



## Newsletter

### Friday 20 March:

- NO Assembly
- NO Interschool Cricket Carnival

### Sunday 22 March:

- NO MASS - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Monday 23 March to Thursday 26 March:

- NO Parent/Teacher Interviews

### Tuesday 24 March:

- 6:00pm P&F Meeting
- 6:45pm Board Meeting

### Wednesday 25 March:

- NO Mass
- NO Interschool Swimming Carnival

### Thursday 26 March:

- Harmony Day – Gold coin donation
- Interim Reports sent home

**FRIDAY 27 MARCH:  
PUPIL FREE DAY -  
SCHOOL CLOSED  
FOR STAFF  
PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

### Sunday 29 March:

- NO MASS - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Thursday 2 April:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation – Postponed until further notice

### Friday 3 April:

- NO Assembly

### Sunday 5 April:

- Passion Sunday

**THURSDAY 9 APRIL:  
HOLY THURSDAY  
LAST DAY OF TERM  
FOR STUDENTS  
& STAFF**

Dear Parents & Carers,

### Gratefulness

Sometimes when life gets so busy it is easy to point out all the bad things that happen in our world each and every day. However, when you take the time to look around there are just as many good things that truly reflect the teachings of Jesus and the values of Santa Clara School. Therefore, this week I would like to focus on gratitude for the good that happens each and every day here at SC.

I have a bit of a soft spot for Australia's first saint, Mary MacKillop. She lived a life of gratefulness by not only appreciating everything she had, but also by serving those who needed her care and compassion. This is emphasised in her famous quote; **NEVER SEE A NEED WITHOUT DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT.** Those words sum up what Jesus taught us during His time on earth.

So, I would like to share with you the top five things I have been grateful for since our last newsletter!

#### 1. Attending Mass

One thing I do each weekend is attend Mass. It is a way I can say thank you to God for all the good I have in my life. During Mass I am continually drawn into a calming space. Last weekend, I was drawn to think about all the things that make my life as a Principal, a husband, a dad, a son, a brother, an uncle and a friend. It is good to think about who we are from time to time!

I was drawn into the Mass and started to think about what Fr John, my Parish Priest, had talked about during his homily where he discussed and reconnected us with the core of the Mass. Mass provides us with a connection that is beyond our earthly existence. I find myself yearning to go to Mass to simply be. It truly does make a difference. I am truly grateful that I am in an environment like SC, that promotes this continually.

#### 2. Parents

I have the privilege of chatting with parents in the playground, after assemblies, Mass, pretty much anywhere. I mention this because our community is a truly special place. Each and every day I get to have many positive conversations. While there are at times difficult conversations, the amount of positivity that comes from the parents at our school is extraordinary. I know for a fact our staff thrive on this positivity.

Our awards assembly and Masses are very visible signs because many parents and grandparents are present. Hopefully these numbers can increase even more. As a

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school we are continually grateful for parental involvement and see this as a means for enhancing your child's time at SC.

### 3. Staff

The way our staff go about their daily work is truly inspiring. It is important to acknowledge the ever increasing demands that are placed on them and how they are so committed to our school. As Principal I get to visit classrooms (something I want to do more of!) and witness the amount of effort that goes into planning each and everything the students do each and every day. Never underestimate how committed our staff are to our students here at school.

I am so grateful to be surrounded by a group of people that work hard and push me to be an even better Principal!

### 4. Our Students

As part of the fun that goes on in the office, Mr Tulett, Mrs Madafferi and I have the privilege of working with a number of students. Recently I had one of the best days at SC when I visited the Kindy and PP students during their lunchtime. One of the best parts was watching a few students writing their names and various letters and words while others were building a river in our creek bed. Seeing the pride in their faces as they formed the letters and the made words or get the water to flow was amazing! I guess you just needed to witness it. I am truly grateful for the effort our students put into their schooling each and every day. We really do have super kids at this school!

