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# St Andrews Christian College Newsletter 2023

Issue 5 · 13 Aug 2021

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



## *Award for St Andrews Christian College*

*It was such a delight and honour for the College to be recognised as a **School that Excels** as reported in *The Age*. St Andrews Christian College won the most improved independent school over the past 10 years in Melbourne East. This is based on VCE results. **Congratulations and well done to all the staff!***

## *Greetings Friends!*

At each lockdown I have observed the mental health of many in our community deteriorate.

We keep hearing people say that “we are all in this together.” COVID affects us all in some way, but in different ways. Sharon Rowland (parent & Board member) told staff that we are all in the same storm, but in different boats. I love this analogy.

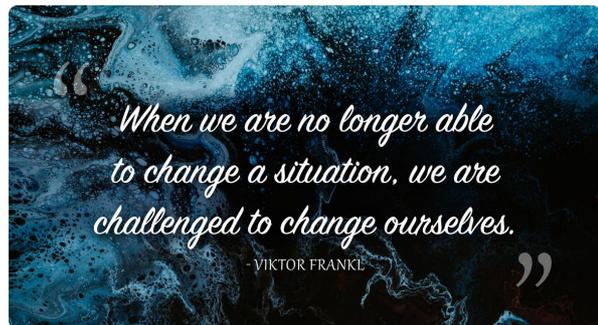
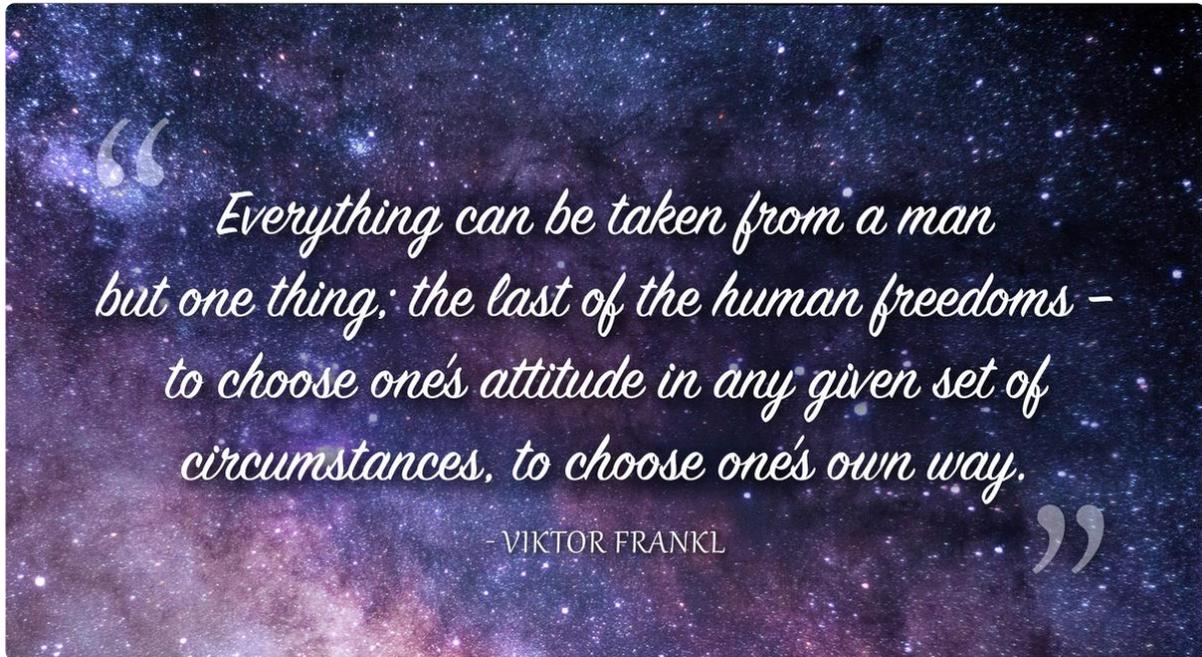
We will survive this storm of COVID, and we can do it when we allow God to steer our boats; when we set our compass on doing His will not ours; when we go beyond our own boat to help others battling the storm and take our eyes off ourselves.

Viktor Frankl was an Austrian Professor, Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist. He was persecuted as a Jew with his family in Nazi concentration camps and was one of the few in his family to survive. Whilst in concentration camps during World War II including Auschwitz, he witnessed the worst of the worst of humankind.

Frankl wrote 39 books and published many papers, but his most well-known book (written in 1946) was “*Man’s Search for Meaning*” which describes his experience as a prisoner in the concentration camps. In the concentration camps, Frankl discovered that

those who had something they believed in or to live for, were the ones who survived. The prisoners that lost hope and had no meaning to live for, didn't live very long.

Frankl states:



Much of this attitude for Frankl was going beyond self, even in the midst of suffering. Putting others first; recognising their potential and helping them reach that potential. When you feel that your life lacks meaning, find someone you can elevate to make their life a little better. When you are busy helping others, you forget yourself in the process.

Frankl writes about suffering and that it ceases to be suffering the moment you find a use for it for the future. Midst suffering, our values and faith can be strengthened, and we can be an example to others. Like Nelson Mandela when thrown into prison, he used his suffering to inspire his nation to forgive each other, work together and rebuild South Africa. For Mandela, his suffering had a purpose.

We remember how David was persecuted and had to go into hiding from Saul. David was depressed and desperate. Yet despite his circumstances, he chose to have hope in the Lord.

*“I say to God my Rock, why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?” My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, where is your God?”*

*Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.” Psalm 42:9 – 11 (NIV)*

*But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.*

*We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.*

*In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:18 – 22 (NIV)*

**We always have a choice in how to respond in a situation and what our attitude will be.**

**We need to lift our eyes from our current circumstances and find hope.**

Paul wrote to the Romans who were in a tough spot:

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13*

In an article entitled “*Bring him Home*” (Sunday Age, August 8th 2021) there was an edited extract from the book “*A Week in September*” by Peter Rees and Sue Langford. The story is about a woman, Margery, who waited for more than four years for her husband to return from the war.

The symbol of hope for Marge and her husband Scott was the gate to their weatherboard bungalow. The article states that;

*“Through letters, they agreed that the gate was always to be left open, like the proverbial light in the window. For Scott, that image never dimmed: “Before I go to sleep each night, I look at all our photos and my favourite snap, you holding the gate open for me. You are looking at me as I write, still with the gate open. I like the snap best ‘cause it is so natural, and one of these days you are going to close the gate behind me.”*

What is the one small thing you can do that can help you have hope?

- Do something for someone else each day?
- Read a Psalm each day?
- Memorise a scripture verse to fall back on each day?
- Send an encouraging message to someone each day?
- Put up photos of people you miss but someday hope to see?

*Do something that reminds you that in all circumstances there is hope.*

Let's try and lift our eyes from our own circumstances and find hope in our Lord. Together, let's be the light for Jesus to each other, to our students and families.

Blessings,

*Catriona Wansbrough*





# NEWS

## St Andrews a Standout in the East

*The Age* newspaper has awarded St Andrews Christian College the 'Best School in the East' for 2021. This award is a part of The Age's annual Victorian 'Schools that Excel' feature.



Winning schools are determined by analysing 10 years of historical data to ascertain each school's level of sustained improvement. The top performing school in each of the four regions: North, South, East and West is awarded the 'Best School' for their particular region.

St Andrews Christian College is delighted to receive this award but more importantly it is recognition of the hard work and commitment of our teachers, students and our community at large over many years. Well done everyone!

# Discover a decade of results for your school

The annual series applauds sustained growth, write Craig Butt and Adam Carey.

Welcome to the third edition of Schools that Excel, an annual series in which The Age celebrates schools that achieve outstanding improvement in their VCE results. The Age also didn't miss this year's awards. It initially named and congratulated the VCE class of 2020, who missed out much as it was in the midst of learning with permission, but it did seem that to rank schools' raw results against each other gives the government's impact was sustained.



But last year the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority ranked schools and schools that were awarded would suffer a disadvantage in their VCE results, applying a process that had the intention of disadvantage.

The Age has shown to the Schools that Excel series in 2021 because it is an opportunity to recognize those that have shown sustained improvement over the past 10 years, as well as celebrating schools' resilience during 2020.

**RECOGNISING IMPROVEMENT**  
The Schools that Excel accolade is based on the Victorian government, independent and Catholic schools. The Age has gathered VCE results data since 2011 to ensure every secondary school in the state is included in its analysis. The dashboard Type in the name of your school and find how it fared over the past decade, what its graduates do after finishing and more.

**WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM INACTIVES?**  
With research information about the state of our secondary education in one place, the dashboard helps you search the school in your area and could help you see how it stacks up for your own school.

**WHAT DOES THE DASHBOARD SHOW?**  
The dashboard shows the percentage of the school's VCE subject scores that were among the best in the state. There are scores of all subjects, which are divided into three groups: all VCE subjects, VCE subject, and VCE subject. Competitor schools show the percentage of students in VCE, VCE and VCE over the past five years, as well as the satisfactory completion rates over the past five years.

**Student pathways** show what 2020 VCE graduates were doing midway through last year - whether they were in further study, work or an apprenticeship or graduate program. This panel does not show up a high percentage of a school's VCE graduates if they complete the survey.

