

DATES TO REMEMBER

WEEK 9

Ice-blocks sold on
Monday by Stage 3

FRIDAY 25/3

**Kinder Open Morning
9:30-11am**

P&F BBQ 6-7:30pm

MONDAY 28/3

Cross Country

THURSDAY 31st March

**SUBWAY LUNCH
ORDERS -VIA QKR**

MONDAY 4th April

PUPIL FREE DAY

WEDNESDAY 6th April

**Holy Week Reflection
2pm**

THURSDAY 7th April

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY



**ALL STUDENTS
Monday and Friday**

****Newsletter will be
published on Monday
fortnightly in odd
weeks****

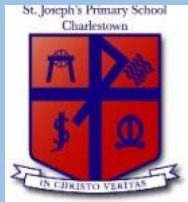
**ALL UNIFORM
ENQUIRIES:**



ORDER VIA QKR APP

All enquiries to email:

chl.uniformshop@mn.catholic.edu.au



St Joey's News

'Truth in Christ'

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

32 Shelton Street, Charlestown NSW 2290

Ph 02 4943 5414

Fax 02 4942 3218

Email: admin@charlestown.catholic.edu.au



Week 9, Monday 21st March 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we celebrate Harmony week this week and the National Day of Action Against Bullying, I ask that you join with us in prayer for the people of Ukraine. I spoke with a friend recently who has family members in the Ukraine and who are amongst the 3 million people who have fled their homeland. They have left their businesses, their homes and their belongings. There are many people missing, people injured from the bombings and many have been killed. I can't imagine having your life turned upside down into a life of fear and violence and homelessness. Please take some time to pray for peace in Ukraine and in our world.

Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.
We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide
their choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.

Amen (<https://cafod.org.uk>)



HAPPY HARMONY DAY



It was so wonderful to be able to celebrate St Joseph's Feast Day with many of you last Friday. We were blessed with the sunny weather and were able to enjoy our annual picnic lunch, open classroom visits and Mini Vinnies Flood appeal activities. Thank you to the generous families of our Mini Vinnies team for supplying prizes and an array of fun activities for the children to enjoy.

We have raised a fabulous \$775 for the Lismore Diocese Flood Appeal. So many people have been tragically affected by the devastating floods, losing homes, possessions and businesses. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

In more good deeds, I am very proud of Imogen Hartcher in 5/6B, who took the brave step in having her lovely long hair cut short and donating her hair to *Wigs for Kids*. How beautiful!



Wigs For Kids is a nonprofit organisation that helps children suffering from hair loss stemming from chemotherapy, radiation therapy, alopecia, trichotillomania, burns, and other medical causes. Stylists and regular people just like you work together to give recipients the self-esteem and self-image they deserve. The wigs are made with the donated hair and given to the families at no cost to them.

Well done Imogen!!

It has been great to see so many parents book in for their class teacher meetings. We value our home – school partnerships and encourage you to keep in touch with your child's teachers throughout the year.

This week scroll through our newsletter to meet our Early Stage 1 teachers.



Welcome to the Druery Family with Boe joining 2 Red and Lando in 5/6 White. We trust that you will find St Joseph's a happy and nurturing place to learn and grow.

Congratulations to the following students who have advanced to the Polding Sports trials:

Sophie A – Soccer

Hamish K – Soccer

Kobe H – Rugby League



Dates to Remember

FAMILY BBQ – 6pm-7:30pm Friday 25th March

Kinder 2023 Open Morning– Friday 25th March 9:30-11:00am

Project Compassion- Cake stall fundraiser Friday 1st April

Cross Country – Monday 28th March

Pupil Free Day - Monday the 4th April.

P&F Easter Raffle – Tuesday 5th April

Holy Week Liturgy- Wednesday 6th April 2pm – Parents welcome

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY – Thursday 7th April – Full Summer Uniform

YEAR 7 ENROLMENTS - 2023

St Mary's Year 7 2023 Please note the enrolment period commences on Monday 7th March and closes on the 31st May 2022.

God bless,

Kate Drake

Principal

NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

*A focus on Learning, Collaboration
Improving Student Outcomes*



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St Joseph's will celebrate Harmony week on Monday 21st March.