### 5. Importance!

Finally, I am forever grateful for my job! Corinne, my wife, seems to get very annoyed that I get to have fun each day and get paid for it! One of the best things about my job is seeing students and families outside of school. Since starting at SC, I have bumped into a few families out and about. It is one of the privileges I have, where students and families make me feel important! Just last weekend I bumped into a student at Carousel shops and was greeted with a huge 'hello'. It made me feel like I was a member of One Direction! I also felt very important a few weeks back when Mrs Hawkins bought me two huge bottles of Ice Coffee!! I am forever grateful for the generosity and care I am shown from our beautiful community and I look forward to being a part of the next chapter here at SC with you all.



### **Coronavirus Update**

While media and public commentary in relation to Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to raise concerns for many in our community, public health authorities are advising that the current risk remains low in Western Australia.

However, as the health and wellbeing of our students and staff remains our highest priority, we need to remain vigilant to any potential for increased risks and take precautionary measures to ensure the safest possible educational environment for children and young people.

Although this doesn't apply to Santa Clara School, as a result, all school-related international travel is not to proceed until further notice. This advice applies to all students and education sector staff across Western Australia.

As we continue to respond to COVID-19 in our community, please be assured that the Department of Education, Catholic Education Western Australia, and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia will continue to respond as a collaborative team to advice from the WA Department of Health and provide updated advice to schools and staff as appropriate. These updates will then be passed on to the community.

**As per the directive of our Prime Minister Scott Morrison, students or staff who have returned to Australia from overseas travel MUST isolate themselves for 14 days.**

To assist Santa Clara School in our future response planning, particularly as the April school holidays approach, parents are encouraged to inform me of any upcoming international travel plans. Please see Suzanne in the Office to make a time to meet with me.

At this stage, schools are to remain open and run as normal. This means curriculum delivery through our normal practices will continue. At present, we will not be providing online curriculum delivery for students who are staying at home. At Santa Clara we continue to put the children's safety as our number one priority. We will continue to update you with information as it comes to hand.

The most up to date fact sheets can be accessed at: <https://www.dese.gov.au/news/coronavirus-covid-19>

### **Kindy Enrolments**

Enrolment interviews for Kindergarten 2021 will commence shortly. Parents/Carers of students currently attending the Santa Clara School are reminded that they are required to submit an Enrolment Application Form if they intend to enrol a younger sibling into the Kindergarten program for 2021 or beyond. Due to high demand at Santa Clara please encourage family/friends to submit applications as soon as possible.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews – Interim Reports**

As per my letter sent home this week, we have adjusted our Parent Teacher Interviews due to Covid-19. Teachers will be providing parents with a snapshot of their child's progress through an Interim Report. This will be sent home on Thursday, 26 March. On this report, teachers will indicate whether or not a follow up phone interview is needed. If you receive a request, please email your child's teacher directly to arrange a phone conversation. Please be flexible with this due to the limited number of phones at the school.

### **After School Pick-Up**

Santa Clara School places an enormous amount of effort into child safety. Over the recent weeks, it has been brought to my attention that a number of students are leaving the school grounds unattended as parents are waiting in cars. Some students have also been seen exiting the Parish gate crossing Coolgardie Street unsupervised. I will be informing students over the coming days that they are not to leave the school grounds unless they have a parent or guardian with them. We urge you to use the school kiss and drive or take the time to walk into the school grounds to pick up your children in order to keep them safe. Thank you for your support in keeping Santa Clara students safe.

Over the next fortnight, I urge you all to look for the little things in life that are the many blessings that God gives us each and every day!

Have a blessed fortnight.

**No Mass at Santa Clara Church from today, Thursday, 19 March 2020 to Wednesday, 1 April 2020.**

***Clinton Payne***  
***Principal***

### **Payment Option Forms**

The due date to return your payment option forms is tomorrow, **Friday, 20 March 2020**. Please note that this new system is designed to send automatic reminders based on the information contained in the payment option forms. If you do not return the payment option forms, the system will default to the annual option. The first set of reminders is due to go out early next week so please endeavour to return your forms as soon as possible.