**School awards** shows the 10 highest performing schools in the state having shown the best improvement in their results over the past decade. It also shows the 10 lowest performing schools in the state.

**WHICH SCHOOLS ARE IN THE DASHBOARD?**  
The dashboard includes more than 200 Victorian schools that offer VCE, VET or VETAL programs in 2021. Unfortunately, insufficient data, schools that do not offer the International Baccalaureate and which education institutions do not share aggregate data.

**HOW WERE THE AWARDS DECIDED?**  
The government's Schools that Excel accolade is based on the Victorian government, independent and Catholic schools. The Age has gathered VCE results data since 2011 to ensure every secondary school in the state is included in its analysis. The dashboard Type in the name of your school and find how it fared over the past decade, what its graduates do after finishing and more.

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## St Andrews shines by exhorting students to make a difference

ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE Eastern Melbourne (The government)

**Maddeline Heffernan**  
St Andrews Christian College encourages its students to be "MAJ" - to Make A Difference.

The prep to year 12 students have come a long way since it moved from its original location in Western South Hoppers. It has nearly doubled in size, to about 200 students, and has closed its waiting list.

Principal Carina Hannah Collis and staff members worked a school with Christian values and a high academic standard. "Christ is the reason for the school's success," she said.

"We could just be another good school. In fact, all schools have great things going on, we have to see it."

But the reason we do it, we do it because we want to highlight those who make a difference in the world.

because of God." At St Andrews, every class does community service such as raising money for Christian charity, St Andrew's Home and students have gone on "mission service" excursions such as Cumbria and Vanuatu.

**'Our teachers are so invested in you.'**  
Hannah Collis, school captain

Students were needed during 2020 when schools closed about two weeks of remote learning during Victoria's first and second waves of coronavirus outbreaks. To boost spirits, teachers sent out handwritten cards to students telling them they were missed.

Year 12 students were rewarded with excellent results. The school's median mark score rose to 80 for the first time, and rose to 85 per cent of

scores were above 80. That rise, from 70 in 2019, will have been led by The Age to make St Andrews Christian College the 2021 Schools that Excel award for Melbourne's east.

Hannah Collis and Harry Bookout, 18-year-old student, the school's first under-18 student, were named in the 2021 Schools that Excel award. Hannah said she was welcomed with open arms when she joined in year 8. "They're so kind, and because we were such a small year our teachers are invested in you. The development academically has always only been amazing."

She said St Andrews' caring students that they had a "responsibility both during school and once we graduate to make a positive impact and contribute to our community as the new adults, all in the name of Christ. The school will be proud to have students who will study and teachers."

## Melba College hits the high notes

MELBA COLLEGE Eastern Melbourne (state)

**Maddeline Heffernan**  
Aaron Sykes believes in quality public education and a resilient focus on the things that matter in schools.

By 1916, in particular at Melba College, a highly decorated school in Melbourne's inner-city area.

Melba has been in 2021 the winner of the Victorian and

Melba College students and teachers celebrate their award.



# Primary Christmas Event

*Follow the Star – Carols and Family Event*

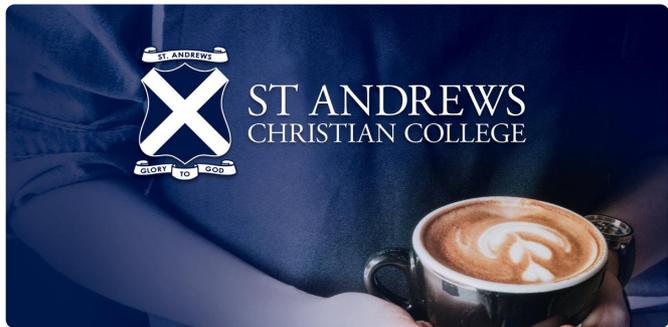
We are so excited to announce our Primary Christmas Event, to be held on **Friday 26th November, 2021**. More details to come soon, but for now... **SAVE THE DATE!**



College Café Open for Business!

# Taste 'n See

COLLEGE CAFE



We are excited to have had our new College Café – *Taste 'N See* - commence operating from Monday 2nd August and hope that it will return once again as lockdown ends and on-site learning resumes.

*Taste 'N See* opens for service from 8:00am daily during the school week. In the initial stages there will be limited access to who can purchase from *Taste 'N See*. Currently only the groups listed below within our College community are able to purchase from *Taste 'N See*.

<b>Parents/Guardians:</b>	Before School until 9:30am
<b>Year 11 &amp; 12 Students:</b>	Before School and Lunchtime
<b>Staff:</b>	Anytime

In addition to serving hot drinks the menu will include a rotation of:

- Muffins & Banana Bread
- Biscuits & Slices
- Toasties
- Yogurt Cups
- Soups



Please note that *Taste 'N See* operates on a non-cash basis.

We are currently working on an opportunity for Year 10 students to be involved in a service program through *Taste 'N See*. In addition, we are looking at the possibility for parents to 'work off' Parent Participation hours by assisting at *Taste 'N See*. We look forward to *Taste 'N See* becoming a great addition to the College facilities.

*Darren Waterworth*

*Business Manager*

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## May 2021 Colouring Competition Winner

*It's my pleasure to announce Junru Teng as the winner of the May 2021 Colouring Competition!*



**Primary School House** **MAY2021**  
**Colouring Competition**

**Name:** Junru Teng      **Class:** 4V      **House:** Barton

Please hand in your entry to Mrs Darlison or your homeroom teacher by Tuesday the 9th of June for a chance to win lollies, an art pack and house points!

Design by Art Captain, Sophia Tran

Junru submitted an incredible entry, full of bright colours and life. It was amazing how she really embraced the materials and created a beautiful artwork. Congratulations Junru! The colouring competition's prize will be awaiting collection from the office reception when we return to face-to-face learning at the College.

I would also like to congratulate the countless, talented students who participated on their stunning entries, and encourage them to participate in the upcoming August 2021 Colouring Competition!

**Congratulations Barton - you just received 100 House Points!**

Please print off the AUGUST COLOURING PAGE which is attached here to enter our next competition and return it to Mrs Heading's pigeon hole at Reception by the end of August.

 August CC 2021.jpeg

*Sophia Tran*

*St Andrews Christian College 2021 Visual Art Captain*

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## Parent/Staff Prayer Evenings via ZOOM



St Andrews weekly Zoom Prayer Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings from 8:00pm – 8:30pm. The next one will be on Tuesday 17th August. All are invited to this time of prayer. We are greatly blessed at St Andrews to have the opportunity to gather together for prayer.

It is always a real blessing and encouragement to remind ourselves of the goodness of our Lord in our own lives and in the life of the College. If you cannot make the prayer time, please put aside time to pray for St Andrews Christian College.

Any further queries can be directed to Suzy Song at the School Office.

*Suzy Song*

*The St Andrews Prayer Group*

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## Enrolments for 2022

We have commenced our planning for 2022 and confirming places for new students to start in Term 1, 2022. Unless we have been advised, we are assuming that all current students will be returning to the College in 2022.



**If a student is not returning to the College, in line with the enrolment policy, one term's notice in writing is required. If the notice is not received on time, one term's tuition fees in lieu of notice will be charged.** This requirement is clearly noted in the Enrolment Agreement Form which all parents/guardians signed when their child(ren) was enrolled.

**To assist our planning please advise the College by Friday 17th September 2021 if a student is not returning to the College in 2022.** The notice should be addressed to the College Registrar and can be sent via email to [registrar@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@standrews.vic.edu.au). It will be helpful to receive this notice as soon as possible as it will allow us to offer any vacant places to students on our waiting lists.

*If there are siblings of current students wanting to enrol at the College, it is important that parents submit an Application for Admission two years prior to the planned year of entry. This allows the College to provide a priority place for siblings of current students. Siblings are not guaranteed a place if the Application for Admission is late. Late applicants will be placed onto the waiting list.*

Please do not hesitate to speak with the Registrar, Mrs Suzy Song (8847 8309) if you have any concerns regarding this information or if you need clarification in any way.

***Darren Waterworth***  
*Business Manager*

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## Change of Term 2 & 3 Dates for 2022

Term 2, 2022 will finish on Thursday 23rd June. Friday 24th June will be a Curriculum Day for staff. Term 3 will commence on Thursday 14th July, 2022 and not Monday 18th July as previously advertised. Staff will start back at school from Monday 11th July and will be undertaking various Professional Development programs.

- **Term 1 - Monday 31st January\* – Friday 8th April**  
\*Preps begin 2022 - Tuesday 1st February, 2022
- **Term 2 - Wednesday 27th April – Thursday 23rd June**
- **Term 3 - Thursday 14th July – Friday 16th Sept**
- **Term 4 - Monday 3rd Oct – Tuesday 6th December**



***Catriona Wansbrough***

*Principal*

## School Crossing – Tyner Road

The Knox Council has asked that we communicate to the College Community requesting that vehicles do not in any way obstruct the school crossing in Tyner Road. It has been observed that vehicles have been obstructing the crossing, and on occasions vehicles have stopped in the middle of the crossing. Your cooperation and understanding would be appreciated. Please note that Council parking officers regularly attend the area and will issue penalty notices if vehicles violate traffic rules.



