

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Issue 5 Term 2, June 2020



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Week 5 we welcomed the return of our teaching staff and students to face to face learning to our College. Albeit there was a few teething problems surrounding the transition of our students returning to face to face learning, as a whole we feel that this transition ran as smoothly as possible.

It was unfortunate though, that as a College, there was the need to send out a few harsh messages. We hope that by now the dust has settled, as Christians, we will all be respectful toward one another.

At St Charbel's College, we are fortunate to have a very vibrant community, which are full of life. This is very good attribute to have; however, this is sometimes not enough if it is not fostered with good and positive relationships with the people around us. This action is an essential factor that sometimes is absent in our world, we as a generation are starting to lose respect for one another.

We live in a fast pace era, juggling with our time and constantly looking for fast and easy ways to move through our lives. This phenomenon is sometimes extended to our way of thinking. Some people are quick to make a fast assumptions or decisions and sometimes we project these assumptions on people making our firm judgment. This action would be contradictive with our values (patience, wisdom, etc.) and could potentially create issues that would affect everyone around us. One little assumption would create a little story; a little story could create a snowball effect and destroy everything that it meets. As a community, if we should strive to surround ourselves with positive behaviour and provide the right words of advice and wisdom, in our actions, deeds and words, otherwise we could be saturated with negative influences and cause negative attitude toward others. We could ask ourselves, as parent, what kind of example am I showing my children? If I respect the people in my community, what part of my life does spirituality play? And what kind of life am I living?

As it has been addressed before, in an environment of education, one of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and parents who work together for the best interest of children. The close partnership between home and school is one of the exceptional strengths at St Charbel's College. As a college, we are always seeking to further develop our collective capacity to improve the social, emotional and academic outcomes of all students in our care. This has meant lifting our expectations of student behaviour and student learning. There is no doubt, that this is proving challenging for a small number of students. I would like to thank all families that we have made contact with, as they have all shown a willingness to assist us in working with their child to bring about positive changes in behaviour and/or learning.

On Sunday 31 May, we celebrated as one community Pentecost Sunday. The word Pentecost comes from the Greek word for "fiftieth" (pentecoste). Fifty days after Easter, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and His mother, giving them the courage, wisdom and zeal to continue the mission He started. The Holy Spirit enables us to recognize and celebrate our connectedness to God and to one another.

We Christians are not supposed to be normal people; we are supposed to be inspired. May we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us as teachers, parents and children to inspire one another in Christian faith and love. The Holy Spirit is our Consoler when we have to live through troubles. The Holy Spirit is the source of our love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, humility, and temperance (Gal 5:22). May you have a happy and blessed Pentecost.

**Rev Fr Maroun Youssef**

# Director of Primary

Dear Parents

As school life returns to normal, parents may have noticed a few subtle changes to the way their children learn. In order to maintain the technology skills acquired during remote learning, some aspects of student learning will remain online, e.g. weekly homework.

The vast majority of learning will still be face-to-face in the classroom using traditional means, and online learning is not to be confused with social media. These are two completely different things. Technology will be part of the students' future lives so it is the school's responsibility to prepare them to be competent and responsible digital citizens.

It has been disappointing to see student items like tracksuits, jumpers and lunch boxes left lying around the playground at the end of each day. I appreciate it must be also very frustrating for parents to have their children come home without their belongings. Staff would like to be able to return lost items to their owners but are unable to do this if they do not have a name on them. We ask that parents please label their children's clothing. Due to the large amount of items that are accumulated each week, after a few weeks any items without names that are not claimed will be sent to the school's second hand clothing shop.

Traditionally the school has an Awards assembly at the end of Semester 1. Due to the current circumstances this will not take place this year. However, staff will use the school merit system and class awards to acknowledge the work and efforts of students in their class. So staff will ensure that student aptitude, behaviour and achievement will still be recognised.

**Ms Maree Kelly**

## Year 11 EEC

The Year 11 EEC girls have spent the term making toys to enhance a child's cognitive development.

