



St Andrew's Parish

CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL

29 RUSSELL STREET, WERRIBEE VIC. 3030

Telephone: (03) 9741 8440 Facsimile: (03) 9741 8038



NEWSLETTER 1 Thursday 6th February 2020 WEEK 2, TERM 1

Available on our School App, Website, CC Parent Portal. Paper copies available in the Office

For **STUDENT ABSENCES** ccschooloffice@ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au OR 9741 8440 by 9:30am

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our students and families as we begin the 2020 school year.

It is with sadness that we begin this year aware of the enormous suffering of thousands of our fellow Australians. The beginning of 2020 has been marked with loss, destruction, separation and deep sadness due to the devastating fire situation so close to us particularly in the Gippsland areas, but also in our bordering states of NSW and South Australia. If you have been effected or have family or friends who have been effected please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and all who are currently struggling as a result. I can only imagine the grief and heartache of the people who have been a part of this disaster over the last few weeks.

Into these communities too, have come hundreds of volunteers and service organisations who have given up their own family celebrations, and placed their lives on the line to bring help, support and relief where possible. Demonstrations of the spirit of generosity and support has truly been evident in so many varied and amazing ways.

We too, as a Corpus Christi community will offer our full support for what may be required. We understand that the effects of such trauma will be felt for many months and even years to come.

Therefore we will look to a multi-pronged response that will continue to support current and emerging needs of those effected.

Some of the ways to support include:

Archbishop Peter Comensoli, through the Catholic Education Office has strongly encouraged us to direct any donations to the St Vincent de Paul Bushfire Appeal: <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-nsw-bushfire-appeal-vic> to ensure that our brothers and sisters have a chance to rebuild their lives after such devastation.

Raising funds for the St Vincent's Bushfire Appeal is certainly one way that we can demonstrate in "action" the call of Christ to reach out to those in need.

Our own St Andrew's Parish have had special collections for the St Vincent de Paul Bushfire Appeal and the Youth of our Parish held events to raise funds for the appeal as well.

The following information and links have been provided by our local CFA to support communities in being able to rebuild their lives after such devastation.

"Donations of food and clothing have been generously given by the greater community, however charitable organisations are inundated and have requested that any further donations should be by way of financial means."

The following links is where I would kindly ask members of our community to provide support to those communities who have been impacted by the bushfires.

Victorian Bushfire Appeal:
<https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfireappeal>
Donations for support to affected wildlife can be
via WIRES
wires.org.au or via
bushfireemergencywildlife.org.au
zoo.org.au



This will go directly to the fire affected communities / organisations who are in desperate need of support and assistance.

Another idea may include planning school camps in the fire effected communities to help support the local economy over the next few years. This may not be feasible for the school (given the distance to travel), however, encouraging families to spend their holidays in those locations would be great."

We are considering possible opportunities to link with schools that have been effected and provide both financial and emotional support. We have been advised by the Department of Education's Student and Wellbeing Branch that support in this way would be better left to a time further down the track when they are better placed to cope with offers of reaching out.

May I encourage you to speak with your child, listen to their questions and concerns and then explore ideas that we, as a school, can "respond through action" to help those in need now and in the future. Children are encouraged to share these ideas with their classmates and teachers.

Thank you for your support in this very important effort to bring Jesus' message of service to others in our world, in a very meaningful authentic way.

***"To all those effected we say: we are thinking and praying for you.
To all firefighters, volunteers, emergency services and crews, we say: thank you".***

Take Care and Go gently!

***Kind regards,
Linda***

COME AND JOIN US...

Please consider joining Parents and Friends in 2020. We would warmly welcome you and we always appreciate new members, perhaps offering new ideas. It's a great way to meet a few parents and join in the wonderful work of promoting families getting to know each other, as well as raising some additional funds for our school to use.

Our first meeting is February 19th, 7pm in the staffroom. Bring a friend..... :-)

Hope to see you there....

Viv Adamko.

Welcome to the 2020 School Year

Welcome back to all our students and families as we begin the 2020 school year. Hope all families had a wonderful Christmas and holiday break!

It is great to see everyone again all refreshed as they begin a new school year!

We extend a very special welcome to our new Foundation Children and their Families as well as all our new families in Grades 1-6 who join our school community this year.

