

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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Dear members of the Lisieux community,

"A friend may be waiting behind a stranger's face." Maya Angelou

The need to belong has been described as the "soil for learning" and was identified by American psychologist Abraham Maslow in the "hierarchy of human needs" as essential for human survival. Fostering such a culture of belonging in schools is one of the most important things we can do; when students connect with others, feel safe and happy, they will thrive.

Schools have traditionally focused on academic growth and intellectual skills. Fortunately, we now understand that there are other needs which must be met before this can occur. We understand that when young people feel accepted and valued for who they are, they will exhibit a strong motivation to achieve; they will be open to new ideas, prepared to take risks and to be more creative. When children feel safe and secure, they are also more likely to be accepting and forgiving of others, to develop a cooperative spirit and to appreciate diversity.

So much of what has occurred in our first fourteen weeks of school life at Lisieux has been about nourishing that "belonging soil." In our learning community we incorporate the language of belonging into our daily programs (*friendship, good choices, welcome, accepting, sharing, encouraging, problem solving, etc.*), read books about the values of empathy and awareness of others, and have regular discussions about the behaviours of a good friend. Mistakes are made but these are learning opportunities. It is so rewarding to see our students expressing feelings of connection, to see their peer circles widening, and to witness them demonstrating support and inclusion of others.

Next Monday students from Clonard College's VCAL program will be visiting Lisieux to participate in a "**Backyard Blitz.**" After a period of careful consultation and planning, they have set the following goals:

- construct a chook pen utilising our current two storey cubby house in the bush area
- paint the rotunda
- install three raised garden beds for vegetables
- paint a wall mural on the garden side of The Carmel Centre
- install bollards in house colours.

We look forward to sharing the outcomes of their great work next week.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

| | |
|------------------|---|
| May | |
| 20th | Grade 1/2 Mass St Therese Church 8:45am |
| June | |
| 11th | Queen's Birthday Holiday |
| 12 th | Staff Professional Learning Day - No Students |



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staffing

This week I have advertised for a Deputy Principal to commence in January 2019. The selection process is expected to occur before the end of this term. Early in Term 3, further recruitment of additional teaching staff for next year will also take place. It is an exciting time as we plan for the growth of our team of Lisieux educators, people who will share our vision and commitment to build an outstanding Catholic learning community.

On Sunday at 8:45am, we will celebrate the **Grade 1 / 2 family mass** at St Therese parish church. Lisieux families are warmly encouraged to take part in this liturgy.

God's blessings for the week ahead,

Susan Ryan

Principal

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PRAYER / REFLECTION



Belonging

Pope Francis once referred to the story about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were leaving Jerusalem, the centre of the terrible last days of the one who they thought would be the messiah. “We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel,” they said. They wandered in search of something new, not realising that the supposed messiah who had been executed three days ago had risen and was standing right before them. Pope Francis described the two disciples as a metaphor for those who leave the church because they no longer see it as meaningful. They feel abandoned by all that it represented. Their expectations of the messiah have not come to fruition, and so so they journey on the long road looking for a place of belonging.

Pope Francis says,

“We need a Church unafraid of going forth into their night. We need a Church capable of meeting them on their way. We need a Church capable of entering into their conversation. We need a Church able to dialogue with those disciples who, having left their Jerusalem behind, are wandering aimlessly, alone, with their own disappointment, disillusioned...”

PRAYER / REFLECTION

Lord God,

We yearn for meaning; we yearn for belonging

We yearn for a community that offers space to question, that offers hope, acceptance of diversity and peace.

You said “I have called you by name, you are mine.”

You sought out the disciples on the road and accompanied them in their darkness.

Guide and strengthen us to be the face of God for those around us, to open our hearts, create a place of belonging and let others know that they are loved and welcome.

Let us show by our love that all are welcome.

Amen.

BUILDING PROGRESS

On Monday 21 May, the roof of the new building is scheduled to be installed. Stay tuned for photos.

GEELONG MUM DONATIONS

DONATIONS WANTED:

After hearing the amazing support Geelong Mums provide at the Mother’s Day High Tea last week, we would love to support them with donations.

They are in current need of nappies (crawler, toddler, junior), wipes and kids toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, bath wash etc).

We will be collecting these much needed resources until the 8th June at Lisieux Reception.

If you have any questions these can be directed to Tarryn Attard or Skye Carty. Hopefully we can make a positive impact in supporting the Geelong Mums team.





we make kids smile

GREAT FUN

- ★ Outdoor games and sports
- ★ Arts & Crafts
- ★ Playing with friends
- ★ Great Educators
- ★ Food and Cooking
- ★ Indoor Activities



The new Child Care Subsidy, and what it means for you

On the 2nd of July, the Australian Government will transition to a new Child Care Subsidy (CCS). This will replace the existing Child Care Rebate (CCR) and Child Care Benefit (CCB).

There are a number of key changes that families who rely on childcare before and/or after school need to know, including:

- Any benefit will be paid directly to child care providers (like Camp Australia), who will then only bill the 'gap' amount to families.
- There will continue to be hardship relief.
- For families earning less than \$186,958, there will no longer be an annual cap on the amount of subsidy you can receive. For families earning between \$186,958 and \$351,248, an increased annual subsidy cap of \$10,000 per child will apply each year.

If you'd like to know what percentage of your child care costs you can claim back through the Child Care Subsidy, check out the simple Family Childcare Subsidy Estimator at

<https://www.education.gov.au/sites/education/files/chcare/est/index.html>



Program details

We're here to make Outside School Hours Care the best experience possible for your child.

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campastralia.com.au

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.

From the Team at Camp Australia.

visit www.campastralia.com.au

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