



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Well, we are almost at the end of Term 3 and what a term it has been for us all. Congratulations one and all on getting to the end of Term safe and well, whether here as staff and students together or at home with your family.



Safeguarding/Child Protection Week

This week (September 6th - 12th) is Child Protection Week. The theme this year is "Every Child in Every Community Needs a Fair Go". The Catholic Church also dedicates Sunday 12th September as Child Protection Sunday.

The safety of students is central to all that we do at St Lucy's. Not just within the school setting but also in supporting students in their understanding and development of social and emotional learning, safety skills, protective strategies, and their ability to communicate what they feel and what is and is not 'ok'. Key to these protective strategies is an understanding of relationships, and what is and is not 'ok' in different types of relationships. At the beginning of this Term,

all educational staff at St Lucy's underwent training in the SoSafe program. SoSafe has been implemented at the school since 2012 as part of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) curriculum. SoSafe provides a framework to understand relationships and to enhance social, social-sexual, and social safety training for people with disabilities. It also supports students to identify 'safe helpers', understand consent and provides visual tools for reporting abuse. Teachers and teacher's aides will be working on enhancing the school-wide implementation of SoSafe in the coming months. We look forward to supporting parents in utilising tools from the SoSafe program early in 2022 with their young person.

St Lucy's is in the process of re-examining its Child Protection policies, procedures, and practices to ensure they encompass the Child Safe Standards, which are shortly to be legislated in NSW. This process has already been undertaken for the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. Both sets of standards are based on The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

MOVING
TOWARDS **K-12**
10 September 2021

TERM 3 DATES

Friday 17 September

Term 3 concludes for students.

Mufti and fundraiser
(gold coin donation for
Young Carers NSW)

TERM 4 DATES

Wednesday 6 October

Term 4 commences for
students

Friday 10 December

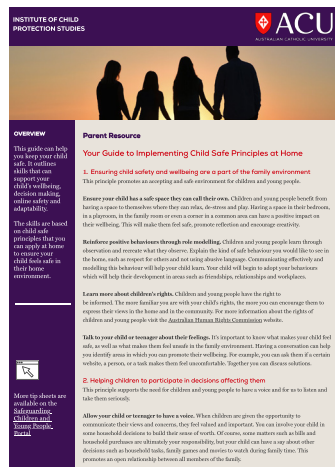
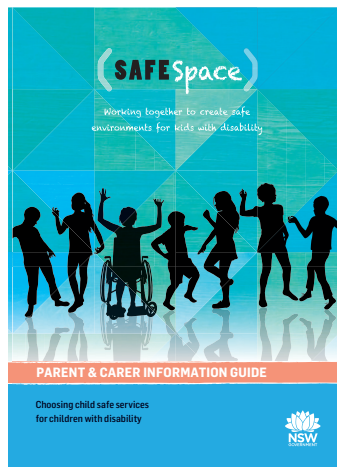
Term 4 concludes for students

Ph: 9487 1277

Principal: Mr David Raphael
www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au



Included with the newsletter is a brochure from the Australian Catholic University - Institute of Child Protection on Implementing the Child Safe Standards at home. It highlights the importance of agency and voice of the young person within the family environment. Also included is a parent's guide to choosing Child Safe services for children with disabilities:



There are lots of useful Child Protection resources available on the Australian Government NAPCAN website <https://www.napcan.org.au/get-involved-2021/>. This includes brochures and webinars for parents. There are also some helpful resources on the Human Rights Commission website <https://humanrights.gov.au/education/students> including a video of the Rights of the Child.

Vaccinations Continue:

I am delighted to let you know that 88 % of staff are fully vaccinated now and a further 6% of staff have received their first vaccine dose from 111 staff. Bearing in mind we started the term with fewer than 20% of staff vaccinated, this is an incredible achievement and I thank the staff on your behalf for their courage in embracing vaccination so wholeheartedly.

Students aged 12 and above are also continuing the vaccination journey. We now have 32 of 44 eligible students or 70% of students who have either begun or now completed their Pfizer Vaccination.