Dear parents,

It has been a busy couple of weeks as we have welcomed families back onsite for St Joseph's Day celebrations and Parent-Teacher meetings. It was lovely to see so many happy faces, share learning stories and have informal 'chats' in person. We are very thankful for the positive feedback.

Update to the Parent App

You may be aware that Compass recently updated the Parent app. This update is part of an ongoing effort at Compass to enhance the overall user experience and improve usability. Attached below is a **Parent Guide** that outlines the finer details of this update. The changes are straightforward and do not affect the functionality of the app.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills which students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in annually.

St Joseph's will be participating in NAPLAN Online between **10 and 20 May 2022**.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online, St Joseph's will be participating in practice tests over the next 2 weeks. The practice tests give students an opportunity to become familiar with the online test format, and its functions and tools, in a test environment. The practice tests are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked.

All students in years 3 and 5 will require their own headphones for NAPLAN.

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence & Harmony Day

Today we acknowledge these important events. Our students are participating in a range of activities. Photos will be posted on Facebook and in the next newsletter.

The NDA is Australia's key bullying prevention initiative, connecting schools and communities to find workable solutions to prevent bullying.

The theme for the 2022 NDA is **Kindness Culture**. St Joseph's always strives to demonstrate Kindness Culture by promoting inclusiveness, respect and community belonging for all students. Planning for a safe and supportive

school community requires a whole-school community approach. Whole-school responses to bullying prevention build positive and supportive school environments by incorporating strategies for intervention at all levels, inclusive of students, teachers, parents and carers.

Three key characteristics outlined in the national definition of bullying distinguish bullying behaviours from other forms of peer aggression behaviours which do not constitute bullying. The key characteristics of bullying include:

1. power imbalance
2. deliberate intent to cause harm, and
3. ongoing and repeated behaviour.

It is important for our entire school community, including our staff, parents, carers and students to have a clear understanding of the definition of bullying to be able to distinguish these behaviours from peer aggression, and correctly identify and respond to incidents of bullying.

If at any time you have concerns that your child is not experiencing a kindness culture at our school, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. You will be referred to the Assistant Principal and/or Principal if a satisfactory outcome is not achieved.

With every best wish,

Nikki Norley
Assistant Principal

NEWS FROM THE RELIGIOUS COORDINATOR

St Joseph's Day Art Winners

As part of Friday's St. Joseph's Day celebrations, the winners of the annual art competition were announced. The following students were the winners in each grade.

Kindergarten: **Madelyn G**

Year 1: **Amy D**

Year 2: **Owen K**

Year 3: **Willow M**

Year 4: **Harry S**

Year 5: **Alannah M**

Year 6: **Sybella W**

Each winner received a \$20 gift voucher as well as a certificate and their artwork displayed in the foyer of the office.



Lent and Project Compassion

Lent is a time of giving, prayer and fasting. Through Project Compassion we are able to empower communities in need. This year's theme for Project Compassion is **For All Future Generations**. This week's focus story tells us about Janice 44, a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, who tells stories through movements handed down over generations. With your support, Janice and the Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation support the community to generate income and employment, while keeping culture alive.



On Friday the 1st April, we will raise money for communities like Janice's to make a difference for generations to come. The Mini Vinnies will hold a lunch time cake stall. We look forward to a successful event.



Sacramental News

This year's sacramental group is in preparation for reconciliation. This is a Sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in his love and mercy to offer us forgiveness for the times we have turned away from God. The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will occur on the Wednesday 30 March 7.00pm St Mary Immaculate Charlestown.



St Joey's Caring Group

With restrictions lifted, we are now able to recommence our St. Joeys Caring group. From time to time many of us experience hardship of various kinds. Assistance in the form of a family meal can help to make life a little easier. If you are able to go on a roster to make a family meal, please email clare.paff@mn.catholic.edu.au.



Many Blessings

Clare Paff

NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

PBL and WELLBEING

Mrs Drake recently spoke at the launch of the new CSO Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy. She outlined our School Improvement Goal of developing and implementing a range of strategies to promote mindfulness in the workplace, and the embedding of explicit teaching of mindfulness strategies at our school. Mrs Drake also spoke about our goal of linking our work on mindfulness to fostering a rich and varied prayer life for our school community. As part of her presentation she shared some images of our precious Kinder children who were employing mindfulness practices through a prayer focus in Religion. Well done Mrs Drake!