***Darren Waterworth***

*Business Manager*

# Outside School Hours Care Newsletter

 oshc branches July 2021 .pdf



## Parenting Ideas

For access to great ideas and articles to help you in your parenting journey, explore the Parenting Ideas website. [Click here](#)

Two of the latest articles which may be of interest are included below:

 Parenting Ideas Insights - Riding the COVID waves.pdf

 Parenting Ideas Insights - Make time for down-time.pdf

Parenting Ideas are also hosting a series of Webinars with highly credentialed parenting experts during 2021. These webinars can be attended free of charge (regular value \$39) by using a Webinar Voucher which will be made available via the College Newsletter in the weeks leading up to the event. Mark your diaries for the next events as follows:

September 8th 8:00 pm – Taming digital distractions.

November 10th 8:00 pm – Using birth order knowledge for a parenting edge.

*Michael Swanborough*

*Head of Learning and Teaching*

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***\*NEW DATE \*: Monday 4th October 2021***



## CyberSafety - Parent Information Night

Due to the current lockdown, we have postponed this Parent Information Night to ***Monday 4th October at 7:30pm.***

We have invited Susan McLean, author of “Sexts, Texts and Selfies” and an expert on Cyber Safety to speak at our College. Susan is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of cyber safety and was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years. Widely known as the ‘cyber cop’ she was the first Victoria Police Officer appointed to a position involving cyber safety and young people.



*Established in March 2007, Cyber Safety Solutions has grown to be the most highly respected and in demand cybersafety consultancy in Australia.*

Please keep the NEW DATE free!

***Catriona Wansbrough***

*Principal*

## Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) - The Parents Website

The Parents Website run by ISV serves as a gauge that measures the ebb and flow of the COVID-19 pandemic. When schools are forced into remote learning, and parents have to work from home, traffic to the website surges.

The site, which provides an expertly-selected range of news, features and resources for parents on raising and educating children, clearly fills a need. This is especially the case at a time when parents are under extraordinary pressure. It offers them news they can use as they support their children who are facing particular pressures of their own.

Items on the site specifically related to the impact of COVID include an article with advice for parents on supporting their children when they're learning from home; another has practical tips on dealing with the family struggles in stay-at-home lives.

A popular resource, created last year and updated since, is an extensive list of fun and educational activities for kids at home, drawing on resources from around the world.

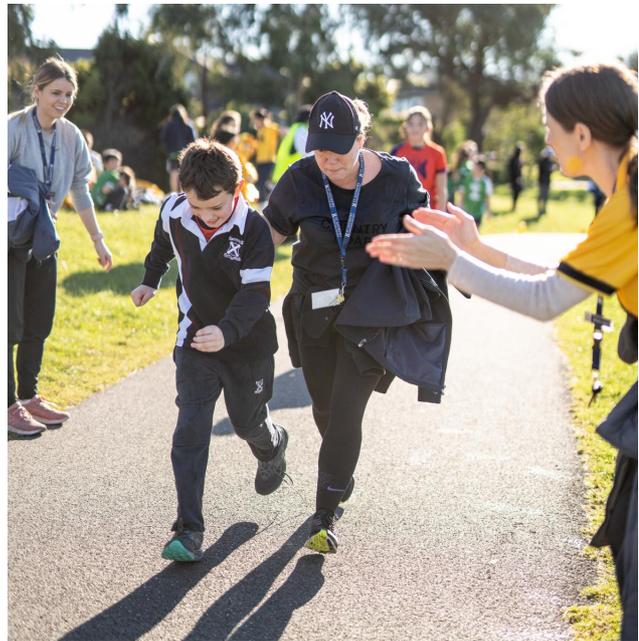
The Parents Website maintains a broad focus, well beyond the pandemic. Recent topics include a discussion on the expectations of manhood placed on boys and their fathers, and academic research on the impact of screen time on the mental health of children.



This is a free resource, open to everyone, which provides practical reassurance in a tough time.

***Michelle Green***

*Chief Executive*



# BE ENCOURAGED

## Thank You St Andrews Community

St Andrews Christian College would like to give thanks to God for our wonderful community and acknowledge the outstanding efforts of everyone during the rollercoaster of lockdowns we've had in Term 3 and 2021 so far. We've had more days at home this term than at school.



We see:

- the parents and guardians juggling their own work and lives while facilitating their children's school work from home
- the resourcefulness and resilience of our students bending back and forth between on campus and online learning environments
- the adaptability of our teaching staff members being in the classroom one day and on Zoom the next and
- the flexibility and contribution of the admin and support staff who maintain the operational life of our College
- and the strength and wisdom of our Principal, ELT and Board to guide and steer the College through the ever changing nature of education during a pandemic.

We thank God for each and every one of you and THANK YOU for partnering in this journey alongside us, supporting one another. Thank you for the cards and notes of encouragement. Thank you for all you do to keep St Andrews Christian College moving forward and for the Shalom community it is.

We are praying for you and your families and hope that you know God's presence and sustenance in your life today. May you be encouraged to keep going and to keep leaning into God.

Dear St Andrews Christian College,  
 We are so blessed to have you!  
 We pray for God's wisdom, ~~pro~~  
 protection and strength on every  
 one of us!  
 Thank you for your hard  
 work as always especially  
 at this very challenging time!  
 May God bless you  
 Abundantly!



*Each morning the St Andrews Staff gather together to hear a devotion and pray for the day before us, the College happenings, the students, and community. This week our new Secondary school teacher Mr Matthew Adamek shared with the staff an encouraging message of God's working in our lives. We pray*

*that by sharing it here you might also be blessed and encouraged.*

## The Widow's Olive Oil

I'd like to share one of my favourite passages. It's only recently become a favourite of mine. On New Years Day this year, God put this on my heart, and it's held me in really good stead throughout this year. It's the story of Elisha and the Oil Jars.

*The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the Lord. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."*

*Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?"*

*"Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil."*

*Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbours for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."*

*She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one."*

*But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing.*

*She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts.*

*You and your sons can live on what is left." 2 Kings 4:1-7*

Here we see a woman whose husband has just died and owes a large debt she cannot pay. She comes to Elisha for help and Elisha instructs her to go to her neighbours and borrow all of their empty jars, come back to her house and begin filling the empty jars with the oil that she already had. When she does this, she fills up all the jars, until every single jar was filled.

I want to hopefully speak to those of you who feel like they're struggling. I want to share a reflection of my day on Thursday last week when we went into lockdown. I woke up that morning not really knowing that there was a chance we'd be heading into lockdown. I went to my favourite breakfast place in the morning in preparation for a full day of parent/teacher meetings! I got to school, ready to rumble and ready to tell parents about how awesome their kids are. My jar was full! I was ready to go!

However, throughout the day, the whisper between meetings got more speculative. The news articles became more certain. It's alright Matt, it's all good. You stay focused big guy! You got meetings to go to! And then... the P.A. system turned on. The announcement was made, and lockdown was confirmed. I finished up the meeting I was in and let the reality of another lockdown settle in. I took a moment, I let some tears

drop, I gathered my thoughts as I prepared for yet again another lockdown. *And it was in that exact moment that I felt like my oil jar was completely empty.* How does that happen? How do you start the day with the oil jar full, and half way through be completely empty? Right now I'd say we're all feeling that our oil jar is pretty low.

Being a teacher is tough! In my young naïve-ness of being a graduate teacher, I am learning that this is a really difficult job. I can come to school each day and begin homeroom and encourage students "What's going on? Woo let's get excited!" but the truth is, I don't feel like that everyday because I'm coming to school with an empty oil jar.

The reality is that there are days that we're going to come to school and say, God... I have nothing to give, all I have... is this tiny bit of oil. It's in that exact moment that God says to us *"That's exactly where I need you."* And He says that to us is because, it's not about the amount of oil that we have, it's about our God who has the ability to multiply through his amazing power.

*It is not our emptiness, but our fulness which can hinder the outgoings of free grace. While there is one soul conscious of sin and eager for pardon, grace will flow; yea, while there is one heart weary of indifference and anxious to be wounded, grace will flow. – Charles Spurgeon*

What we deem as a little amount of oil, God sees as a dam bursting at the seams. God is in the business of multiplication. All that an empty oil jar is, is simply more room to Him. The greatest thing about being a follower of Jesus is that when I have my moments like last Thursday where I say God I'm empty and I've got nothing to give, He's calling us through faith to pour what we have.



Pour it out on our students, pour it on our colleagues, on our families, on our hopes and dreams, on our anxieties, on our doubts and on our faith. Pour out what we have, that in Faith, God will multiply.

So if you're thinking, God I've got nothing to give, may you find hope in knowing that this is the best place to be! Because it means more room for God to fill and multiply our oil into the fruit of the kingdom of God.

There's another element that I want you to consider in this story. We see the woman leaning on 2 types of community here. She comes to Elisha for help – she leans on him. But where did she get her extra jars from? She got them from her neighbours. Her community. Her friends. She lent on others and they supported her.

Who knows how much of an impact her neighbours knew they were having on her by lending her an empty oil jar that day. If one of your neighbours knocked on your door and asked you for a jar, you probably wouldn't think twice about the effect that it could have. But as I mentioned we serve a God that is in the business of multiplying. My challenge for us is to consider what little thing we can do, to allow God to multiply in the form of pouring oil into someone else's jar. Allow God to multiply the oil that you have today.

