



St Kevin's Catholic Primary School

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SCHOOL
Newsletter

4/06/2020

Term 2, Week 6 2020

Newsletter No. 18

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear St Kevin's families,

Over the last few weeks I have had the pleasure of meeting many of our new Kindergarten families for 2021. At the interviews, I offer parents a warm welcome and a commitment from our school and faith community to accompany them and their children on their journey of faith and learning here at St Kevin's. At the same time, we seek a commitment from them to be supportive and active participants of the St Kevin's community. There will be opportunities to meet our new students as the year progresses.

To keep the body in good health is a duty... otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear.

~Buddha

Enjoy the week ahead,

Lorraine Vincent – Principal

Stem Fair

Please see the [attached letter](#) from Mrs. Lewis asking for Parent Experts to come forward and provide much needed expertise for our students in Year 5 and Year 6 as they work on their STEM projects.

Staff Development Day

Please be advised that Bishop Anthony and Danny Casey, Interim Director, have determined that **Friday, July 3** will be a Diocesan wide Staff Development Day for all Catholic schools. Please note this day in your diaries, the school will be closed on this day.

Uniforms

All students are now wearing the winter school uniform. Parents, please assist by ensuring the correct uniform guidelines are followed.

Boys: Winter Uniform

- Socks – navy
- Long pants
- Long sleeve shirt and tie
- Black leather shoes

Sports Uniform

- Track suit pants and sports shirt
- Sports shoes – predominantly white, no colours

Girls: Winter Uniform

- Socks – knee length **navy socks or navy tights**...no leggings
- Tunic, long sleeve blouse and tab-tie
- Black leather shoes

Sports Uniform

- Track suit pants/skort and sports shirt
- Sports shoes – predominantly white, no colours

Earrings: small studs

Hair ties/ribbons: navy

Student Absences

Please be on time to school every day...

Partial absences = missed learning. Let your children know that every day counts by recognizing punctuality, with good and improved attendance.

Religious Education

St Kevin's Feast Day

Yesterday we celebrated the feast day of our Patron Saint, St Kevin. The mission leaders along with other students from years 5 & 6 led our classes in an intimate liturgy. Afterwards the students engaged in some fun activities to celebrate the life of St Kevin (you can check out the Year 5 & 6 artworks on the schools noticeboard). The students also enjoyed a delicious sausage sizzle lunch with their friends.



Vinnies Winter Appeal

Thank you for your support during this time. We are almost bursting at the seams with supplies for our local Vinnies team.

If you are yet to make your donation, you are not too late. We will be collecting till the end of next week (week 7).

A graphic with the text "Vinnies changes lives everyday." in white on a blue background. The background features a collage of diverse people's faces.

Parents & Friends Canteen

The canteen is open for lunch on Monday's for sushi & yummy dumplings!!

Note: The canteen is not open at recess.

All orders must be placed via Qkr!

FREE Online Parent Workshop with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Raising Resilient Kids in the Coronavirus Era
11 June 7.00 - 8.00pm

The spread of the Coronavirus has turned life upside down, almost overnight, for millions of people around the world. Being a young person is complicated even without a global pandemic in the mix, and many adults are struggling to navigate the new reality of remote schoolwork, lots of family time, and a ton of uncertainty about what happens next. This webinar offers practical, evidence-based strategies on what to say and what to do in these challenging times. It also includes information on managing remote learning and self-care.

Suitable for: Parents, grandparents and adult carers of younger children. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/raising-resilient-kids-in-the-coronavirus-era-w-dr-michael-carr-gregg-tickets-106864933894>

For further information contact Andrew – amarselos@ryde.nsw.gov.au or Hayley – hrose@lanecove.nsw.gov.au

The Missing Shoe: Deepening God's Life in Me

By
Gretchen Crowder



"Where is my stupid shoe?" I shouted at my bewildered husband.

That question burst out of my mouth far more loudly than intended on a Wednesday morning in early March. I slept through two alarms that morning and had only woken up maybe 20 minutes before the rest of my family. In other words, I was late before I started. I rushed through making breakfast, getting backpacks ready, and organizing what I needed for work. Still, all things considered, I got dressed pretty fast. I even managed to get my makeup on and my hair done. The kids actually got to the car and buckled in without arguing, right on time. But just as I was going to get in the car myself, I couldn't find my shoe.

Read full article below

IMPORTANT REMINDERS






Do you have access to the Compass Parent Portal?

[Compass Guide for Parents](#)

Our school management system is available via Phone/Tablet App and web browser. Please note some functions are easier to access through the web browser <https://schools.compass.education>.