We welcome back our wonderful staff and we are very privileged and excited to welcome 6 new staff members to Corpus Christi this year – Mrs Anna Yorston our newly appointed Co-Deputy Principal, Mrs Erica Vandy (Junior Teacher), Miss Olivia Rantino (Foundation Teacher), Miss Jessica Clarke (Senior Teacher), Mrs Linda Nguyen (Admin), Miss Jade Falzon (Admin) and Mrs Bernadette Muscat (LSO). We also welcome back Mrs Kim Gleeson from Maternity Leave. Kim will join the senior team as Home Group Teacher with Mrs Carley Dawson on Fridays.

I believe all our new children, families and staff members will be made to feel at home and a part of the Corpus Christi School Community in no time at all.

As a staff we look forward to a great year, during which we will work closely with all families in delivering the best programs, experiences and support to all our children in their education and faith journeys.

Often at this time of year parents have questions about new class routines or expectations of children. If you have an issue, question or concern, please do not hesitate to see your child's home group teacher or send in a note asking for clarification. We are all working together and the sooner we address any queries the better!

In our mission of service we pray for Christ's guidance and support as we begin the 2020 School Year. We look forward to a wonderful year for everyone.

***With kindest regards,
Linda***

COMMUNICATION

At Corpus Christi we believe that strong family-school partnerships improve student motivation and learning. At Corpus Christi we also promote honest, open and transparent communication between home, school and parish and we are constantly exploring ways to involve our families within the school and communicate regularly with parents/carers.

At Corpus Christi we keep you informed about what is happening in our school including updates to calendars etc in a variety of ways. Our Website – www.ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au, Our Corpus Christi School App, Email, Newsletter, Remind App for Learning Communities. All are updated regularly so please try to follow us whenever possible.

SPECIALISTS AREAS 2020

In 2020 we will be offering the following as Specialist areas with a 'specialist' teacher on a fortnightly basis: The Arts, Physical Education, Italian, Performing Arts and Digital Technology (DT) also known as 'Computer Science Investigation (CSI)'. In 2020, CSI will also focus strongly on STEM Education which incorporates Robotics, Coding etc. In addition aspects of the Arts, PE and DT will be incorporated into each learning community's weekly program by the learning community teachers in the alternate week.

NEW AND IMPROVEMENTS

You may have noticed that we are doing quite a few Grounds and Buildings development works. Some completed work includes:

- ⇒ Refurbishment of Student amenities
- ⇒ New carpets in portables and Aqua Community
- ⇒ Synthetic Turf on area near portables
- ⇒ Purchase and installation of 40 foot container behind sheds
- ⇒ Outdoor games in rubber rock completed
- ⇒ Additional soft fall in Junior playground
- ⇒ Upgrade of Cleaners storage and maintenance room
- ⇒ Creating new Meeting Room near Aqua Community
- ⇒ Additional shelving and improvements in various areas around the school

We are excited about all our improvements and the school Board will once again this year be instrumental in leading the capital and grounds work in our school.

SCHOOL START TIME

The beginning of the day is a vital time for all children in their Learning Communities as **instruction begins directly at 8:45am.**

Please be aware that classrooms **open at 8:30am** to enable all children to have the time to get prepared for the day.

Thank you to parents/carers for ensuring your children are at school at the start time of 8:45am each day.

Please be aware that children who arrive after 8:45am are recorded as '**Late**' on the attendance **roll.**

All 'late' records will be recorded automatically on each child's mid-year and end of year Reports.

SCHOOL ABSENCES



Corpus Christi Primary School

Address	29 Russell Street Werribee 3030		
Phone	9741 8440	Fax	9741 8038
Email	ccschooloffice@ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au		
Website	www.ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au		

In the event of student absence, please notify the school **by 9:30am.**

This can be done via email to ccschooloffice@ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au or by calling the School Office on **9741 8440**.

Please provide a written note and/ or medical certificate for the home-group teacher upon the student's return.

A letter informing the school of any extended periods of absence must be provided prior to family holidays or extended absence from school.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Whole School Assemblies are a wonderful way to gather as a whole school to celebrate and showcase some of the great learning and achievements occurring in the school.

In 2020 our Whole School Assemblies will again, usually, be held on alternate Friday afternoons at 2.05pm. Every Learning Community in the school will have an opportunity to plan, organise and conduct these assemblies throughout the year. Dates and organising communities will be published in the school newsletter under important dates. All family members, friends and carers are invited to attend.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



PARENTS AND FRIENDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association will be held on Wednesday 19th February at 7:00pm in the staffroom.