**Ms Jenna Boulos**



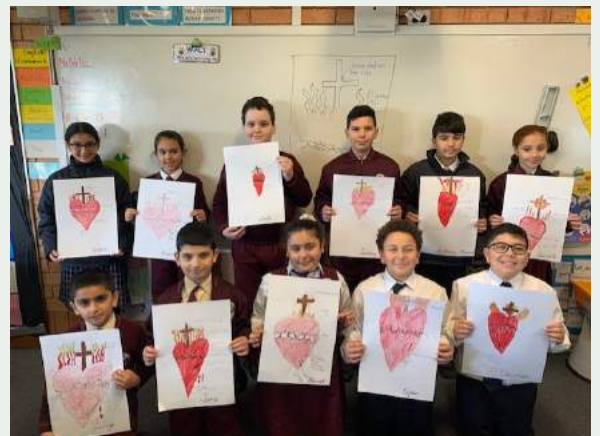
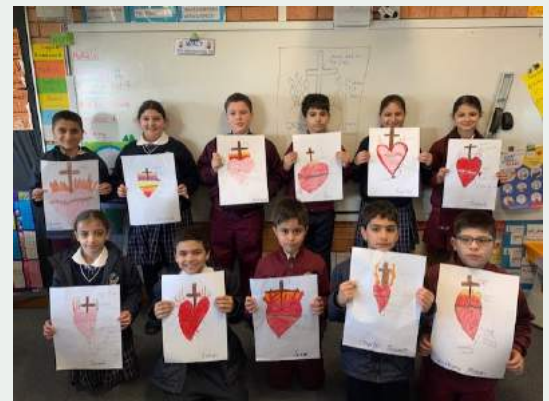
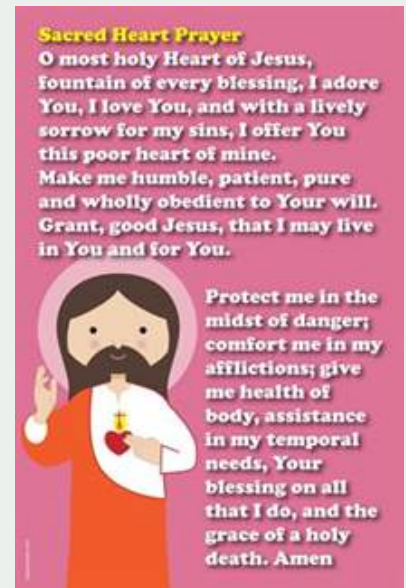
# Primary Religion

## Coordinator

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and revealed to her how He desired souls to foster devotion to His Sacred Heart because he was in love with humanity. He wanted the world to obtain all the treasures his Sacred Heart can pour out. Treasures such as graces that will allow them to reach heaven and avoid purgatory/hell. He made 12 promises to those who would practice this devotion. On Friday 5th of June, The Primary were taught about the devotion to His Sacred Heart and participated in mini activities.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on US.

**Mrs Loulou Alam**





# Secondary Arabic Coordinator

## إمتحانات الفصل الثاني

بدأت الأمتحانات للفصل الثاني في اللغة العربية في مهارات التكلّم. وقد أعطى التلاميذ مُدّة أسبوعين للإستعداد لهذه الإمتحانات. وأول امتحان قد جرى في الصّف الثامن، وقد أبدع بعض التلاميذ في طريقة التكلّم وفي تحضير الثياب التي بحثوا عن تاريخها عبر الشبكات الإلكترونية. فنتمى للجميع أفضل النتائج. والصّور المرفقة هي للصف الثامن S.



Mr Melhem Kairouz

## Year 8 History

This term, Year 8R, Ms Mucea and Ms Gee have been learning about the Medieval Period.

We have come up with a brilliant idea into making creative helmets that were based on the mounted knights living in the 1300's.

Together, we have looked at several images of different helmets for inspiration. As you can see, we have each designed different models of helmets to make a final decision.

