

Dear members of the Lisieux community,

WHEN WE TAKE CARE OF WELLBEING, WE TAKE CARE OF LEARNING.

This year we have further developed our Ubuntu program. Ubuntu is a word meaning, "I am because we are", significant in our school context because our connections to one another form the foundation of what we are about. As you would know, we adopt a Positive Psychology approach at Lisieux. A recent definition I read expressed what this means better than any I had seen before: "Positive psychology is the study of what is right about people-their positive attributes, psychological assets, and strengths. It aims to understand and foster the factors that allow individuals, communities and societies to thrive." (Kobau, 2011). In our community, we adopt a strategic focus on wellbeing, relationships, strengths, positive emotions, flow, wisdom, creativity, kindness and hope- and we do this in a number of specific ways. Ubuntu time is one of those ways and now takes place every Monday after recess. We have introduced a 4-week rotating cycle:

• class connections (with explicit teaching and learning about social emotional skills such as resilience, emotional regulation, character strengths, etc);

• cross-class connections (where we are matched to another class and engage in a relationship strengthening activity, building our sense of community);

- whole school assembly, planned and led by a different class group each time;
- House based activities.

On Monday during Ubuntu time we took part in our first House-based challenge for 2023, with the goal of helping students build a greater sense of team spirit and strengthening house crossage house relationships. The session was facilitated by Kaboom Sports and students took part with great passion and energy. A big thumbs up to our senior students who demonstrated amazing leadership and to our Prep students, for whom this was their first whole school event. Both groups impressed us enormously!

Enrolment Mass 8.45am St Therese Church
Year 5/6 Camp
Year 5/6 Camp Prayers in Pyjamas Evening for Prep Students 6.30pm
Year 5/6 Camp Prep Rest Day/Individual testing
Year 5/6 Rest Day
Professional Practice day NO STUDENTS SCHOOL CLOSED After School Care running today
LABOUR DAY NO SCHOOL
2024 Enrolment School Tour 12pm
NAPLAN Test window commences Year 3 and 5
Family Picnic at Lisieux 5pm-7pm
2024 Enrolment tour 9.30am
Assembly 12pm
Reconciliation sacrament 5.30pm & 6.30pm
Teeth on wheels (info below)



This week I have also had the great privilege of listening to our Year 6 students present leadership speeches for nominated roles. We are enormously proud of this group of young people – in their speeches they demonstrated courage, confidence and vision.

God's blessings for the week ahead,

Susan Ryan

Susan.ryan@lisieux.catholic.edu.au

Principal



On Tuesday evening our Year 3 Reconciliation candidates and their parents took part in Reconciliation Family Night at St Therese Church in preparation for making their Sacrament of Reconciliation later this year. Reconciliation is a complex concept for young people to understand. Essentially, we are leading them to understand that some choices are easy (what to eat, what to wear, what to play with) and some choices may be difficult (what to stand up for) - this is when we may have to choose between right and wrong. Our students learn that in baptism, we begin as followers of Jesus. As Jesus' disciples, we want to make good choices. When we are not sure about making the right choices, we can:

• think before we act. • ask trusted adults for guidance • pray to God for guidance.

God always loves us, even when we make mistakes or bad choices. He knows that we are good. If we do something wrong and we are sorry, He forgives us and gives us another chance.



Loving God, help us to teach our children that you love them totally and unconditionally. Help us to encourage our children to grow in love and learn how to say sorry, knowing that you will always forgive. Give us the courage to pray with our children and to share our faith with them as we journey together. Amen.

STUDENT LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENTS



Spotlight on...



Bonjour mes amis! In Spotted Eucalypt One we have had a fantastique start to Year Two. We have co-created a calm and engaging learning space for everyone to thrive, planted seeds for growth for a successful year and made cross class connections during Ubuntu time.

(G) Lisieux

We worked on getting to know each other and developed positive relationships while focusing on our Inquiry unit, *My Story, Your Story, Our Story.*

During Literacy we have been working on developing our sound awareness, reading and writing skills through language experience, small group and whole class activities.

In Numeracy we have been developing our growth mindset to be successful mathematicians. We have been enjoying number games while we build upon our place value and number sense. We have enjoyed taking a creative approach to data collection and interpretation by creating graphs and tallies during outdoor learning.