*Matthew Adamek*

*Secondary School Teacher*

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## Riding the 'Coronacoaster'

*Wellbeing Tips from Dr Michael Carr-Gregg PHD & Sharon Witt*

Last night I 'attended' the 'Riding the Coronacoaster - How Families Can Manage Lockdown 6.0', with Psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg & Sharon Witt (Christian educator). Here are some insights



for families which I found so helpful and really practical. I pray that you and your family remain well as we support each other through this challenging time.

### *Number One Rule*

Pay attention to what is going on in the house! Make time to notice how your child may be changing through this time of uncertainty, where fear and anxiety are very common. Remember, our kids need connection more than correction - they need our time.

[Important things that adolescents need right now but can't get:](#)

- rites of passage (formals, events, birthday parties)
- social connection with peers (just hanging out) to help them establish a sense of self
- distance from parents and growing independence
- acquisition of skills for future economic independence

Look for common emotions & behaviours of young children & adolescents suffering fear & anxiety:

- moodiness, shutdown, self-isolation, outbursts, silence, over eating, under eating, excessive social media use, lots of negative self-talk.

What can Parents do:

- Focus on what you can control
- Keep the lines of communication open
- Answer all their questions as well as you can, talking things through can help you feel calmer
- Take action - get them outside, playing games, sit and 'chill' watching a family movie. Should they go to the local park and 'meet up' with friend - absolutely! Socially distanced, mask wearing, sanitised fun!
- Use 'Vitamin N' the word NO. Despite being more flexible and offering grace is important, the right balance needs to be struck with teenagers. If they are spending all their time alone, shut in their rooms or on devices.. YOU are their parent and need to help them stay connected to the family and others. YOU have the WIFI password. YOU need to help them establish good boundaries with kindness and love.
- Keep as many regular routines as possible
- Above all, parents need to manage their own state of mind
- Tell the kids that *they* are not their thoughts, rather they can be the observer of their thoughts. Remember the risky, unhelpful, unrealistic 'trains of thought' that arrive at the station of your mind - you can choose to get on or let them go past (God's Word reminds us to 'take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ!'). Our minds hate uncertainty and often fill in the gaps with 'what if' stories - but focussing our minds on God's truth is essential.
- Have scriptures around the home, write notes of encouragement to your child. Help them to identify how they are thinking.

- Recognise the developmental side of things - the adolescent brain has not fully developed 'reasoning' skill
- Set limits and boundaries
- Create fun new family rituals
- Display kindness
- Foster empathy

### Remain Optimistic:

- 98% of people recover from Covid-19
- Children are infected less often
- Response to future pandemics is influenced by all we are learning now

"The single greatest predictor of wellbeing is having a rich repertoire of friends" Professor Martin Milligan's Tips for Teenagers:

- Safe social media use is ok for connection
- Check in regularly to see how they are doing
- Give them space
- Encourage them to have a routine
- Make sure they know support lines they can use to talk to someone
- KIDS HELP LINE 1800 55 1800

I hope this has been helpful!

Please don't hesitate in contacting your child's Homeroom or Subject teacher if you are concerned about their learning. Mr Warwick Grant (Chaplain) and myself (Secondary Wellbeing Coordinator) are a source of support to your child too!

God Bless,

***Marina Heading***

*Secondary Wellbeing Coordinator*

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**The Joy of the Lord is Your Strength**

There's no denying that the announcement of a 6th lockdown for our state of Victoria, was hard hitting news for us all.

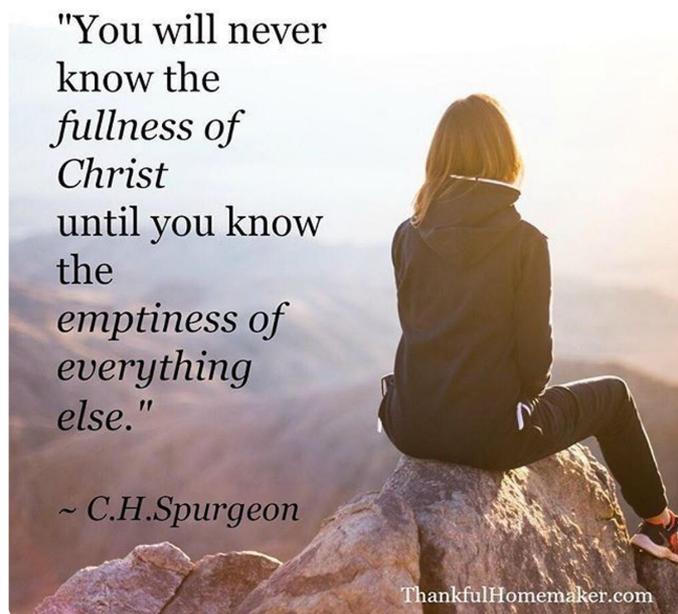
Living through this pandemic has been tough. We are tired; we are weary; we long for the things we cannot do; a break and quality time with the ones we miss.

When feeling this discouraged it is hard to feel any Joy in our day. We tend focus on what we lack and allow the discontent and uncertainty to take a stronghold in our lives.

As Christians we know that when we put Christ first, we will find hope. This is easier said than done as we know our human nature wants to put our earthly desires first, the things we long for in lockdowns. It takes effort to bring Christ to the forefront of our lives. Effort we may be feeling is totally depleted by this 6th lockdown.

When you are feeling like there's nothing joyous about your day, pause and take time to cry out to God and praise Him for the hope and strength He provides when our tank is empty.

The strength and hope that comes from our knowledge that God has a plan for us, that tomorrow will be better. Take your troubles to the Lord and you will find strength for tomorrow. Holding onto this Hope we can start to see the joy in things around us and our focus will shift to discover that the joy of the Lord is our strength for this season.



*Praise be to the Lord, for He has heard my cry for mercy.  
The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him,  
and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to Him in song. -  
Psalm 28:6-7*

I want to challenge you to begin each day with an open heart and mind to connect with God as often as you need to during the day and acknowledge God's presence in the emptiness of our lockdown days. As C.H. Spurgeon says: "you will never know the fullness of Christ until you know the emptiness of everything else".

God Bless,

*Susan de Kretser*

*Marketing and Communications Coordinator*

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## AROUND THE COLLEGE

### God's Amazing Creation

On our first day of term we started our Humanities unit on God's Amazing World. We learnt about how Indigenous Australians lived on and off the land and how they cared for the environment. We then went outside and made our own shelter using only material that we found on the ground. Our class room friends Leo, Ellie and Spot were very impressed.



*Shellene Pillifeant*

*Prep Teacher*

## Prep S

In Prep S we are thankful to God for the fun-filled days back at school between the latest lockdowns, to have been able to enjoy face to face learning.



Some highlights were:

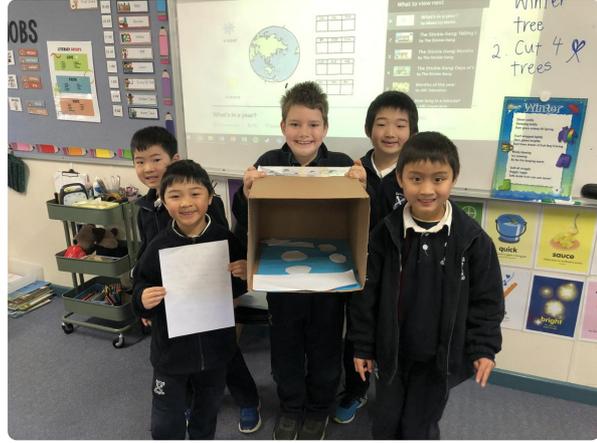
- \* celebrating class mates' birthdays
- \* learning about God's creation of our country Australia and Australian animals
- \* revising Ee, Dd, Gg and Ss and making our own mini phonogram cards
- \* learning about Subtraction and playing Maths games together
- \* enjoying PMP, Chinese, IT, Music and our very first face to face Drama class

*Sonia Sires*

*Prep Teacher*

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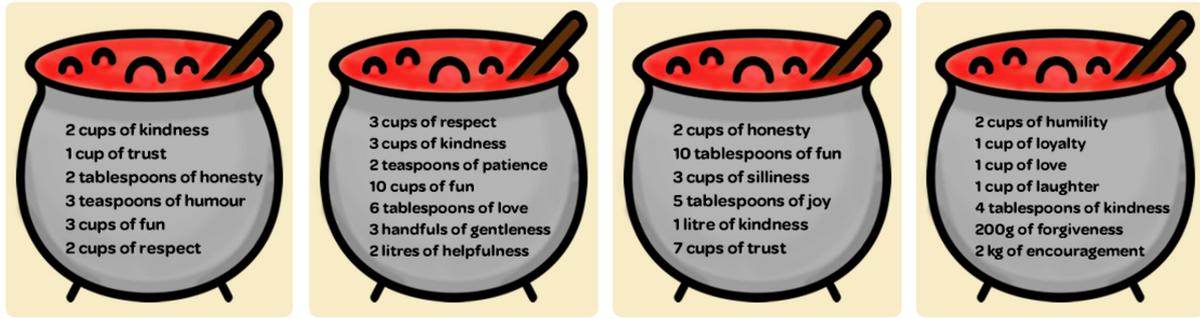
## 'Imagine' Dioramas



After reading 'Imagine' by Alison Lester, we were inspired to create our own dioramas of different natural settings that God has wonderfully created. We even wrote a story to match the setting that we created. We loved working together for this project.