We want to thank Ms Gee and Ms Mucea for giving us the chance to create these helmets.

We hope you enjoy our creations!

**Lara Abdel-Massih & Lillyann El-Badawi - Year 8 students**



# Year 11 Food Technology

## Incursion

Year 11 Food Technology students spent the day a couple weeks ago, creating food from scratch to photograph for the magazine cover "Food for Thought." Both classes combined together and worked tirelessly to produce the ultimate magazine cover. Food photography is a concept which allows the students to explore their creative side whilst developing their teamwork skills.

**Mr Alfred Taouk**





# Secondary Sport

Our Secondary students have been having some fun in the sun with some of our enthusiastic teachers during these troubled times with our adapted Thursday sports schedules!

## Mr Frederick Zalloua



# Beat the Cold War!

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who has donated to the Beat the Cold War initiative. Thus far, we have answered the call of the following organisations; Maronite on mission (2 drop offs and brand new products donated), Parramatta Local community (all second hand items that have been donated). As a College community, we have answered the prayers of many homeless people and for this we are truly humbled to announce that we have collected the following items;

Items	Amount
Tooth paste	486
Tooth brush	540
Blocks of soap	312
Sanitary items	622
Blankets	135
Beanies	103
Scarves	91
Gloves	27
Cuppa soup	50
socks	249

**THANK YOU** to everyone that has donated and to the Year 10 students who have assisted in sorting, counting, packing and delivering the items. We will be accepting donations until **Friday, June 26th**. We kindly request that any second hand items be washed before donating. This is to ensure we assist in keeping our community safe.

## Homelessness

Opens

People's

Eyes

Mrs Jessica George-Loulach





# Primary Arabic Coordinator

نشكر شفيع مدرستنا، القديس شربل، على رجوعنا إلى المدرسة بسلام وبصحة جيدة. عدنا إلى الدوام المدرسي الطبيعي بعد إنتهاء فرض التباعد الإجتماعي وإغلاق المدارس بسبب الكورونا. عشنا وإياكم خلالها تجاربا جديدة منها "التعلم عن بعد" والخوف من تفشي فيروس كورونا وانتقال العدوى إلى من نحب. لقد عادت الصفوف والدروس إلى مجراها الطبيعي وعدنا نسمع أصوات الطلاب والمعلمين والمعلمات في جميع أنحاء المدرسة.

عند عودتنا، في الأسبوع الأول ودعنا الشهر المريمي، شهر أيار، في قداسنا الأول الذي قدمه تلاميذ الصف الثالث في صالة المدرسة. بدأ القداس بزياح العذراء حيث رتلت جوقة المدرسة ترتيلة "يا أم الله". وختم تلاميذ الصف الثالث، القداس بطلبة العذراء. يا قديسة مريم يا والدة الله يا عذراء العذارى تضرعي لأجلنا.



كذلك، استقبلنا شهر حزيران المكرس لقلب يسوع الأقدس وسوية في الصف الأول، تعلمنا و صلينا هذه الصلاة: يا يسوع الوديع والمتواضع القلب، إجعل قلبنا مثل قلبك.

نتمنى شهر قلب يسوع مبارك للجميع



# Primary Sports Coordinator

We're skipping through the term!

Jump Rope for Heart is well underway and it's great to see so many children out in the playground skipping with smiles on their faces. It's not long until our Jump Off Day on Wednesday 17th June so keep on practicing those tricks! And don't forget to share your online fundraising page with friends and family to raise money for a great cause! Still need to sign up online? It's easy just follow this link and enter your details. [www.jumprope.org.au/parents](http://www.jumprope.org.au/parents)

**Ms Catherine Zalloua**



## Library News

Bilingual Story Time!

Our Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two classes are enjoying bilingual story time this month. We are reading picture books in both Arabic and English. Thank you Mrs Wakim for translating our Arabic picture books so we can share them with our students and for reading them aloud with such expression and feeling. We are proud to support the hard work of Mrs Kazzi and the Primary Arabic Department to promote bilingual literacy in our school. We also have many wonderful new picture books to enjoy. Thank you Mrs Golz for our amazing collection of new books for our students to enjoy.