WELLBEING



Mindfulness Strategies for Home- Gratitude and Kindness

An *attitude of gratitude* is a positive way of looking at life. Gratitude can increase our children's happiness, teach them to be more empathetic and help them to be more thankful for everything they have. Expressing and feeling gratitude requires us to stop and notice our blessings and to focus on the positive elements of our lives. This stopping and noticing also develops the ability to be more in the present moment. When we take time to count our blessings, thank others for their generosity, we are also reflecting on God's hand in our lives. An attitude of gratitude helps us find more joy and peace as we find that even the darkest days there are blessings to found and God's grace at work in our lives.

"Mindfulness is to pay attention, on purpose, to the present moment."

LAURE GROSSMAN



20 Ideas to Cultivate an Attitude of Gratitude in Your Children

1. SAY PLEASE AND THANK YOU.

Our manners show that we do not believe we are entitled to anything, and that in fact, we appreciate whatever comes our way.

2. HELP SOMEONE LESS FORTUNATE.

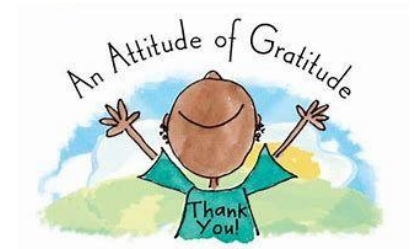
This could be your neighbour down the street, grandma, or someone you know who is in a tough spot.

3. VOLUNTEER.

Help out at a community organisation

4. SEND OUT THANK YOU CARDS.

Express your gratitude for those who have added value to your life.



5. LOOK FOR AWE-INSPIRING MOMENTS IN YOUR DAY.

If the sunset is particularly beautiful, comment on it. If the sound of the baby's laughter warms your heart, tell your children. Encourage them to look for their awe-inspiring moments and share them with you.

6. SHARE YOUR GRATITUDE AT BEDTIME.

Take five minutes at the end of the day to ask your child what they are thankful for that day.

7. SHARE YOUR GRATITUDE AT THE DINNER TABLE.

Take a moment at dinner time to share what you are thankful for. Go around the table, allowing each family member a chance to vocalise their gratitude.

8. COMPLIMENT OTHERS.

Encourage your children to do the same. Share the things you appreciate about another person.

9. KEEP A GRATITUDE JOURNAL.

This can be in any form that works best for your child's age, skill level and desire. Some kids will want to spend time writing their thoughts down. Others may be more apt to express their gratitude through drawing or painting.

10. WRITE A LETTER.

Encourage your child to write a letter to someone who has touched their life in some way. If they are comfortable, make a visit to that person to read the letter out loud. If not, send it.

11. CREATE A FAMILY GRATITUDE LIST.

Post it on the fridge. Add to it when necessary.

12. CREATE A FAMILY GRATITUDE JOURNAL

Leave it somewhere where everyone can access it and encourage your family to write in it whenever they are feeling grateful.

13. GIVE SOMEONE A GIFT.

Help your child earn the money and purchase the gift. Or make a gift together.

14. ALWAYS LOOK FOR THE POSITIVE.

Find something positive in frustrating situations and discuss it.

15. PRACTICE TURNING COMPLAINTS INTO PRAISES.

Coach your children to reword their complaint into something that they appreciate instead.



16. CREATE A GRATITUDE JAR.

Encourage your kids to add to it anytime they are feeling grateful for something or someone.

17. DONATE TO A CAUSE

Many local, national and international charities and organisations are always in need of donations.

18. TAKE GRATITUDE WALKS.

While you walk, look for the simple pleasures in the day, such as the warm sun or the birds singing and express appreciation for them. Use this time to ask your kids what they are grateful for.

19. ASK WHY.

As your child gets better at expressing gratitude, dig deeper. Ask why he is grateful for something and how it affects his day.

20. WORK THROUGH ENVY.

Help your child work through any feelings of jealousy they may have. Envy can come when we are not feeling thankful for what we have, and are focusing instead on what others have.

Source: <https://biglifejournal.com/>

At SJC we always remember our...



Happy Birthday to the following students!