In Religious Education we are deepening our knowledge of what it means to be part of God's family.

Keep up the curiosity and creative learning Spotted Eucalypt One!





Introducing.... Madame Finn



Bonjour! My Name is Carly Finn and this year I am teaching Prep in Carmel Bleu. This is my third year teaching at Lisieux and I am very excited for the year ahead with the preps.

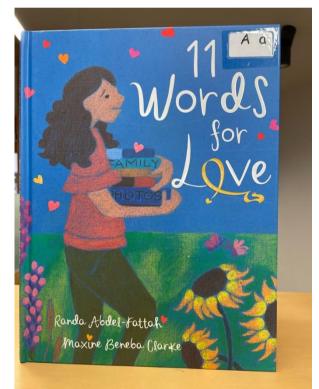
I am originally from Colac Victoria where most of my family still live, however I moved to Geelong at the end of 2019. In my spare time I enjoy dance and have taught dance for the past 8 years. I am really looking forward to this year's School Production. I have a big family with lots of cousins and two younger brothers. I am a hawks supporter and enjoy going to the games. I also love travelling, exercising and socialising with my family and friends.

I am looking forward to continuing to grow relationships with all Lisieux students and their families.

NEW TO THE LISTEUX BOOK SHELF

"11 words for Love" by Randa Abdel-Fattah (illustrated by Maxine Beneba Clarke) tells the story of a family who flee their homeland to find safety in another country, carrying little more than a suitcase full of love.

As the journey takes place, the oldest child shares eleven meanings for love in Arabic as her family is shown all different kinds of love in their new home. They also remember the love they have for those left behind along the way, and their growing love for their new homeland. The child says, "There are eleven words for love and my family knows them all." What a treasure this book is as it powerfully helps readers to appreciate issues such as change, the power of family and community, and humanity. The linen-quality watercolour pencil and collage illustrations make this a very beautiful keepsake.



TAKE NOTE

Learning is a journey of discovery



ENROLMENTS CURRENTLY BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2024

Come and see our learning community in action... Visit our classrooms and hear from our Principal about what we offer.

We believe you'll be excited by our vision.

Group tours currently being offered weekly throughout March. We would appreciate donations of clean empty egg cartons.

Religion Education News

Rite of Enrolment of Name Mass

Families are invited to Mass this weekend for candidates to declare their intention to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receive a blessing as part of the Parish Community.

St Therese Church Sunday 5th March at 8:45am

Reminders for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is **Tuesday the 21st of March**.
- Students will be celebrating the *First Rite* of Reconciliation where they will have the opportunity for relaxed one on one confession and absolution with a priest.
- Students can wear a stole. Information on how to purchase a stole or have a symbol added can be found by visiting Gracious Glyphs at www.graciousglyphs.com.au. The orders will be dropped off at school on Friday the 10th of March.
- Students are asked to wear neat casual attire.
- Students, together with their families are asked to arrive 10 mins prior to the beginning of their celebration.
- Students in Miss Hicks, Miss Bateman and Mr Otto's classes will make their sacrament at 5:30.
- Students in **Mr Pace and Mr Vredenbregt** will make their sacrament at **6:30**.

Students in year levels above 3/4 are asked to attend the **6:30 session**, unless they have a younger sibling in 3/4 also making their Reconciliation, in which case they will attend the same session as their sibling.

What is Project Compassion?

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's main annual fundraising campaign. It mobilises Australians to raise much-needed funds to help alleviate poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity in the most vulnerable and marginalised communities in the world.

Held during Lent, the six-week period before Easter, Catholic schools, Parishes, and the wider Australian public participate in a diverse range of fundraising activities and events to support Caritas Australia's programs both overseas and here with our First Australian partners.

Project Compassion is an extraordinary demonstration of the faith, empathy and generosity of our supporters. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, we could not do the vital work that we do.

Each family will shortly receive a Project Compassion Box to take home and raise funds for those in need.

At our Easter Bonnet parade on the final day of Term 1, we will create a coin trail with all the funds we raise as a school for Project Compassion over the period of Lent.