*Nathalie Nheu*  
Year 1 Teacher

## 3A's Friendship Soup Recipes

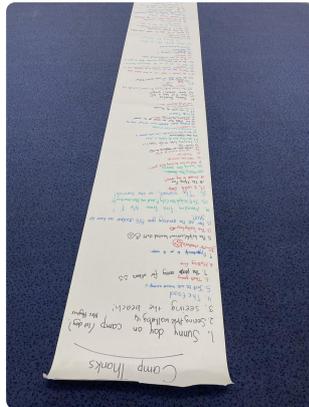


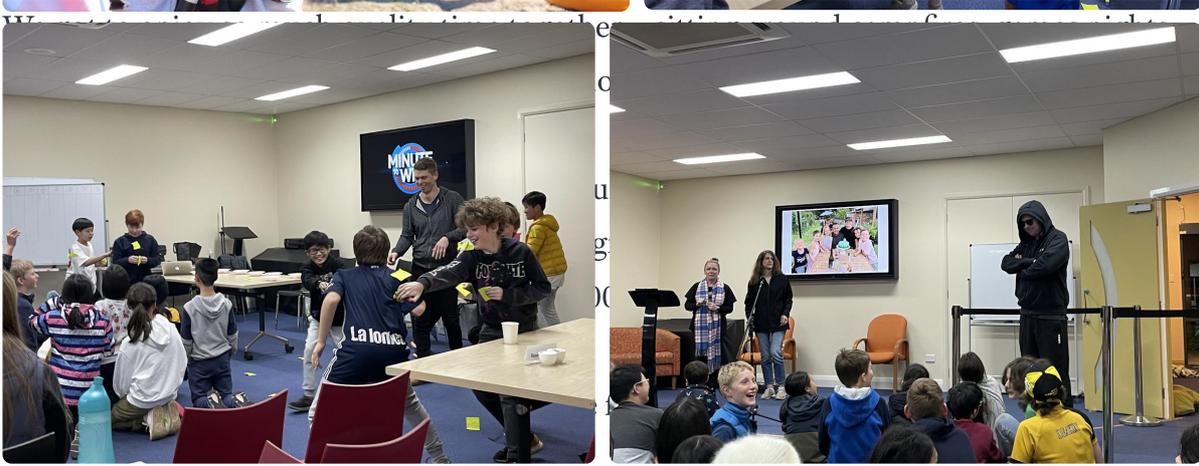
*Anthea Albertus*

*Year 3 Teacher*

## Year 5 & 6 Camp

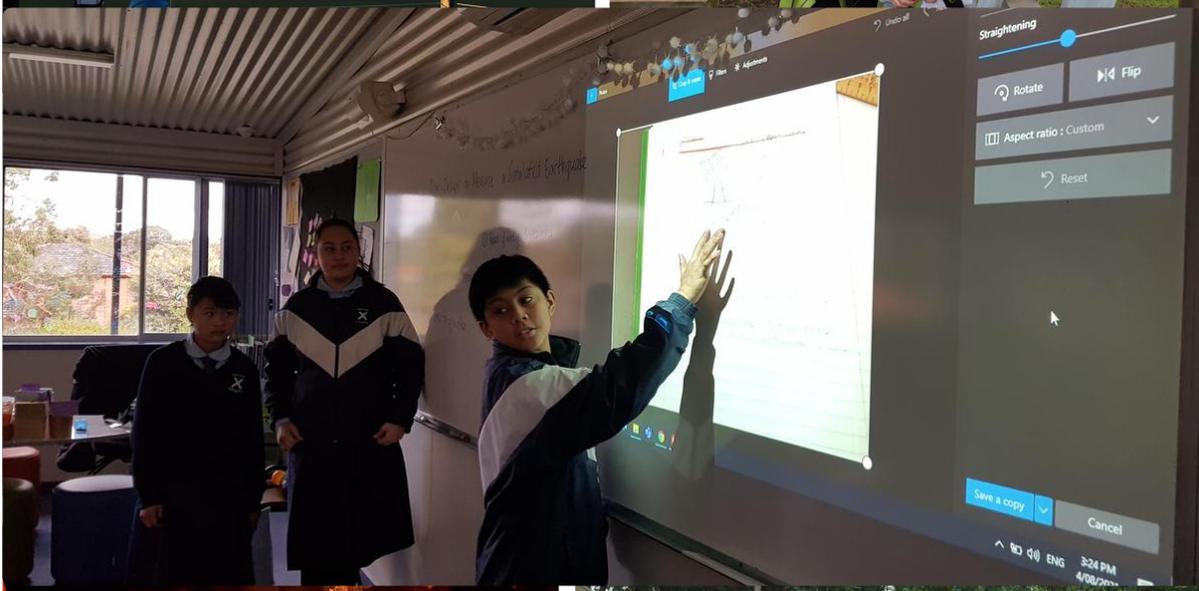
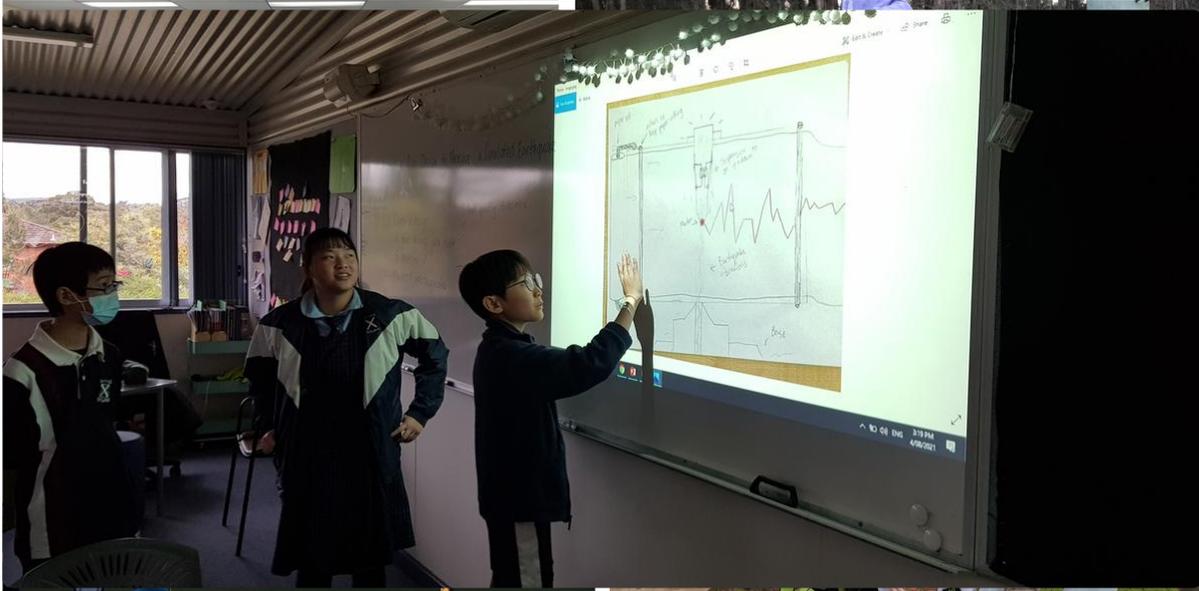
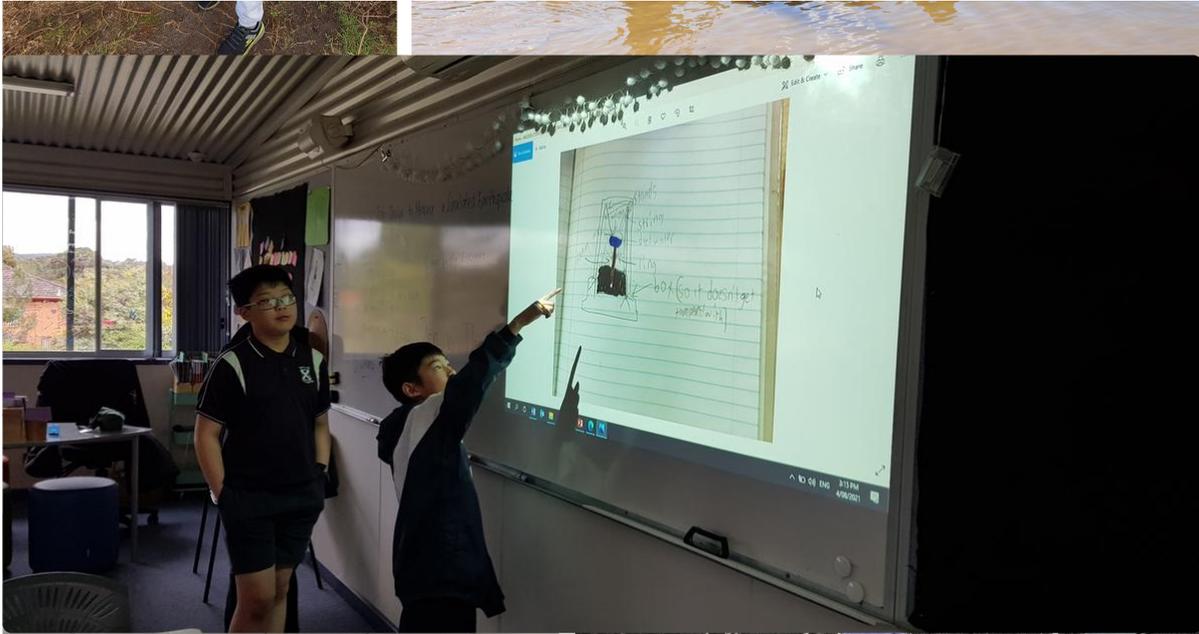
We had an amazing time on Year 5 -6 Camp! We travelled to Phillip Island Adventure Camp, and made so many amazing memories and had such fun experiences featuring flying foxes, canoeing, cooking a 'bushman's breakfast', archery, giant swings, laser strike and SO much more! And of course we also had our "Talent Show"...which had everyone in hysterics!