***Jacqueline Wilson***  
***Bursar***

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Greetings Everyone,

On Monday of this week I attended the Catholic Assistant Principal Association Day in the city, a day which had the theme of inspiring Christ-centred leadership. The keynote speaker for the day was a man by the name of Samuel Clear, who spoke to us about his personal journey as an authentic catholic leader. Sam is an amazing character, who was at one stage earmarked to play AFL for Collingwood Football Club. Following an accident, he was forced to reconsider his life plan. Whilst Sam was and still is a practising catholic, he became disillusioned with the lack of unity between the different Christian denominations and he decided to take his own action, in order to bring this to light.

Subsequently, Sam decided that he would undertake a walk around the world to ask Christian's everywhere to pray for unity in Christ. Setting out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2006, Sam Clear walked from the eastern most point of Brazil, through South America, Central America and North America, across Siberia on the Trans-Siberia Railway and on foot again from Moscow to the western most point of Spain, all for the sake of Christian unity. The journey that Sam so briefly described to the Assistant Principal's that were in attendance was arduous, life-threatening, and awe-inspiring, but he also described acts of incredible selflessness, beauty, love and generosity of spirit from ordinary people around the world: people who are incredibly united with God and mankind.

Sam's story hit a note with me and put a few things into perspective. The simple act of prayer is such a powerful tool, and if were to all act with unified purpose as God wants us to, what could we achieve. Especially in light of current events around the world, with the COVID-19 virus and the lack of unity that is currently occurring in regard to shopping practices. Let us as a Christian community provide our Christ-centred leadership to help each other to have enough of what we need and let us share what we have with those in need. Particularly in this Lenten season of giving.

On the subject of Lent, our Project Compassion Collection Boxes have finally arrived and will be sent home this week. Please give generously to those less fortunate in the world who need our help. As Bishop Oscar Romero said, "Aspire, not to have more, but to be more". It's a sentiment that I think Samuel Clear and many of the people he met on his walk around the world, embody.

As mentioned in Mr Payne's letter earlier this week, we regret to announce that the following events have had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus:

- School Swimming Carnival
- Interschool Cricket Carnival
- Interschool Swimming Carnival
- Friday Morning Assemblies
- Mass of the Annunciation of the Lord
- Year Six Camp
- Stations of the Cross

We thank you for your patience and understanding of this situation.

May I leave you this week with this poem from Brother Richard of the Capuchin Franciscans.

### ***Lockdown***

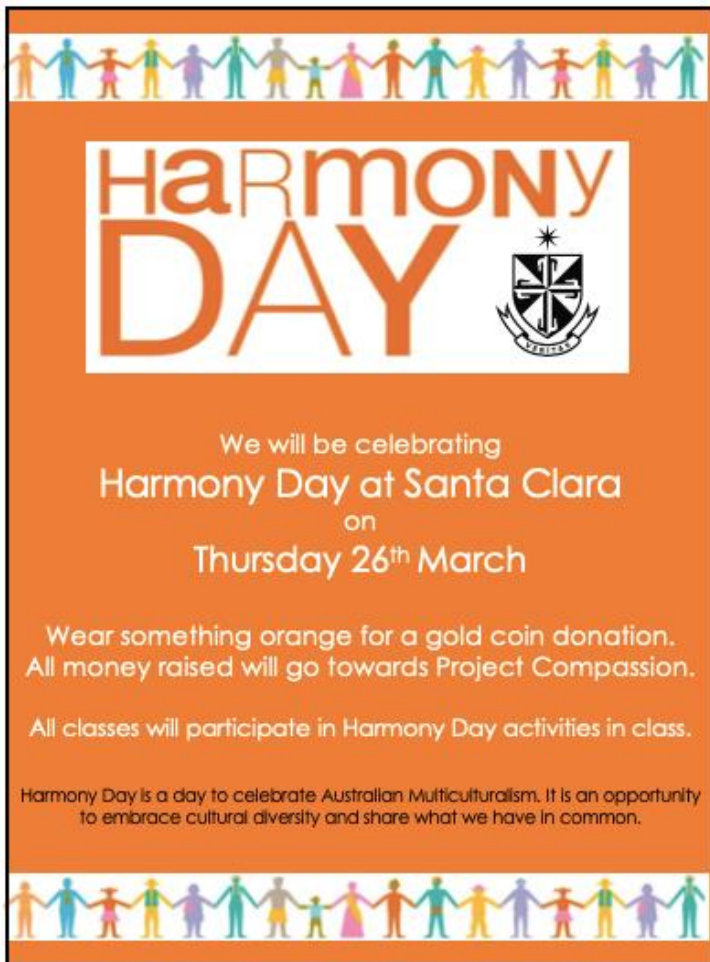
Yes there is fear.  
Yes there is isolation.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
Yes there is sickness.  
Yes there is even death.