Birthdays for Weeks 9 and 10



Zoe S	Isabelle S	Julian W	Charlot B
Eden J	Lily M	Amy D	Maya G
Zivah G	Lauren S	Charlotte D	Jake S

Feel free to get in touch with me if you have any PBL or Mindfulness questions.

karen.nolan@mn.catholic.edu.au

Have a wonderful week!

Karen Nolan

Primary Coordinator

SPORT NEWS



Congratulations to the following students advancing to POLDING selections for the following sports:

Soccer – Hamish K & Sophie A

Rugby League- Kobe H.

We also wish Levi G the best of luck for the POLDING Swimming championships tomorrow.

CROSS COUNTRY

Our school Cross Country will be held next Monday 28th March for Year 2 – Year 6. Students turning 8 this year are eligible to continue to the DIO cross Country if they meet qualifying times. The Dio Cross Country is on Wednesday 4th May, a venue TBC. Parents are welcome to attend and volunteers are needed to assist on the day. Please contact karen.nolan@mn.catholic.edu.au if you can help.

Natalie Davis & Issac Fox

Sport Coordinators



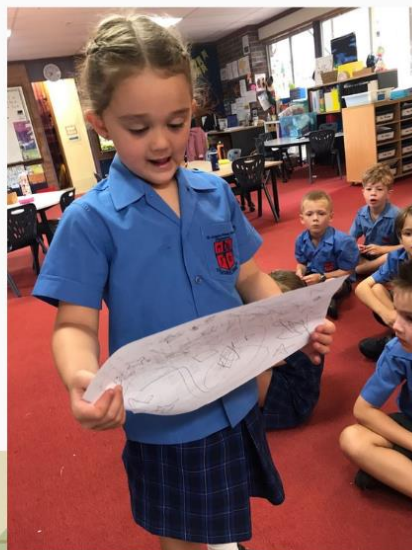
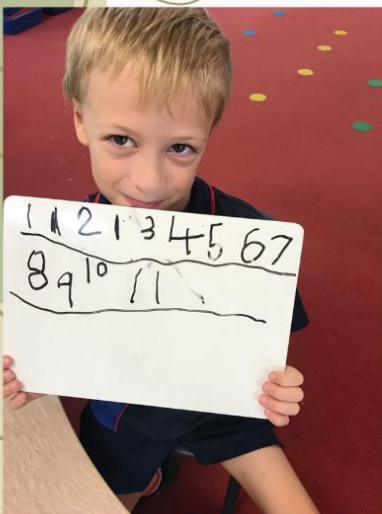
Here is a snapshot of the great learning experiences in Kinder and Year 1.

In Kinder we have enjoyed our participation in the Successful Foundations research program, through engaging in many play experiences each day. In Religion we are learning about God and exploring ways we can talk to God through a variety of prayerful experiences. Learning and writing sounds, showing different ways to represent numbers and making new friends -it has certainly been a busy start to our first year at school.



KINDER 2022 TERM 1







Last week **Year 1** enjoyed showing their parents and grandparents what they have been learning when they came to visit us in the classroom as part of our St Joseph's Day celebrations.



From the Learning Hub Harmony Day Video

A big shout out to Olive Wade and Maisie Duane for filming and creating the Harmony Day video for the school this year. They utilised our new media room and resources, filming, using the podcasting machine and creating the video.



Minecraft Club

Minecraft Club is underway with Stage 3 this term. The focus this term is creating parkour challenges for other members, along with using coding strategies to enhance the game. Our leaders are Sam, Kipp, Will, Kai, Tom & Beau.

PRC

The Premier's Reading Challenge has officially started. Mrs Hoffmann has spent time with classes, explaining the challenge and process. If you'd like more information, feel free to email her on donna.hoffmann@mn.catholic.edu.au



Aboriginal Education

21st March Harmony Day

Today we celebrate our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as well as all other cultures within Australia as part of Harmony Day. As Australian's we are lucky to live in such a diverse country. Today is about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone!

I am priviledged to impart knowledge of our amazing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as part of our diverse country to students at St Joseph's.

18 March: National Close the Gap Day

We acknowledge 'National Close the Gap Day', recently held on 18th March. This day was first organised in 2006 so that organisations can come together to improve the health of First Nations people through donations and community events. Held on the third Thursday of March, Close the Gap Day is about raising awareness of the Aboriginal health crisis.

