

*“Learning from failure is fundamental to student achievement and motivation at school. Failure is a part of life that everybody experiences. It is how you deal with failure that determines how much you grow and learn through your experiences. In a school setting, it is common for students to feel like they are competing against each other. This can make failure very hard for some students as they may compare themselves to a friend or another student who has done better than them and feel as though they will never be able to succeed at the same level. It is therefore important that teachers and parents promote failure as a positive and necessary step to improving. When a student does not achieve a result they were hoping for, let them know that it’s not because they can’t do it, it’s just that they can’t do it yet. This will encourage them to adopt a growth mindset and see failure as an opportunity to do better next time and not a final determination of how good/bad they are at something.” <http://au.professionals.reachout.com>*

Term 1 - Important Dates	
<b>Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Feast Day: Dormition of our Lady Whole school Mass at 9am Holy Spirit College invited to attend
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	Children’s Book Week begins
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Book Character Parade
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Solemn Communion
<b>Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Walkathon
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Term 3 concludes
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept</b>	Professional Development Day – Teachers Only
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	Staff spiritual retreat All Staff

DEVELOPING A **GROWTH MINDSET**



<b>INSTEAD OF.....</b>	<b>TRY THINKING....</b>
I’m not good at this	What am I missing?
I give up	I’ll use a different strategy
It’s good enough	Is this really my best work?
I can’t make this any better	I can always improve
This is too hard	This may take some time
I made a mistake	Mistakes help me to learn
I just can’t do this	I am going to train my brain
I’ll never be that smart	I will learn how to do this
Plan A didn’t work	There’s always Plan B
My friend can do it	I will learn from them

I encourage you, as parents, to consider how you can help us to build a ‘growth mindset’ in our children. The graphic below is an indication of how we can change the ‘self-talk’ of our children to help them build resilience and perseverance.

God bless you and your families,

*Dianne Klumpp*

## THE RELIGION CORNER

This week, we celebrate the feast days of St Charbel and Saint Elias (Elijah). These two saints are very important to all people but especially to many in our school and their families. So many children are named after these great examples of Christian fidelity.

Saint Charbel was born in 1828 in Lebanon. Youssef, who chose the name Charbel, entered the Maronite Monastery of Saint Maroun. Even though he was ordained a priest and lived with other monks for many years he felt called to leave the monastery and live as a hermit. His way of life became even more strict. He ate only once a day and then ate only the simplest raw vegetables and a small glass of water. He slept on a straw mat and used a log for a pillow. When he died in 1898, he was buried simply, without even a coffin, as was the custom of such monks. Charbel's work was just beginning as people started reporting healings through his intercession. Three months after his death his body was dug up from the grave and found to be in perfect condition, just as it was at the hour of his death. It has stayed soft and warm as a living body ever since. It even appears to be perspiring and bleeding. Every week a monk has to change the vestments on the body because they become soaked with sweat and blood. Each day it seems Saint Charbel is intervening with God for another miracle as healings take place at his tomb – a sign that God's gift of healing still exists in His church.

Saint (or the Prophet) Elijah on the other hand is a great figure from the Old Testament. His name means "The Lord is my God." Like Saint Charbel, he did not care about the material things of this world. God took care of him by sending ravens to bring him food. Like the Theotokos (Mary) and our Lord himself, he went off to heaven with his own body and soul. It was in a fiery chariot. The Eastern churches consider Elijah the greatest prophet because he exemplifies two main beliefs of the Church: faithfulness to one God and justice for the weak.

So let us rejoice in these and so many other great saints who show us so many different and wonderful ways to God.

Blessings to all,

*Sr. Jeannette & Father Ibrahim*

## EARN AND LEARN

From Wednesday, 26th July to Tuesday, 19th September 2017, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator (or through an online order) and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet that was sent with your child earlier in the term. There will be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, simply place the sticker sheet in the collection box located in the front office.

The school will then redeem the Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers for valuable education resources.