Just as parents are keen to know whether staff are vaccinated so are staff keen to know if students are too. Please continue to encourage other parents you know who have students in the eligible age range in our school community to begin the vaccination journey with their adolescent. As always, Kathleen Walsh is available for advice or to assist with bookings at Wahroonga or Mona Vale clinics if that is convenient.

The more we are all vaccinated - staff and students and siblings and families together - the safer and milder the symptoms and the more chance we have of remaining open and bouncing back quickly as a school should we have a Covid infection.

Face Covid Series:

In his book, FACE COVID, Dr Russ Harris alludes to one's values as another way through which to bring about a sense of wellbeing to one's life and the life of others during a pandemic. He writes:

Committed action should be guided by your core values: What do you want to stand for in the face of this crisis? What sort of person do you want to be, as you go through this? How do you

want to treat yourself and others?

Your values might include love, respect, humour, patience, courage, honesty, caring, openness, kindness or numerous others. Look for ways to 'sprinkle' these values into your day. Let them guide and motivate your committed action.

Of course, as this crisis unfolds, there will be all sorts of obstacles in your life; goals you can't achieve, things you can't do, problems for which there are no simple solutions. But you can still live your values in a myriad of different ways, even in the face of all those challenges. Especially come back to your values of kindness and caring.

Consider:

What are kind, caring ways you can treat yourself as you go through this?

What are kind words you can say to yourself, kind deeds you can do for yourself?

What are kind ways you can treat others who are suffering?

What are kind, caring ways of contributing to the wellbeing of your community?

What can you say and do that will enable you to look back in years to come and feel proud of your response?

It's somewhat validating and affirming, that the values espoused by Dr Harris are ones that we have been sharing and engaging with right from the beginning of term. In fact, our Term 3 Staff Prayer was all about the theme of kindness, and the most recent Daily Dominican Ditties have invited us to reflect on ways to share that kindness and care with others...despite the limitations presented to us with restrictions and lockdown.

In addition to the values of kindness and care, we can also use this time to consider our four school values and how we might continue to mindfully bring these to life. The values of Joy, Community, Courage and Truth are indeed ones that are so relevant at a time like this.

And so, we ask of you...

How do you bring about the value of **Joy** in your own life and the life of others?

- What makes you laugh?
- What makes you smile?
- What fills your heart with joy?
- What ways can you bring a smile to someone's face? A laugh to someone's belly? And a lightness to someone's heart?

How do you share in the value of **Community** in your own life and the life of others?

- What ways do you bring a sense of connectedness during a socially distanced time?
- What do you do to achieve the relational aspects to human life that so many of us crave?
- How do you give thanks for the communal opportunities you can engage with each day, either at work or at home or when walking in the local area?

- Are there some creative ways for you to gather in a 'virtual sense'?

How do you honour the value of **Courage** in your own life and the life of others?

- What aspects of this pandemic, have engaged your inner strengths?
- What aspects of this pandemic, have challenged you morally and ethically, and how have you faced these?
- How have you provided strength and courage to those suffering: physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually?
- How have you courageously faced your own moments of depletion: physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually?

How do you seek the value of **Truth** in your own life and the life of others?

- How have you allowed yourself to face your own Truth in those moments of confusion, saturation, anxiety, grief, despair and frustration?
- How have you accepted the Truth in others, and engaged in empathy and understanding as you come to know their inner-conflicts?
- How do you seek what is needed to transform your Truth to be one of hope and positivity?
- What ways do you live in the present, in the current Truth, to seek the small gifts of gratitude that are provided each day?

And if you need an anthem for your day today, as you take these thoughts with you, maybe you can use this one (see links below) from the truly iconic Rolling Stones, whose prolific drummer Charlie Watts died aged 80 last week. It's a poignant

reminder that kindness is a value which can often provide someone with all the shelter they need.

"Everyone is in need of shelter from the storm.

Be the shelter."

Luffina Lourdana



Gimme Shelter (original version) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKGU-tpN2H8>

Gimme Shelter (acoustic cover by James McCartney): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhBzjlxHwvc>

We wish you well for the holidays even as lockdown continues and if attending Vacation Care. See you all again to do it all again next term on Wednesday 6 October after the Long Weekend and the Staff Development Day. Take care, stay safe and connected. God bless.