At this meeting our current office bearers will present reports for 2019 and office bearers for the 2020 school year will be elected. All parents / grandparents / helpers are most welcome to attend. We especially invite all new members of our school community to come along even if it is just to see what the P&FA does or just if you'd like a cuppa.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES - 2020

Term 1 Day 1 – Friday 28th February – Literacy - Words in Context

Term 2 Day 2 – Tuesday 14th April – Staff Conference – School Review

Term 2 Day 3 – Wednesday 15th April – Staff Conference – School Review

Term 4 Day 4 – Planning 2021 – Date TBD

Term 4 Day 5 – Handover 2021 – Date TBD

In line with our School Improvement Plan the above days and foci will assist to strengthen our pedagogy across many areas of school operations, particularly in the Learning and Teaching and Student Wellbeing spheres, as we work to provide quality Catholic education for all at Corpus Christi Primary School.

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS

Our first whole school celebration is on Thursday 13th February in the MFR at 9:00. This is our Beginning of the Year Mass where we will gather together to ask God's blessing on our year and acknowledge the need for His love and guidance in our lives. Please join us.

RECONCILIATION

Our students in Year 3 will be preparing to celebrate God's love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance (also known as Reconciliation) on Wednesday 11th March. Please look out for further information sent home in the coming weeks.

Carpark Safety and Courtesy for Local Residents

All parents, teachers and visitors to our school share in the responsibility of keeping our children safe. I call for patience and care around our school and I look forward to all drivers helping to maintain our school as a safe school.

In order to ensure the safety of children at Corpus Christi School, parents are asked to be extremely diligent when dropping off and picking children up from school. The beginning of any school year seems to attract higher levels of 'busy-ness' in school car parks, so I ask for your patience and care when entering and leaving the school car park. Also, please do not park in the disabled car park unless you have a valid 'Disabled Parking Sticker' displayed on your windscreen. ***In addition, please respect our neighbouring properties and residents by not parking across driveways. Thank you for your support and for keeping all members of our community safe!***

FOUNDATION 2021 ENROLMENTS

Children who turn 5 years of age by 30th April 2021 are eligible to enrol in Foundation 2021. Enrolment Packs will be available at our Information sessions which will be held on Tuesday 3rd March at 9.00am and 7.00pm in the MFR. Enrolments for Foundation 2021 close on Thursday 30th April 2020. ***Please note that the enrolment of siblings is not automatic and an enrolment form needs to be received by the due date.*** Enrolment packs are now available from the school office.

Foundation 2021

Parent Information Sessions Tuesday 3rd March Two sessions: 9:00am or 7:00pm

In the Multi-Function Room
Enrolment Packs for 2020
will be handed out at these sessions.

School Tour Dates

Monday 16th March	9:00am and 12.00pm
Wednesday 18th March	9.00am and 12.00pm
Tuesday 24th March	9.00am
Thursday 16th April	9.00am and 12.00pm

Update regarding Coronavirus Outbreak

Further to my message last week, I am writing to provide you with updated advice about the novel coronavirus outbreak relating to people arriving in Australia from mainland China.

Any child returning from mainland China (not including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) who was in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 is to be isolated at home and should not attend school until 14 days after they were last in mainland China.

This recommendation applies only to children who were in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020. It does not apply to students that left mainland China before 1 February 2020.

As previously advised, parents of students that have been exposed to a confirmed coronavirus case or that have arrived in Australia from Hubei Province should ensure that their child is isolated at home and does not attend school for 14 days. An updated factsheet provided by the Victorian Government providing advice and information about the novel coronavirus was also sent to families.

You can also access further information and updates from the following websites:

For Victorian updates to the current incident, go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus> For national updates: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/latest-information-about-novel-coronavirus> For international updates:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/novel-coronavirus> WHO resources: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

The well-being of your child continues to be of paramount importance to me and our school staff. I will continue to share information and advice about the coronavirus outbreak as it becomes available.

IMPORTANT - SUPERVISION AFTER SCHOOL

From 3:05pm until 3:30pm please remember that for safety reasons no child is allowed on the SENIOR PLAYGROUND, BASKETBALL COURT or the OVAL after school without the DIRECT supervision of parents from 3.05 – 3.30pm. In addition, toddlers and pre-schoolers may use the JUNIOR PLAYGROUND only with DIRECT supervision of parents at all times.