A reminder to please return any overdue books to our library.

**Mrs Simone Cullinan/Mrs Christine Golz**



# Counsellor's Corner

**50 Ways to Build SELF-ESTEEM for kids**

WHOLEhearted

Like, love, embrace & accept yourself.

Show RESPECT towards others and yourself.

Use good posture. Stand tall as you are.

Treat yourself with kindness & compassion, even & especially when life gets hard.

Follow your curiosities & learn! Try or create something new.

See MISTAKES AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN.

Remember That NO ONE IS PERFECT.

Don't compare yourself to what you see in the media.

Focus on the things you have control over & can change.

Choose friends who treat you how you want to be treated.

Create. Build. Cook. Bake. Garden. Do Art.

Do more of what helps you feel good about yourself.

LOOK in the MIRROR & tell yourself, "I love you."

BE YOUR OWN BEST FRIEND.

Make choices that stay true to what you value.

Learn & practice healthy ways to cope with stress.

Don't compare yourself with others. You are unique!

READ!

Laugh! Play! Have Fun! Get silly!

Say positive affirmations.

Get to work on the chores & other responsibilities you have been putting off.

PRACTICE GRATITUDE.

FOCUS ON THE POSITIVES & BE OPTIMISTIC!

FORGIVE OTHERS. FORGIVE YOURSELF.

Take slow, mindful breaths.

exercise!

Practice daily hygiene.

Resolve conflict peacefully & use I-Statements.

Eat healthy food.

Say 'no' to things you are uncomfortable with.

TELL THE TRUTH & BE HONEST.

ASK FOR HELP & SUPPORT.

HAVE A GROWTH MINDSET.

Remind yourself that your bravery is stronger than your fear.

FOCUS ON SOLUTIONS, NOT PROBLEMS.

TALK ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS WITH SOMEONE YOU TRUST.

Set goals & work towards them, step by step.

Get enough sleep.

SAY WHAT YOU WANT, NEED & HOPE FOR.

Try again when something doesn't work out the way you hoped it would.

Be responsible for your choices at school & at home.

SAY, THANK YOU WHEN SOMEONE COMPLEMENTS YOU.

DRINK PLENTY OF WATER.

Give yourself a hug.

SPEND TIME WITH CARING ADULTS.

Limit how much time you spend in front of screens.

COMPLETE YOUR SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS.

DO random acts of kindness.

HELP OTHERS.

Start a new hobby or sport. Join a club at school.



*Expression of Interest*  
*Learn Music on Keyboard at School*

*Class temporarily suspended due to the Covid-19 disruption*  
*Taking expression of interest now, for when class resumes*

*Great songs! Musical activities!*  
*Cool music knowledge!*



- Convenient at-school venue with additional health & safety measures in place
- Small group, 45 min weekly lesson
- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially
- Fun introduction to music



To enrol: [www.learnmusicatschool.com.au](http://www.learnmusicatschool.com.au)  
(02) 9411 3122

# 2020 Important Dates

## **2020 Term Dates:**

Term 2 dates: 27 April until 26 June 2020

Term 3 dates: 20 July until 25 September 2020

Term 4 dates: 12 October until 8 December 2020



# Important Reminders

## REMINDERS

- Students must arrive to school no later than 8:25am
- Students are not to leave school before 3:10pm. Early leave must be with permission granted by Year or Stage Coordinators. Exceptional circumstances require a note from parents.
- Ensure correct uniforms are worn
- Boys to have regulation haircuts
- No coloured bands to be worn around necks or on wrists
- Years 3-12 students to have their diaries signed when required
- Parents to make appointments to speak to teachers or the Principal.
- Playground supervision starts 8am and ends 3:30pm.

## **P&F Uniform Shop Opening Hours:**

Fridays: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

**SALE: ALL OLD Primary School Uniforms  
Reduced to Clear**