Students used their engineering house and innovative ideas and brought forth some







critical feedback. Groups were to defend their device and give an answer to pertinent questions.

If this lesson was any indicator of success, the future is bright for 6L students!

*Melanie Lepileo*

*Year 6 Teacher*

## Visual Arts Unit 1 & 2



Studio Arts in Years 11 & 12 are incredible subjects where students are able to research, explore, develop, present and evaluate artworks across time and place. This year students have encountered new techniques such as working in egg tempera, silk screen printing, oil painting, water colour painting and digital art making. From the exploration phase,

students begin to develop their own theme, springing from the College's theme – Trust in the Lord.

Robert Ruan has worked hard to complete an experiment in newspaper! His 'Paper Man' is intricately layered and precisely glued to show the delicate folds in the clothing of the 20 cm sculpture. Each piece of paper was selected with care and if you look closely, you can see words in specific locations plus the cotton shoe laces, buttons, shirt collar and metal glasses. Robert is considering exploring his theme of trust by combining this paper man with animated images.. like a small bird alighting on the man's hand.

This year we are having an ART SHOW in October to celebrate the wonderful creativity of St Andrews Christian College students from Prep to Year 11! Look out for more information to come.

God Bless,

*Mrs Marina Heading*

*Head of Visual Art*

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## Jack Moody Artwork Installed

When you are next walking past the Year 8 homerooms towards the Library, I invite you to view the newly installed "Rosebud" by Jack Moody, the winner of the 2020 Acquisitive Studio Art Prize.



*Artist Statement:*

‘Rosebud’ explores the degradation of memory, looking at how it changes and fades over time. Inspired by a poem of the same name written by my father, I used personal subject matter drawn from our shared memory of driving past a sea monster on a road trip down the peninsula. By physically damaging the paper and skewing the perspective of the sea monster I show how the experience has been polarised in my mind, portraying it as I remember.

Well done Jack!

*Mrs Marina Heading*

*Head of Visual Art*

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## Media Arts



Year 8 Media Arts students have been practicing interview techniques, camera skills, choosing shots, making story boards and preparing to film! Their current assessment is a short, candid, expository documentary on ‘how youth is represented in the Media’ framed from their point of view. I am very proud of the way they are handling the equipment and working together. The next step is to move from pre-production to full filming mode then work in Adobe Premier Pro in the post-production editing phase. It’s all very exciting!

*Mrs Marina Heading*

*Secondary School Teacher*

## Year 11 Theatre Studies News

Over the mid-year break, several of our Performing Arts Alumni (along with the fabulous Mr Batty and Mr Waterman) re-organised our Drama storage room, known affectionately as ‘The Vault’. Here we can see members of the Year 11 Theatre Studies class enjoying the new system as they prepare for their upcoming production of ‘*Pinocchio 3.5*’.



*Kathryn Brown*

*Theatre Studies Teacher*



# LOCKDOWN LEARNING CONTINUES

## Zoom Olympic Dress Up Day Fun!

Friday 23rd July saw the Tokyo Olympic games commence with the opening ceremony airing that evening. As with most of those in lockdown, there was a keen enthusiasm from our students and staff alike to follow along and support our country. Friday at St Andrews was declared Olympic Day!

The enthusiasm began with St Andrews staff starting the day dressed up on Zoom during devotion time. Staff put on their international hats or shirts and got into the Olympic spirit. Standout was Mr Tim Farmilo in his Swim Cap and goggles representing !



## Free Verse Poem – "Happiness is ... "

Year 4 have created a happiness book during online learning and thought of some very creative quotes:

Zara – Happiness is... going to church

Samuel L - Happiness is... when your siblings stop annoying you

Steve – Happiness is.... Poor people, after nice people have let you in

Samuel Ng – Happiness is... getting medals after a swimming race

Keyvas – Happiness is... going to school, after lockdown

Tomoya – Happiness is... is being able to use Zoom, in lockdown

Joel – Happiness is... walking through a path full of life

Edrick – Happiness is... a relaxing Sunday

Brad – Happiness is... when you sleep well

Levin – Happiness is... when you smell the flowers in the garden

Junru – Happiness is... a wobbly tooth, after it has fallen out

Anna-Claire – Happiness is... able to talk to friends, even in lockdown

Akesh – Happiness is... a cut on your knee, after you put a bandaid on it

Ebony – Happiness is... a mosquito, when it's dead

*Gail van Heerden*

*Year 4 Teacher*

## Zoom Drama Class



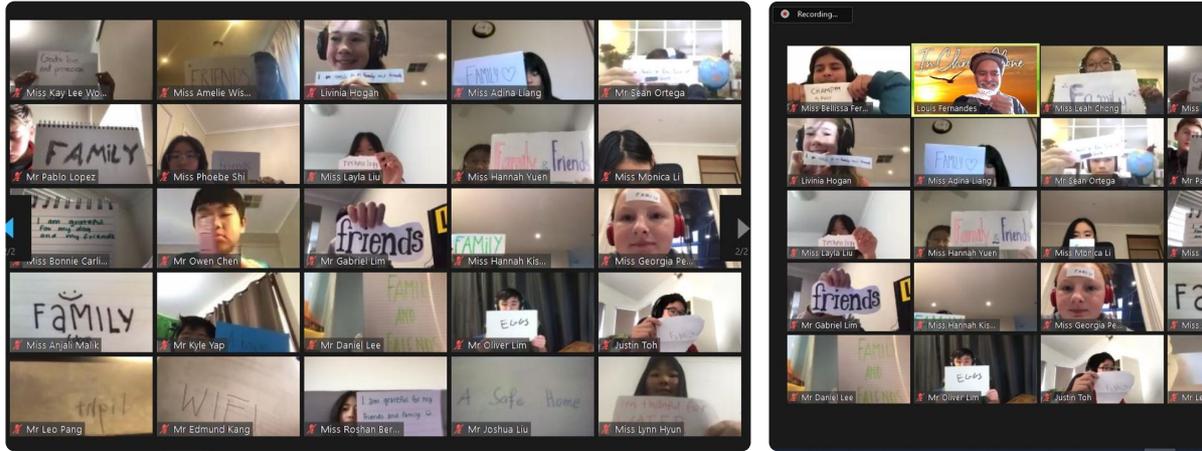
We did our first Zoom lesson for our Prep Drama class... and it was so much fun!

*Karen Elbourne*

*Drama Teacher*

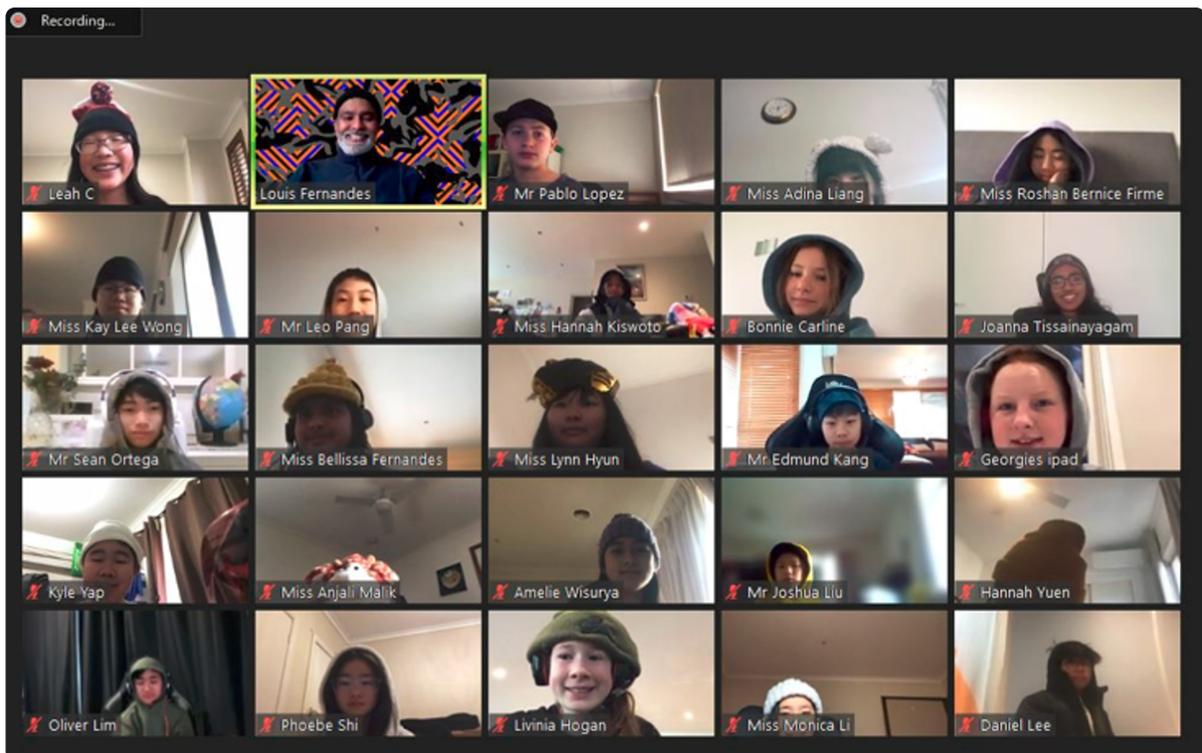
Homeroom 7F celebrating 'Thankfulness Tuesday' during  
Lockdown 5.0