There's no limit to the number of stickers you can collect, so your participation will really make a difference. The more stickers you earn, the more resources we can order!

## NAPLAN ONLINE

In May of every year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). NAPLAN was first introduced in 2008 and has become a routine part of the school calendar in Australia. NAPLAN, which is a part of the National Assessment Program (NAP), is how governments, education authorities and schools can determine whether young Australians are reaching important educational goals.

NAPLAN is moving online. This means moving NAPLAN from the current paper-based tests to computer-based assessments. The transition to NAPLAN online will commence from 2018. If you would like more information, visit: <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

NSW schools are currently preparing for the NAPLAN Online school readiness test which runs from Monday 14 August to Friday 22 September. This readiness test is not assessing the children. It is designed to make sure that schools have the digital capacity to implement the NAPLAN tests in an online environment. It will take into consideration the number of devices, room allocations and the bandwidth required. Two of our teachers have attended training in order to facilitate the readiness test. The government has requested that the students in Years 3 and 5 this year (2017) participate in the readiness test. This is because the required personal information about the students was collected in this year's paper test. It is important to remember that while students will sit a test, the results will not be provided or used to assess the students. The readiness test can be considered a practice test for the children and for the school network.

### **Privacy Notice for Parents and Carers (Year 3 and Year 5 Students)**

NAPLAN Online 2017 School Readiness Testing

Some personal information about students and parents which has already been obtained this year is being used again as schools prepare for NAPLAN online.

This personal information will be used by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), which is the NAPLAN Test Administration Authority responsible for New South Wales.

NESA is responsible for collecting information to be used during the testing that schools are about to undertake to check their readiness for NAPLAN Online. This 'readiness testing' includes the management of student registration, test administration and reporting of results to schools.

The information NESA uses will include school name, year level, student name, date of birth and gender. NESA discloses this information to Education Services Australia Ltd (ESA), a national, not-for-profit company owned by Australia's state and territory education ministers. ESA is engaged by the Australian Government to operate the secure online platform used for NAPLAN Online.

NESA will not disclose to ESA any information about students who are not undertaking the readiness testing for NAPLAN Online.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), which conducts NAPLAN testing, will not access the information provided for the readiness testing.

The personal information provided by each school may be used to:

- conduct NAPLAN Online readiness testing
- provide reports relating to NAPLAN Online readiness testing
- conduct research, and compile and analyse statistics.

The information will not be disclosed other than for the purposes outlined above, unless authorised or required by law.

## SCHOOL FEES

The last bill for this year's school fees was mailed to you in week 2. Term 1 and Term 2 school fees are now overdue and must be finalised. Kindly finalise Term 3 fees by Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

## HEALTH CORNER

### Healthy Lunchboxes

**Fruit & Vegetables:** Fruit and vegetables will provide a good daily source of vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre. All chopped fruit and vegetables can be easily packed into small containers for the lunchbox, making them quick and easy to eat.

#### LUNCHBOX IDEAS:

- cucumber, carrot and celery sticks (steam carrot and celery until tender for younger children), corn cob, snow peas, green beans, cherry tomatoes, capsicum strips.
- fresh fruit e.g. apple, pear, kiwi fruit, strawberries, orange, grapes and bananas
- tub of diced fruit in natural juice
- dried fruit occasionally – e.g. mini box of sultanas or a few dried apricots or apple rings
- salad filling in a sandwich, wrap or roll (e.g. lettuce, grated carrot, avocado, cucumber)



### AFTERNOON DISMISSAL TIMES

#### Parents are reminded of the following:

- not to enter the school building before 2:45pm as learning is still taking place
- no early releases from class: - children finish school at 2:50pm and not 2:45pm, therefore, **no late notes will be issued between 2:45pm and 2:50pm**
- bus and kiss and go children will be released between 2:45 -2:50 only
- rest of the school to be at the assembly point no later than 2:50 for a formal dismissal

***ALL PARENTS ARE ASKED TO PLEASE RESPECT THE SCHOOL RULES***