David Raphael
Principal

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!



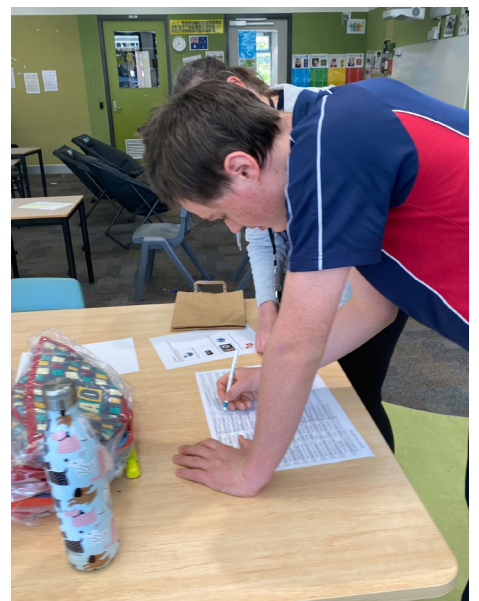
Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who have been cooking up a storm. Our St Lucy's families greatly appreciate this gift of a meal, it helps them in more ways than you know.

We are so blessed to have such wonderful volunteers in our St Lucy's community.

Also, a big shout out to Ku-ring-gai Council, Wahroonga IGA and Hornsby Connect for their support with meals.

FATHER'S DAY STALL AND WORK EDUCATION

With the tremendous success of the Mother's Day Stall, we once again had our Year 8 and 9 students, as part of their Work Experience Program, help package and deliver the gifts for Father's Day. This activity allows our students to be involved in a mini project that enables them to recognise the skills needed to deliver a quality product or service and understand the importance of time-management and communication skills. The project also allows for the students to gain valuable experience in reading and interpreting orders, ensuring the orders are packaged correctly and then making deliveries. Thanks to the P&F for purchasing the gifts and allowing our students to lead this fundraiser.



*Gracious God,
you love and care for all of your children,
especially the smallest and most
vulnerable.*

*We entrust to you the lives of children
and adults at risk
who have been sexually abused,
and whose trust and innocence have
been destroyed.*

*Help us to hear their cries of pain
and to take responsibility for those
whose lives have been broken.*

*Help us to recognise the hurt felt by
those wounded by abuse,
and the failure to be heard.*

*We pray that with the help of your grace,
communities and families will find
understanding and support,
so that now and in the future
their wounds may be healed
and they may find lasting peace.*

*Let your grace and love fall gently now
upon our children and adults at risk,
giving them the inner strength, peace
and resilience
to seek out assistance when required.*

Amen.

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families, advocates and supporters. The Catholic Church of Australia recognises and apologises for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people. It re-commits to practices that support survivors and makes the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

The positioning of this important and significant day, follows the national focus that is Child Protection Week (September 6th – 12th). The theme for this year is “Every child in every community needs a fair go”. Here at St Lucy’s we are fortunate

to engage in meaningful connections with our students each and every day. We treasure the many gifts that each child brings to our community, and continually uphold the dignity of the child in a way that enables their truth to be revealed across all school settings. As a Catholic school, we believe that each person is made in the image of God, and therefore is deserving of the love, respect, compassion and kindness that comes from their very belonging in our world, and in particular in this St Lucy’s community.

If you would like to learn more about the Catholic Church’s work in this area, you can do so at the following location:
www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday

Celebrating Father's Day!

Last Friday we celebrated the gift of those who are fathers in the lives of our students – dads, grandads, uncles, step-dads, etc. Each class participated in a liturgy that was created by the Tourmaline Team, and focused on the gratitude we have for these special people, and the role they play in the lives of our students. Each class found creative ways to bring this celebration to life for the children, including some Zoom/Teams links sent home for families to 'virtually' participate. We hope all our families found some special way to enjoy their Father's Day on Sunday!