Our Homeroom got really excited when Mrs Wansbrough announced that we are going to celebrate ‘Thankfulness Tuesday’ during Lockdown 5.0. Throughout the Bible, we see many examples of the essential role thankfulness has in our Christian life, no matter the circumstance.



Giving thanks should not be limited to a single day, but a daily intimate practice that centers our mind on God’s blessings. We are to give thanks to God, for it glorifies Him and focuses our gaze on His goodness – past, present and the future.

Also on Thursday 12th August 7F Homeroom enjoyed some fun having a beanie day to keep the smiles flowing.



*Louis Fernandes*

## Learning Support at St Andrews

We live in a world where things are constantly changing and where currently, we cannot rely on anything remaining constant. The great thing is that God is never changing and always constant. The Bible promises us:

*Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8*

Whilst our world constantly shifts in and out of Lockdown and our students bend and move with the ebb and flow of this new way of living, we can hold on to the one truth – God remains steadfast. He remains the same.

It is this truth which provides Learning Support with the strength required to continue to provide support for students who need to study onsite during Lockdowns. The Learning Assistants (LA) are amazing as they adapt and accept the constant changes in their roles.

Those used to working with complex mathematical equations in Secondary suddenly find themselves seated next to a Year 3 student reviewing her phonograms. An LA who usually helps students learning English as an additional language, can be seen patiently sitting with a Year 5 student as he earnestly plods his way through the day's tasks. Used to working with hands on materials in the Year 1 classroom, an LA may have had to quickly learn to get students on to different devices and dip in and out of various Zoom meetings. It is each LA's reliance on our never changing God that enables them to cheerfully approach each new change with a positive mindset – a mindset which places students at the centre of what we do each day.

So, whilst we enter Lockdown #6, we can look back on Lockdown #5 with joy! Lockdown #5 began the same day as the Tokyo Olympics. Students made olive leaf crowns and Olympic torches.



Students were then allocated to the different ancient Olympic teams and created flags to represent the Athenians or the Colossians. They read about each city/state's attributes and created symbols to represent those. Students worked in multi-age groups and had to negotiate and work collaboratively:



We ended the day by watching the power and strength of Usain Bolt as he ran 100 metres in 9.58 seconds. That afternoon we tried to see what we could achieve in 10 seconds. How many star jumps? How many times can you take off and put your shoe back on? How far

can you run? And to end the day: how long would it take you to run 100m? There were some very determined preps who firmly believed they could easily out race Usain!

The rest of Lockdown #5 continued in the pattern of the previous Lockdowns. Students connecting with their teachers and peers via Zoom and with the gentle and persistent guidance of the LAs, working their way through the day's learning. Our LAs arrive each and every day ready to support these students in whatever manner possible.



It's not all hard work. Below are some of our students having some down-time once lessons are complete.



## E3 (Engage, Enrich, Empower) – Oceanography

A select group of students are beginning to explore the amazing interdependency of God's oceans. This unit of work allows students to explore the different habitats of the ocean and to discover the complexities of the interdependence within these habitats. Students will be led to understand how God designed living things as fit for particular ecosystems through their adaptations, and will understand the different adaptations of fish.

Students will design/create their own fish (or other living thing) which can survive in an ocean habitat of the student's choice and write a scientific report describing their newly designed fish (or living thing).

We are grateful that we were able to have our first session for Week B students on Wednesday where students began to gather information on the different ocean habitats.



*You are always welcome to contact one of the Learning Support teachers:*

- Shirley Gillie – *Head of Learning Support* [sgillie@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:sgillie@standrews.vic.edu.au)
- Wendy Punay – *Learning Support Teacher – Primary*  
[wpunay@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:wpunay@standrews.vic.edu.au)
- Kerryn Terrington – *Learning Support Teacher – Secondary*  
[kterrington@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:kterrington@standrews.vic.edu.au)

*Blessings*

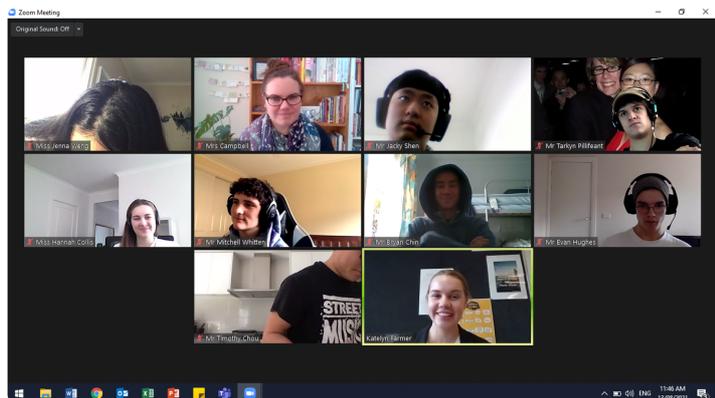
*The Learning Support Teachers*

## Year 12 Theatre Studies

The Year 12 Theatre Studies class had a visit from Katelyn Farmer, 2020 College Captain and one of the High Achievers in the subject last year.

Having spent so much of her final year of school learning remotely, Katelyn had a wealth of useful

experience and advice for our current class, including study habits, ways to stay connected with others, and strategies for preparing for the monologue exam while in isolation. Thank you Katelyn!



***Kathryn Brown***

*Theatre Studies Teacher*



## LEARNING AND TEACHING

### The Future of Education -

#### *Insights into today's students and their future expectations: McCrindle Research*

Each year McCrindle Research publish their “*Future of Education Report.*” This report is the collation of quantitative data collected in an online survey. The survey was completed by over 1200 Australians aged 16 to 24 with quotas set for an equal sample of high school students (Yr 9 – Yr 12) and tertiary students (University/TAFE/Private College). A full copy of the “*Future of Education Report*” can be accessed [HERE](#). However, included below is a summary of some of the key findings:

In a time of rising complexity, it is more important than ever to understand our students' educational experience and desires for the future. To lead students well we first need to understand them and gain insight into education from their perspective.

#### *A values-driven generation*

Today's students are ambitious and values-driven. They want to own their own home (72%), have financial freedom and independence (67%) and excel in their career (67%), alongside living a sustainable lifestyle (51%) and working in an organisation that aligns

with their values (45%). One of their greatest fears in fact, is being stuck in a job that they don't enjoy or find fulfilment in (61%). This comes just after not having enough money to live comfortably (65%). More than half fear not reaching their full potential (54%) or not making a difference with their life (41%).

### *Students appreciate their education*

Positively, students appreciate their education, with more than nine in ten (94%) agreeing they greatly value having access to an Australian education. The important role and influence of teachers does not go unnoticed with seven in ten students (70%) strongly/somewhat agreeing they can think of at least one teacher who has made a massive positive difference to their life.

### *Hybrid learning is the way of the future*

The last 12 months have seen significant shifts in perspective on the delivery of education. Seven in ten students (70%) describe their ideal learning situation as a hybrid one, where there is a combination of time spent learning from home and in the classroom. With the digital increasingly replacing the physical, it is important to explore how this impacts student learning and experience. This study shows that different environments best develop different skills. When it comes to adaptability (53%), personal organisation (49%) and time management (46%) students are likely to say that the online learning environment has best helped them develop these competencies. Students reflect that competencies such as communication skills (56%) and collaboration (54%), however, are more likely to be best developed in the classroom. The future of learning is likely therefore a hybrid one.

### *Navigating student wellbeing*

While students believe the high pressure to do well in exams and assessments (72%) is the top challenge for today's students, navigating their own mental wellbeing (63%) and navigating loneliness and isolation (58%) are also key challenges. Positively, more than four in five students (83%) believe educational institutions are extremely, very or somewhat effective at creating an inclusive educational community.

A key challenge for educational institutions in the 21st Century, is navigating student wellbeing in relation to screens and digital technology. More than four in five students (82%) agree they struggle with spending too much time on screens and technology, and

they are seeing the negative impacts in their daily life, with two in three (65%) agreeing social media is having a negative impact on their mental health. In fact, three in four students (74%) want to go off social media but haven't because they would miss out on knowing what is happening in the world around them.