Prep Prayer in Pyjamas evening

When: Tuesday 8th March at 6:30pm sharp. Please arrive by 6:15pm for prompt seating.

Where: Multipurpose Room, Lisieux Catholic Primary School

Dresscode: Pyjamas/slippers (no bedtime teddies please)

Attendees: We respectfully ask that just parent/s and Prep children attend with no siblings due to expected numbers and space required.

We thank you for your support and look forward to celebrating our faith as a community.

Kind Regards,

Prep Team and Gerard Douglas- Religious Education and Stewardship Innovation Leader



5 Ways to Improve Young Children's Decision-Making

Via www.lifeskillsgroup.com.au

Childhood is a time filled with enjoyment and discovery, at least when we're unburdened by the sometimes stressful realities around us. Few things characterise what childhood represents better than learning to make choices and how they cause consequences, from eating a delicious handful of dirt as an infant, to becoming the 'class clown' in high school. It is crucial for young people to understand this process to help empower them to make confident, positive decisions regarding the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of themselves and those around them as they move toward independence. Generally, the most influential figures in this process are family members and teachers as they support these young people at home and during their time in formal education. Therefore it is important for them to recognise ways you can develop such an important life skill.

Five Ways To Improve Children's Decision-Making Skills

1. Encourage young people to use decision-making steps

As children develop skills for reflecting on decisions, discuss the following steps and explain how they can be applied to everyday scenarios: What decision needs to be made What are the options Evaluate the options and pick the best one Act on your choice and see how it works.

2. Involve them in everyday decisions

Include children in your own decisions and ask them for advice. You could say:

"I'm trying to decide whether to take up rowing or do yoga classes, to increase my level of fitness activity. Which one do you think I should do?"

Then go over the pros and cons of each suggestion so that your child can learn how to thoughtfully consider different options, to then be able to make an informed decision.

3. Give children the chance to practise making choices

Giving young people the opportunity to make their own decisions helps build a sense of independence and empowers them to make choices with integrity. It is important that the decision truly is their own though. In order to empower them to make the right decision, provide them with a few different options that would all be acceptable for you, no matter which one they choose. In this way, you are making them feel confident that they can make good decisions, by then demonstrating interest in their choice, you show that the child's decision is important.



4. Encourage children to set goals

One vital skill, that is oftentimes forgotten among children but also adults, is goal setting. Being able to set <u>SMART goals</u> and achieve them is a life skill which when taught at an early age, gives not only focus, but also self-awareness and confidence moving into adulthood. Something as simple as learning to play new sports or learning how to play a musical instrument can be good opportunity to teach goal setting to young people. This shows the importance of decision making in planning and execution, and it then also allows children to form learning pathways, not only in a physical sense, but socially and emotional as well.

5. Ask questions which promote astute decisions

"What do you like about that?", "What makes this the best option?", "How would this work?"

These are all examples of good questions you could be asking your children to spark thought-provoking conversations. Such questions allow young people to be mindful of their choices and aware that there will be some sort of reaction or consequence to it.

By no means is this every tool that can teach good decision-making, however it is the perfect place to start! To teach good decision-making skills is to empower our younger generation, in making positive life choices regarding their social, emotional and physical wellbeing as they navigate the challenges of life moving towards adulthood.

LEARNING COMMUNITY IN PICTURES













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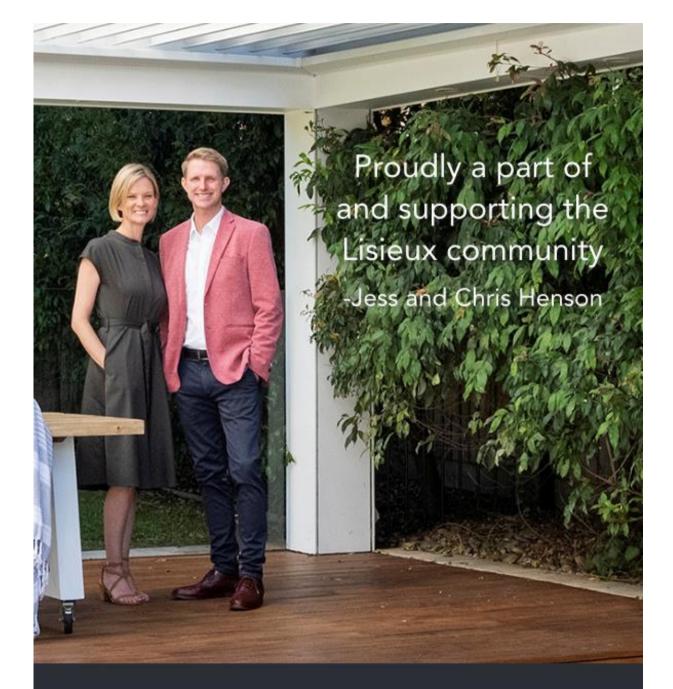