Aboriginal News.... For Interest Sake

Whibay-gamba is the Awabakal name for the area around Nobby's – one of our city's most famous landmarks. An Awabakal Dreaming story about Nobbys tells of a giant kangaroo that lives inside the island, and how he would sometimes shake his tail making the land tremble- a reference to the region's long history of seismological activity!

Danielle Shaw

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teacher

P & F NEWS



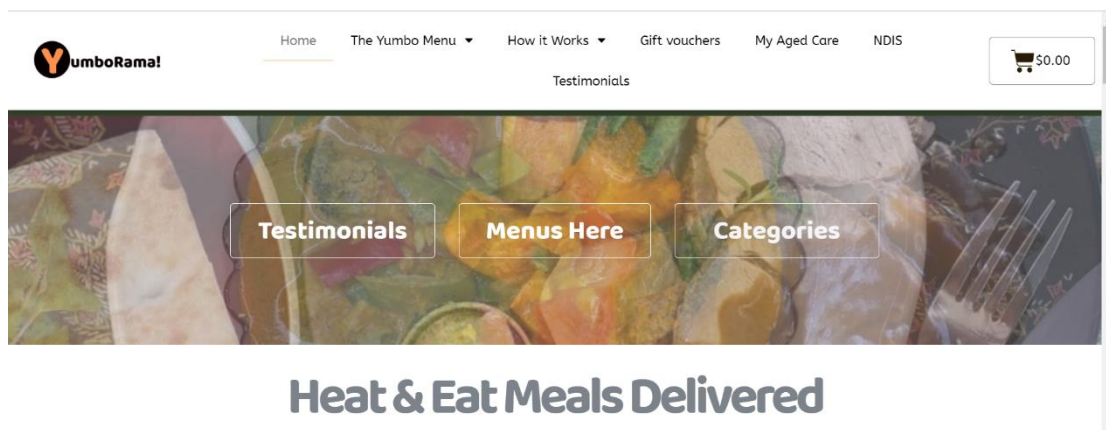
FAMILY BBQ – Friday 25th March 6-7:30pm

Come and join us for an evening of community and fun. Free sausage sandwiches, please place your numbers on QKR. Bring small change/cash to purchase drinks from the canteen.

EASTER RAFFLE – Please donate your easter treats by April 1st to the school office and purchase your tickets on QKR. Remember to send back your tickets with your child's name and class clearly marked on each ticket. The raffle will be drawn in each class on Tuesday 5th April



YUMBORAMA – order your precooked and delivered yummy meals online on <https://www.yumborama.com/> Use the code SJC2022 and we will receive 15% of the sales for our school.



MEET THE TEACHER

MEET YOUR TEACHER FOR 2022!

Angela Foxon

Kinder Red

Teaching Experience & Education

I have been teaching for over 15 years with this being my 7th year at St Joseph's.

I have experience teaching in both rural and city schools and have taught all grades, but find kindergarten to be one of the most rewarding grades to teach.

Every year I am amazed by the growth of our kindergarten students, they achieve so much in one short year.

My qualifications include: Bachelor Teaching/Bachelor Arts, Master of Educational Leadership and Certificates in both Gifted and Special Education.



Class Goals for 2021

I hope to give our kinder students the best possible start to their schooling and give every child the opportunity to experience success.

I enjoy getting to know each student and what their interests are outside of the classroom and look forward to meeting and working with all of you this year too.

About Me

I love to spend time with my two boys, family and friends.

I enjoy a good book, traveling and the occasional Netflix binge 😊

I like to keep active so teaching kindergarten suits me to a tee!

Contact Information: angela.foxon@mn.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE TEACHER

2022

Karen Nolan

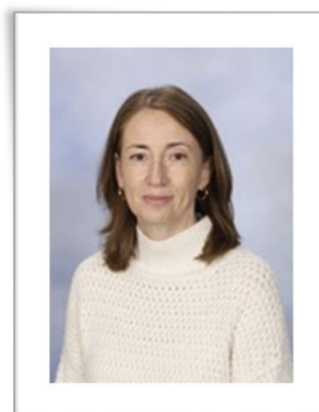
Kinder Blue

Teaching Experience & Education

I am excited once again to teach Kinder at St Joseph's in 2022. This is my 9th year here and I love the wonderful community feel of our school and the opportunity to be part of each child's learning.