### *Students are equipped for the transition to tertiary education*

The transition from school to tertiary education is often an exciting one, where students embark on a new season of life and acquire different skills and abilities. For this reason, it can also be a daunting one. Positively, students believe that educational institutions are preparing them well for their next step, with more than seven in ten students (72%) feeling at least somewhat equipped to transition from school to University or TAFE.

### *Future proofing careers*

As the workplace shifts from more traditional jobs to those characterised by automation and digital integration, the focus on how to future proof careers continues to rise. When thinking about what is more important for success, students today are only slightly more likely to believe that skills (55%) are more important for success than character (45%). Students are similarly divided when they think about educational outcomes. More than half (56%) believe a secure pathway to employment matters more than the ability to adapt to the changing environment.

When it comes to preparing students for unknown careers, a combination of both skills and character qualities are essential. As the workplace and workforce becomes increasingly mobile and robotics and automation replace some jobs, the ability to adapt to change will become increasingly important for future proofing the careers of today's school leavers. In fact, three quarters of today's students (74%) believe that life-long learning will be essential for them to future-proof their career.

### *Living a life that aligns with their values*

Education lays a foundation for students to build on for the rest of their life. Positively, as students look to the future, four in five (81%) feel at least somewhat equipped by their education to thrive in the workplace in the decade ahead.

Students today are a values-driven generation. As they think about their future career, the most important considerations for them are that they have purpose and meaning in their work (72%) and that their work aligns with their core values (68%).

*The Future of Education 2021, by Sophie Renton, is used by permission, McCrindle Research.*

As I reflect on the findings of this report, I am inspired by the approach to education we are taking at St Andrews Christian College. Our focus is to encourage students to give Glory to God in all that they do. The outworking of this can be seen as we instill the attributes of Godly character. Students are given opportunities to work together in community and become “relationally engaged” as they learn to treat everyone with dignity and respect. Students are challenged to look for ways to serve and help others and become life-long learners through creative and critical thinking. We also encourage our students to be people of authentic faith, understanding that their identity is found in Christ and finding fulfilment and purpose when they put their trust in Him.

***Michael Swanborough***

*Head of Learning and Teaching*

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## Mathematical Problem Solving

The problem for this newsletter is “The Farmer’s Puzzle” which can be stated as follows:

A hundred dollars a farmer paid  
For a hundred animals ‘through the trade’  
Sheep cost ten dollars and pigs cost two  
Hens cost fifty cents. What did she do?

Your task is to determine how many of each animal the farmer purchased.

How many solutions are there? How will you know when you have found them all?  
What strategies from your Mathematical Toolbox have you used to solve this problem?

If you need a reminder of the “tools” you can access them here.

Please feel free to send through your solutions – I'll publish the best responses in the next newsletter.

*Michael Swanborough*

*Head of Learning and Teaching*

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## SPORT

The Sport Department was so excited to launch the “Virtual Olympic Pentathlon” for Years 3-8 this week. Despite another lockdown cancelling the Primary House Athletics scheduled for Monday 9th August, we’ve loved seeing students showcase the new skills they’ve been learning in PE in track and field events. The 2032 Brisbane Olympics are only 11 years away, is it possible that one of our “Virtual Athletes” could one day be seen competing for Australia?



Students can find the link for the online form on Primary and Secondary Hub Pages

- **Primary Sport Page:** <https://thehub.standrews.vic.edu.au/homepage/4803>
- **Secondary Sport Page:** <https://thehub.standrews.vic.edu.au/homepage/4804>

And remember, the more submissions, the more points for your House!

*Andrew Farmer and the Sport Team*

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## House Cross Country

On the final day of Term 2 St Andrews ran it's first House Cross Country event involving over 500 students from Years 3-12. It was a fantastic day with outstanding weather at Lakewood Reserve despite the forecast of rain providing some trepidation for staff and students alike.

It truly was great to be able to run our own modified Cross Country event after the all too familiar Covid-19 restrictions we've faced in the past year. Thank you to all our parent helpers, staff and students, what a great day we had!





the CSEN Cross Country event. But the real winner was seeing all the students doing so









# LIBRARY NEWS

## Regular Opening Hours

### *Senior Library:*

*Monday to Friday: (for students in Years 5-12 only) 8.30pm to 4pm*

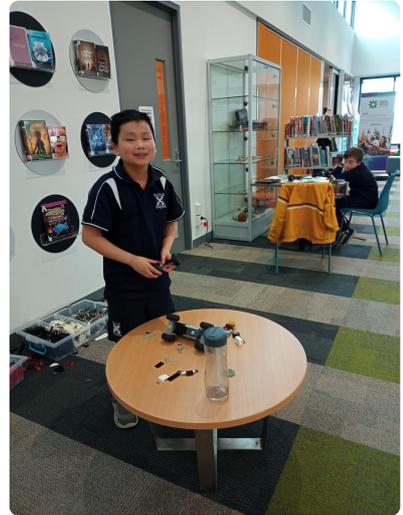
### *Junior Library:*

Students may borrow books after school if they bring a book bag and return the books they have finished reading. Please see staff in the Senior Library for access and loans.

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## All Go in the Library

Even in lockdown, the library has been a very busy space. We have had lots of students studying in both the Junior and Senior Libraries. The Learning Support staff have been doing a fantastic job, supervising all the groups, each with set work and ZOOM lessons. The rest of the school may have been very quiet, but the library has been a hive of activity.



## Get Ready for Book Week!



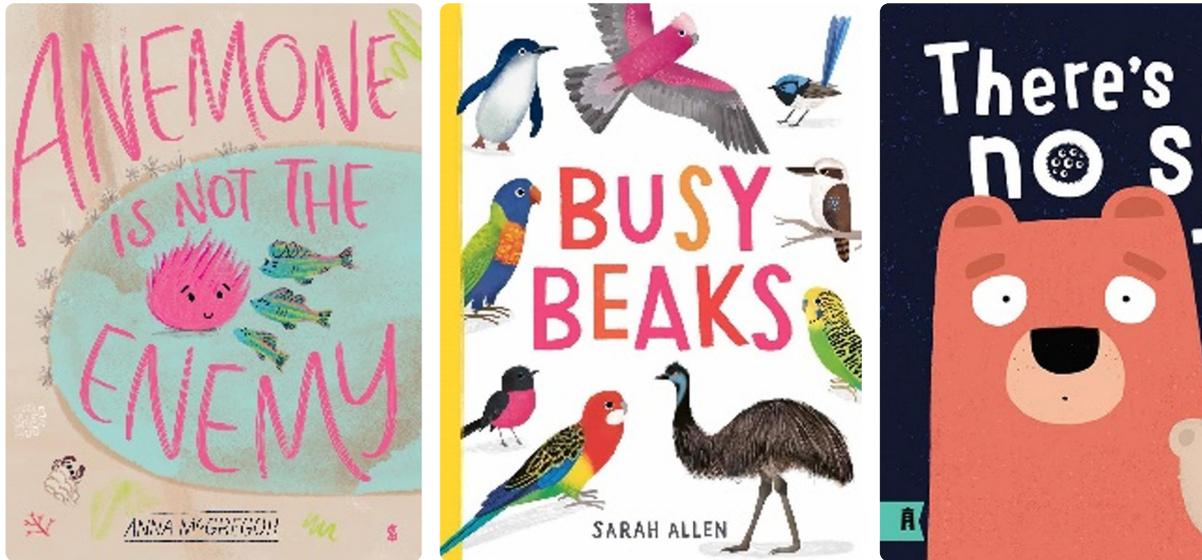
Copied from <https://www.cbca.org.au/cbca-book-week-resources> Used with permission

The library is getting ready to celebrate Book Week. This event runs from 21st- 27th August. It coincides with the announcement of the Australian Book of the Year Award.

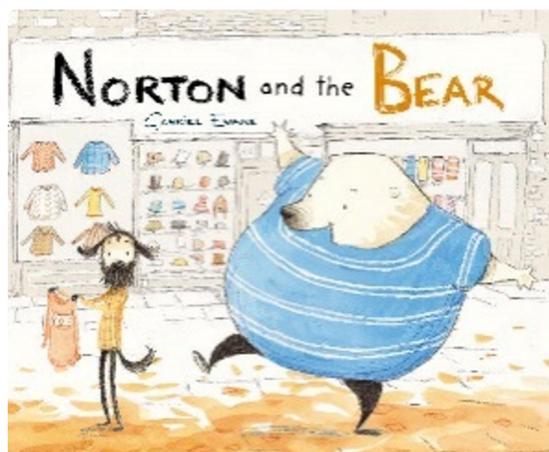
You can find the shortlist at: <https://cbca.org.au/shortlist-2021>. We have most of the books in the Early Childhood and Picture Book categories. Watch for them when you get back to school. The library staff are looking forward to sharing these books with you.

## *Early Childhood*

A number of activities are being planned for all students. Watch out for more information. Please celebrate books and reading with us.



## *Picture Books*



## Important Notice

The creative writing competition run by Insight publications has extended their deadline for entries. Please go to <https://www.insightpublications.com.au/writingcompetition-2/> for further details.

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*Lynne Marks, Anita Little, Wai Peng Heath*

*Library Staff*