SUPERVISION AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.30pm

Also, we ask that all families who are still onsite after 3:30pm to move to the front grassed area of our school to continue to play or wait for siblings. This is in order to enhance the safety and supervision of children in the care of the Out of School Hours Care Program staff. At this time they move from the MFR and use the playgrounds and oval with the children enrolled in their program. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

2020 School Calendar & Important Dates

Wednesday 5 th February	No School for Foundation
Friday 7 th February	2:05pm Whole School Assembly
	No School for Foundation
Thursday 13 th February	9:00am Beginning of the Year Mass
Wednesday 19 th February	No School for Foundation
	7:00pm Parents and Friends AGM in the Staffroom
Friday 21 st February	Whole School Assembly 2.05pm
Sunday 23 rd February	Corpus Christi Community Mass
Tuesday 25 th February	Reconciliation Family Evening 6.30pm
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday—Liturgy at 8:50am in MFR – All welcome
	No School for Foundation
Friday 28 th February	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Literacy Development
Tuesday 3 rd March	2021 Foundation Information Sessions 9.00am and 7.00pm
Wednesday 4 th March	School Board Meeting 6.30pm in the Staffroom
Thursday 5 th March	SCHOOL PHOTO DAY!
	Students wear full summer uniform today
Friday 6 th March	Whole School Assembly 2.05pm
Monday 9 th March	Labour Day Holiday – No School
Wednesday 11 th March	Reconciliation Celebration 6:30pm St Andrew's Church
Sunday 15 th —22nd March	Catholic Education Week
Mon 16 th to Wed 18th March	SENIOR UNIT CAMP 2020
Monday 16 th March	9:00am and 12.00noon School Tours
Wednesday 18 th March	9:00am and 12.00noon School Tours
Thursday 19th March	Family Twilight Sports
Friday 20 th March	'National Day of Action Against Bullying'
	Whole School Assembly 2.05pm
Tuesday 24 th March	School Tour 9.00am
Friday 27 th March	<u>Last Day of Term 1 - School Holidays</u>
Term 2	
Tuesday 14 th April	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Staff Conference
Wednesday 15 th April	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Staff Conference
Thursday 16 th April	Students return to school
	School Tours 9.00am and 12.00noon
Tuesday 28 th April	Foundation Prayer Night 6:00pm
Thursday 30 th April	Applications for Foundation Enrolment 2021 DUE
Friday 1 st May	Whole School Assembly 2:05pm in MFR all welcome to attend
Tuesday 5 th May	Confirmation parent Evening with Richard Leonard 6.30pm
Thursday 7 th May	Mother's Day Stall
Friday 8 th May	Mother's Day Breakfast and Guest Speaker and Liturgy
Sunday 10 th May	MOTHER'S DAY
Monday 11 th May	Start of 2 weeks of NAPLAN ASSESSMENTS
Tuesday 12 th May	School Board Meeting – 6.30pm in the staffroom
Friday 15 th May	Confirmation Celebration – St Andrew's Sports Centre 6.30pm

2020 Sacrament Dates

Reconciliation Celebration – Wednesday 11th March at 6:30pm at St Andrew's Church

Confirmation Celebration – Friday 15th May (6:30pm)

First Eucharist Celebration – Sunday 16th August at 1:00pm and 3:00pm

Education in Faith

WELCOME I would like to welcome all families to the school year and look forward to working together as a Corpus Christi community as your child continues to grow in their learning and faith journey.

Our faith journey is an integral part of who we are as a Catholic community and we always welcome your involvement and attendance at our celebrations of our faith through our liturgies and other celebrations or events. Please note these dates in your diary as they appear in our newsletter and join us in prayer and worship when you can. Our role here at Corpus Christi is to support you in your child's journey in faith exploring our Catholic story, culture, history and tradition, through a contemporary lens.

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS Our first whole school celebration is on **Thursday 13th February in the MFR at 9:00**. This is our Beginning of the Year Mass where we will gather together to ask God's blessing on our year and acknowledge the need for His love and guidance in our lives. Please join us.

RECONCILIATION Our students in Year 3 will be preparing to celebrate God's love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance (also known as Reconciliation) on **Wednesday 11th March, 6:30PM**. A reminder that our **Reconciliation Family Evening** is on **Tuesday 25th February, 6:30pm in the MFR**.



ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY will be prepared by the senior community on **Wednesday 26th February at 9:00am**. Staff and students will receive 'the ashes'; by being marked with a sign of the cross on their forehead. Our Foundation students will receive the ashes the next day.

A REMINDER We always warmly invite you to our liturgies and celebrations and it is so pleasing to see so many parents/ grandparents join us in these celebrations.

COMMUNITY MASS There is no Community mass this month but we will inform you of the upcoming masses soon.

Upcoming Events:

13th February- Beginning of Year Mass 9am in MFR
25th February- Reconciliation Family Evening in MFR 6:30pm
26th February- Ash Wednesday Liturgy 9am in MFR
16th - 20th March- Catholic Education Week

Miss Richelle Mendoza, Religious Education Leader



Child Safety and Volunteering at Corpus Christi



Corpus Christi is a Child Safe school. This means we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school.

It is true it takes a village to raise a child and we acknowledge the many benefits of having volunteers at our school, including assistance to teachers and student learning, and building a sense of community and connection for our students. We appreciate all our volunteers and value the assistance offered.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at school, including:

classroom helper P&F *listening to Children read* *community garden*
excursions & camps **library assistance** **uniform shop** **icy pole duty**
special lunch days & events sports carnivals other...

Volunteer requirements

Under current legislation, it is a requirement that all volunteers provide the following information:

- Display your current Working With Children Check card
- Read and sign our 'Volunteer Code of Conduct' (copies available from school office)
- Attend a "Parent Helper session" if you wish to help in the classroom

Whilst undertaking volunteer roles, you must also:

- Make the importance of Child Safety a priority at all times
- Minimise risk of child abuse
- Follow school procedures
- Respond to and report concerns to school staff

To apply for a Working With Children Check card, please go to: www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

Please bring your WWCC card to the school office so we can take a copy and record on our system.

We encourage all parents to obtain a Working With Children Check card so that you will be able to assist when the opportunity arises throughout your child's time at primary school.



www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au



INSIGHTS

Making new friends and staying in touch with old classmates



As a parent there is a great deal you can do to help your child adjust socially at the start of the school year. Here are some tips to help.

Encourage your child to be open to new friendships

An open, friendly attitude is a child or young person's best social asset. Students who open to forming new friendships are more likely to succeed than those who seek solitude, who are critical and who limit themselves to just one or two familiar faces. Encourage your child or young person to seek out new friendships, even though they may feel uncomfortable or strange at first.

Encourage healthy relationships

Do all you can to encourage healthy relationships based on respect and common courtesy. Generally, when a relationship is healthy a child feels safe, valued and able to speak up. Unhealthy relationships, such as cliques, are restrictive, one-sided and are full of gossip and criticism.

Encourage inclusiveness

Studies have shown inclusiveness to be one of the prime social skills shared by socially successful students. Encourage your child or young person to include others in games, conversations, team activities and other group activities. Inclusiveness is not just a wonderful friendship skill, it's strong leadership attribute as well.

Encourage friendships with both genders

If you are in a co-education environment encourage your child to form friendships with both boys and girls. This is particularly valid if your child has siblings of their own gender, or don't have siblings. It's through these early relationships that we gain the confidence to mix with different genders in the later years. Forming friends across genders helps to break down the mystique that sometimes forms, when a child has little contact with the 'other' gender.

Stay in touch with former classmates and school friends

Encourage your child to maintain friendships with former classmates and groups outside of school as this helps to insulate against unfriendly behaviour that they may experience with their close social circle.

parenting*ideas

Provide social scripts

Your child may benefit from being provided with some social scripts that they can use in common social situations such as meeting a new friend, joining in a game or asking someone else for help. Boys, in particular, can benefit when given the words to use in a variety of different social situations.

Forming new friendships can take time

Meeting new students and forming new friendships can be anxiety-inducing. If this is the case for your child, then it helps to acknowledge their feelings of discomfort, but also remind them that these feelings will pass. As well discuss the fact that feeling comfortable with new friends often takes time, particularly if your child by nature is reserved or slow to warm up in social situations.

Helping kids work through friendships can be tricky for a parent as you don't have a great deal of control over what happens at school. However, with empathy, patience, encouragement and a supportive attitude you can do a great deal to help your child make a smooth social transition.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.