- Add Attendance Notes
- Access Student Academic Reports
- Update Family Details
- Receive School push notifications

Compass Attendance Note	
Late Arrival or Early Pick Up	 <p>DO NOT ENTER AN ATTENDANCE NOTE Parents must sign students in at the school office using the Compass Kiosk. <i>This includes late arrivals after 8:55am</i></p>
Whole Day Absence/s	 <p>ENTER AN ATTENDANCE NOTE Child is sick (Medical –Illness, may require a doctor’s certificate) Child is attending a medical appointment (Medical-Appointment) Family Holiday (Holiday – Principal’s discretion) Other Explained absence - (Principal’s discretion)</p>
Extended Leave	 <p>ENTER AN ATTENDANCE NOTE Application form to the principal. To be completed by parent/caregiver for leave of 10 or more days for the purpose of travel within Australia and/or overseas.</p>

Student Attendance Procedures

Student attendance is reviewed on a regular basis. The Assistant Principal and Principal will follow up any periods of unexplained absence.

Mobile Phones and Wearable Technology (Smart Watches)

We are aware that some students in older grades need to bring a mobile phone to school for safety purposes (e.g. walking to and from school independently). Some students across the school also have wearable technology such as Smart Watches with Bluetooth/internet/communication/photo and video capability

We have reviewed our Student Mobile Phone policy (including wearable technology), to ensure appropriate use and safety for all students at St Kevin’s.

New permission notes have been sent home with Year 5 and 6 students today. If your child needs a mobile phone at school please return the permission form to Mrs Vincent **ASAP**.

Please note ...

Mobile Phones

- If students in older grades need to bring a mobile phone to school for safety purposes, parents must complete the permission form and return to Mrs Vincent.
- All mobile phones will be given to the classroom teacher at the beginning of the day and returned at the end of the day.
- Students are not to use their phone during the school day. Any contact to or from parents must be through the school office.



Wearable Technology – Smart Watches

- Wearable technology (smart watches that can send and receive messages, capture video and photos) are discouraged.
- However, if deemed necessary for safety reasons, parents must complete the permission form and return to Mrs Vincent.
- The wearable technology will be given to the classroom teacher at the beginning of the day and returned at the end of the day.
- Students are not to use their phone during the school day. Any contact to or from parents must be through the school office.
- ***This does not apply to fitness trackers that do not send or receive messages.***



WEEK 6

Live Life Well @ School

THE POWER OF MINDFULNESS



Mindfulness is the simple practice of bringing your attention to the present moment. It has been shown to help promote happiness and relieve stress in children.

Introduce mindfulness to your child with video story books like:

- Mop Rides the Waves of Life:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5H-tC11Mk
- How mindfulness empowers us:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzKryaN44ss
- Mindful Ozzy Introduces Mindfulness:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=0k_f7R1jtdA



Developed by Northern Sydney Local Health District

Live Life Well @ School

LET'S GET ACTIVE AT HOME



NSW Department of Education has a range of fun video episodes, linked to the PDHPE syllabus, called

GetActive@Home

Support your child to be active at home and give these action packed sessions a go.

Search 'GetActive@Home' at:

www.education.nsw.gov.au

For health benefits, children aged 5-12 years need at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day. Variety is important!



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“Unbelievable!” I shouted upwards to God. “Today is a busy morning! I am leading presentations all day, and I have to be on time to prepare them! Where in the world is my shoe?”—as if God would miraculously find it for me, especially after I yelled.

I searched high and low, under beds and behind dressers. I went to the car and then back into the house, probably slamming a few doors as I went. I know, *it's just a shoe!* And yes, I had several other pairs I easily could have grabbed. But at that moment, that shoe seemed like the biggest problem in the world.

And then, just as I was at the height of my frantic search, my phone buzzed. “Your child's school is cancelled today due to the coronavirus. More information to follow.”

Suddenly, the shoe didn't matter anymore. Suddenly, I had no idea what to do or what to feel. In that instant, everything changed.

That moment was almost two months ago now, but I think back to it often. In the [First Principle and Foundation](#), St. Ignatius had warned me about the shoe. He told me not to let any created thing get in the way of developing my relationship with God. And yet, I had. In fact, the shoe and many created things like it had gotten in the way for a very long time.

If I have learned anything in these last two months, I hope it is this: Ignatius was right. "Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and I choose what better leads to God's deepening his life in me" ([Fleming translation](#)).

And that is definitely not getting frantic about a missing shoe.

Instead, deepening God's life in me means:

- Spending quality time with my children, who are a daily sign of God's presence in my life;
- Taking some time in prayer with God before I get out of bed in the morning, asking for God's grace before my feet hit the floor;
- Sitting one-on-one with my first-grader and witnessing his eyes light up when he learns something new; and
- Having more compassion for myself and others as we navigate this strange new world.

Above all, it means remembering that details like lost shoes will work themselves out if I place God first and trust in God's plan for me.