But,  
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise  
You can hear the birds again.  
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet  
The sky is no longer thick with fumes  
But blue and grey and clear.  
They say that in the streets of Assisi  
People are singing to each other across the empty squares,  
keeping their windows open  
so that those who are alone  
may hear the sounds of family around them.  
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland  
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.  
Today a young woman I know  
is busy spreading fliers with her number  
through the neighbourhood  
So that the elders may have someone to call on.  
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples  
are preparing to welcome  
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary  
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting  
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way  
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality  
To how big we really are.  
To how little control we really have.  
To what really matters.  
To Love.  
So we pray and we remember that  
Yes there is fear.  
But there does not have to be hate.  
Yes there is isolation.  
But there does not have to be loneliness.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
But there does not have to be meanness.  
Yes there is sickness.  
But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
Yes there is even death.  
But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
Today, breathe.  
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
The birds are singing again  
The sky is clearing,  
Spring is coming,  
And we are always encompassed by Love.  
Open the windows of your soul  
And though you may not be able  
to touch across the empty square,  
Sing.


13 March 2020

Until the next Newsletter,

**Adrian Tulett**  
**Assistant Principal**



# HARMONY DAY



We will be celebrating  
**Harmony Day at Santa Clara**  
 on  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Wear something orange for a gold coin donation.  
 All money raised will go towards Project Compassion.

All classes will participate in Harmony Day activities in class.

Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australian Multiculturalism. It is an opportunity to embrace cultural diversity and share what we have in common.

## School Cricket Carnival

Our Cricket Carnival for Years 3 – 6 took place on Monday, 16 March at Wyong Reserve.

It was a great day, enjoyed by parents, staff & students.

A fantastic effort by all the students!

Thanks to everyone who helped out and supported us on the day.



*Miss Fitzpatrick  
 Phys Ed Coordinator*



## SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

**\*\* Have you seen the New Rewards for 2020? \*\***  
 If not check the notice board outside Year 2.

If you are part of the programme and haven't been making deposits to your bank account, then come and see me (Friday mornings).

If you want to join the School Banking Programme, Mrs Walker has the pamphlet in the office, or pop into your local Commonwealth Bank and open an Account and then come and see me with your yellow Deposit Book.

**Tomorrow, Friday, 20 March will be the last School Banking day until next term.**

Lots of love from  
 \$\$\$ Susie the School Banking Bunny \$\$\$

PS. I have found the bunny ears so look out for me!

## Pupil Free Day 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Come join us at Santa Clara Out of School Care for a day of ball tricks and skills.

Book in through the MyFamilyLounge App, call us on (08) 9251 0405, or email us at [osc@santaclara.wa.edu.au](mailto:osc@santaclara.wa.edu.au).



# *P&F News*



## **The P&F are running our Annual Chocolate Easter Raffle Fundraiser.**

We are asking all Families for donations of Easter chocolates which can be placed in the baskets provided in the classroom commencing next week.

**All donations need to be placed in the baskets provided  
by Tuesday 7th April.**

The raffle tickets will be given out to your child/ren next week.

**All raffle tickets need to be returned to the P&F box in the School  
Office in a clearly marked and sealed envelope by Tuesday 7th April.**

**The Raffle will be drawn in the classrooms on  
Thursday 9th April.**

**Thank You kindly for your support.**