National Appreciation Week for Class Support Staff:

At St Lucy's we are extremely fortunate to have such incredibly selfless and generous staff members who support the students and teachers each and every day! Last week, the teachers and students found some very meaningful and thoughtful ways to thank and acknowledge the wonders that are our class support staff! They deserve all the recognition they receive!

R U OK? Day:

This was officially recognised on Thursday 9th September, however its premise is indeed something that can be carried on at any point of our lives, and on any day. For those unaware of this initiative, R U OK? is a harm prevention charity that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through difficult times in their lives. This philosophy is never more necessary than now, given the current lockdown situation we are all facing, along with all the associated implications that come from our current health crisis. Let's find some way to reach out to others in a meaningful and considerate way. If you would like to know more about this initiative, feel free to do so here:

<https://www.ruok.org.au/>

Siblings Day and Last Day of Term Fundraiser:

Next Friday 17th September is our last day of term mufti day and fundraiser! This term, we have decided to combine our last day with a whole school liturgical focus as well. Our focus for this day will be our Siblings! Normally, this liturgy would have been shared as a whole school gathered together with our siblings present as well. Due to COVID this plan has been postponed again this year, however we wanted to maintain a focus in acknowledgment of all the love, support and kindness our siblings express within the relationship they share with the students of St Lucy's. Thank you to Diamond Class for preparing the liturgy for classes to engage with next Friday!

As our fundraising focus, we ask all families to bring in a gold coin which will be directed towards Young Carers NSW. There are many programs and supports available through this organisation that benefit young people, like our siblings. If you would like to know more, feel free to explore through the following link: <https://www.carersnsw.org.au/services-and-support/programs-services/young-carers>

Wishing you peace and blessings!

Vanessa Dillon.

CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY!





HIGH SCHOOL MERIT AWARDS



MERIT AWARDS WEEK 8

AMBER	Leo Papa
AQUAMARINE	Joshua Gill
EMERALD	Leif Courtney & Joshua Lawrence-Slater
MALACHITE	Addison Williams
PERIDOT	Isabella Chen

MERIT AWARDS WEEK 9

AMBER	Matthew Threlfo
AQUAMARINE	Pablo Rostirola
EMERALD	Tiarnan Malone
MALACHITE	Mia Richardson
PERIDOT	Oscar Hay



STAR OF THE WEEK PRIMARY AWARDS



STAR OF THE WEEK (WEEK 8)

AMETHYST	Elina Arevalo	PEARL	Ante Maric
CITRINE	Austin Cameron	RUBY	Levi Richey
DIAMOND	Hugo Le Roy	SAPPHIRE	Cassiano Bernal
GARNET	Bradley Chien	SUNSTONE	Timothy Wang
JADE	Caleb Longford	TANZANITE	Ethan Mbereko & David Salsano
JASPER	Chace Erceg	TOPAZ	Daisy Bradbury & Mikaeel Karami
MOONSTONE	Sebastian Murray	TOURMALINE	Leo Hart
ONYX	Ethan Bortolussi	TURQUOISE	Madison Garcia
OPAL	Diesel Grey		

STAR OF THE WEEK (WEEK 9)

AMETHYST	Connor Anderson	PEARL	Dorothy Ding
CITRINE	Liliana D'Silva	RUBY	Matheus Sgier
DIAMOND	Oliver D'Souza	SAPPHIRE	Dylan Farmer
GARNET	Daniel O'Connor	SUNSTONE	Xavier McKie
JADE	Dylan Ainscow	TANZANITE	Edward Price & Joseph Oh
JASPER	Luke Hughes	TOPAZ	Elijah El-Agha
MOONSTONE	Elliot Dinsdale	TOURMALINE	Zac Chen
ONYX	Leo Seeto	TURQUOISE	Max Macgugan
OPAL	Zef de Bruin		



All-abilities vacation care program for kids & teens



FIVE DOCK: 23rd & 28th September: 9:30am – 12:30pm / 1:30pm – 4:30pm

FRENCHS FOREST: 21st – 22nd & 29th – 30th September: Times as above

1:3 Support - \$100 per workshop / 1:1 Support - \$175 per workshop*

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