I have taught all grades, but especially enjoy teaching Kinder. It is a privilege to be there when children start their school journey, and to nurture and share their sense of wonder about the world. I have a special interest in Early Years education and the importance and inclusion of play based pedagogy for our Kinder learners.

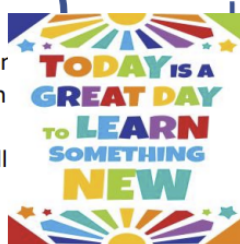
My qualifications include: Bachelor of Education, Master of Education and Master of Educational Leadership.



Class Goals for 2022

I firmly believe that education is a partnership between school and families, and that we both share a common goal of creating an environment where children feel valued, cared for and given opportunities to grow in all areas.

Kinder really is the best year, and I look forward to working with you in 2022 to support your child's learning and create wonderful memories.



About Me

As I get to know your child they will probably come home and tell you things about me (don't believe everything you hear!).

But, if they tell you I like a good joke, reading, bush walks, pilates, cake for breakfast and make lots of cups of tea that I never finish you can have confidence they are not making it up.

Contact Information: karen.nolan@mn.catholic.edu.au

Meet the Mrs Schumacher Teach



My name is Catherine Schumacher and I am always happy starting a new year and welcoming a new cohort of Kinders to St Joseph's. There is nothing more rewarding than watching them grow and achieve so much in their first year of school.

Education

- ❖ Bachelor of Teaching.
- ❖ Bachelor of Teaching/ Special Education

Contact

cath.schumacher@mn.catholic.edu.au

I support Karen on her Wednesday Executive Release day. .

Favourites

Outside of school I love:

- ❖ spending time with my grandchildren
- ❖ music and dancing
 - ❖ travelling
 - ❖ sewing
 - ❖ reading
- ❖ and of course bingeing on Netflix!



Our St Joey's school canteen needs you!

- ✓ Can you help in the canteen for 1 or 2 mornings per term? You're awesome!
- ✓ Do you have a preschool aged little one at home? No problem, bring them along!
- ✓ Would you like to spend your morning in the canteen with your bestie? Just say the word and we'll make it happen!
- ✓ How do I sign up to this wonderful opportunity? Simply fill in this form!

I would love to volunteer in the canteen!

My name is: _____

Please circle: I'm a parent I'm a grandparent

My child/children are: _____

In class/classes: _____

Preferred day/s – Please circle: Tuesday Thursday Friday

Availability – please circle: Once per term Twice per term or more ☺

Contact phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Thank you!! Please drop this form into the office or email to natthebatevans@gmail.com
Any questions please get in touch – Natalie Evans 0400 413 448



**premiers'
reading
challenge**

The Premier's Reading Challenge opened on Monday 26th February, 2021.

Orange bookmarks with User names and Passwords will be sent home this week with all Kinder students. Any students who are new to the school this year, will receive theirs at their next Hub lesson. For any other students who wish to do the PRC and no longer have a record of their password, they need to contact me and I will retrieve it for them.

Happy reading everyone!

Mrs Hoffmann—PRC Coordinator



KIDS LOVE DRAMA PARENTS LOVE THE RESULTS!



NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR TERM 1 2022

**Our DRAMA
classes promote:**

- Self-Esteem
- Confidence
- Resilience
- Communication
- Acting Skills

**Charlestown Primary
Friday
4:15pm - 5:15pm**

**Contact Shane
T: 02 4969 2338
M: 0408 425 659**

E: dramacorp@bigpond.com

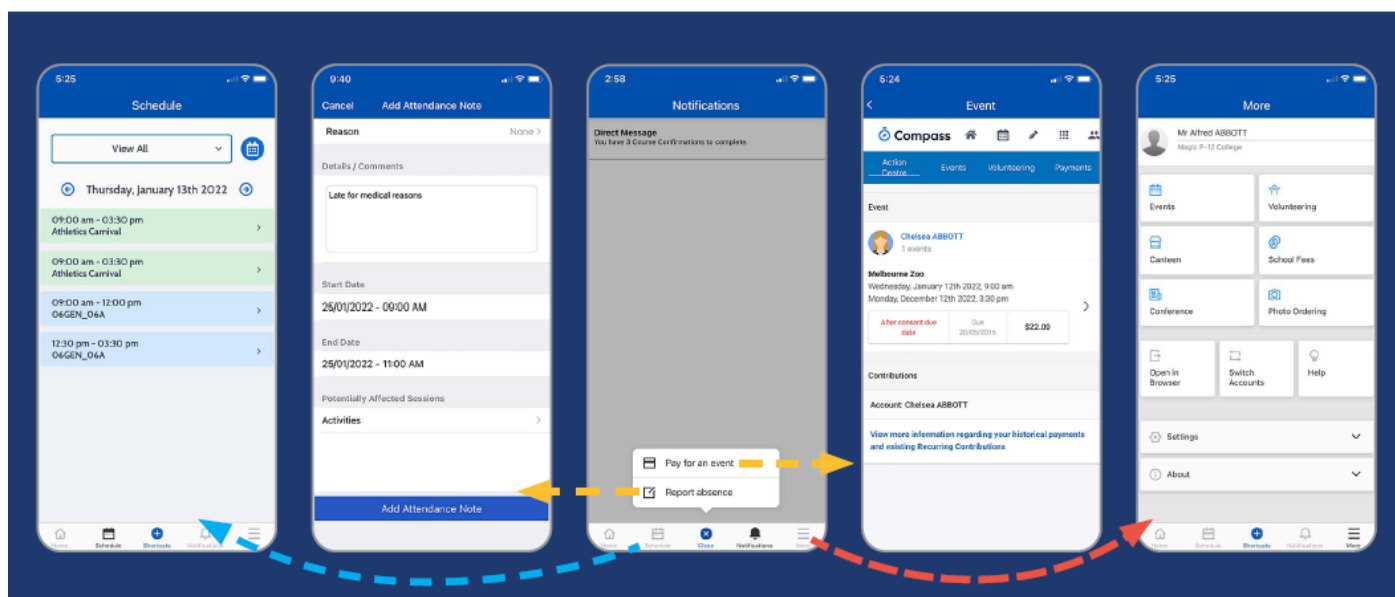
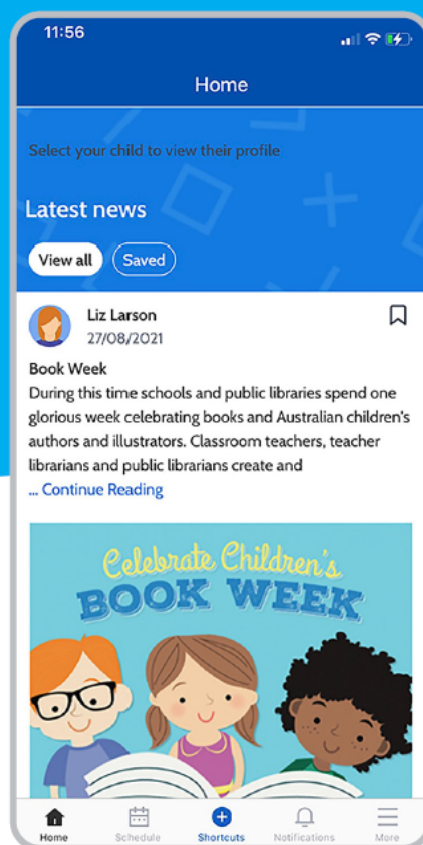
USE YOUR \$100 CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER!

The latest update to the Parent App is here!

Here's a short guide on what you can expect from your new Navigation Bar.



Our team has been working on enhancing the usability and overall user experience of Compass. In an effort to make your lives just that tiny bit easier, the latest update is for you - our Parent & Carer community! Check out the new features below.



The hamburger icon that brought you to the old vertical menu has been replaced with a new horizontal navigation bar that displays key icons across the bottom of the screen - Home, Schedule, Attendance Notes, Shortcuts, Notifications and More.

The 'Shortcuts' button on the navigation bar is a new feature to give you quicker access to important actions, such as 'pay for an event' or 'report absence'. A direct route to get where you need to be!

The 'More' button on the navigation bar will take you to a similar menu as the old one. Modules will now be sorted according to which ones you use the most, allowing for a more straightforward navigation.