If you have any questions about real estate, we're always happy to have a chat.

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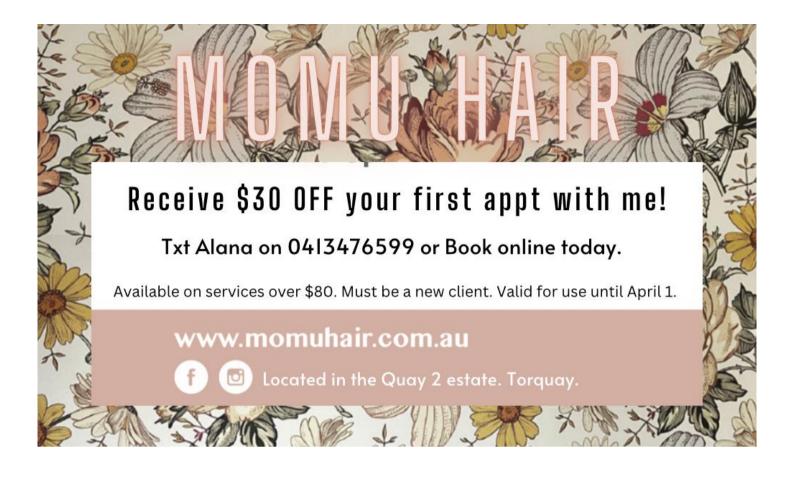
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PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

We'd like to thank all of those who came along to the AGM last week, we had a great turn out and have some exciting events and fundraisers coming up this year to help achieve the goal of purchasing the school a pottery kiln.



The committee would like to ask for each class to have a nominated person to represent each class and be the contact person between the committee and the classes. Being the contact person between the P & F would include, coming to the P & F president with any concerns or ideas. Coordinating P & F school activities, e.g: coordinating the contributions for the '5 days of Christmas' for the staff Christmas gift. Arranging any year level social activities outside of school. And organising additional volunteers if needed for school events and fundraisers. Being on the P & F committee and attending meetings, isn't a compulsory part of this role – but you are obviously welcome. If you would like to be the Parent Rep please email your name, class that you'll represent and contact details to lisieuxpandf@gmail.com

The first fundraising event on the calendar is the Easter Raffle, which was a huge success last year. Next week we'll be asking for Easter egg and gift donations to contribute to the prizes.

Also don't forget Friday Canteen orders by 5pm on Wednesday via School24 app and Thursday lunch orders by 8.30am Wednesday via the Flexischools app.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING!				
Do you have or know of a local business that would like to advertise to our school community? Our newsletter gets over 1,000 views each week!				
	SMALL AD	MEDIUM AD	LARGE AD	
	One Off: \$20 One Month: \$50 One Term: \$100	One Off: \$40 One Month: \$100 One Term: \$200	One Off: \$80 One Month: \$200 One Term:\$400	
OR you might like to have a Special Offer e.g. "Quote 'Lisieux' when booking a job and we'll give \$50 back to the school." Or "For every Lisieux Family Meal Deal ordered we will give \$10 back to the school."				
OR you might be interested in sponsoring one of our bigger projects and have your business name and logo on it! Bigger projects get FREE Newsletter Advertising.				
For Advertising Enquiries please contact Lisieux Parents and Friends Committee at: lisieuxpandf@gmail.com				

Dear Families,

We are excited to have Teeth on Wheels visiting our school for a dental visit on the 23rd of March.

Below is a link to their E-form which needs to be completed by the 22nd of March for your child to participate.

https://teethonwheels.com.au/consent-forms/consent-eform/

Teeth on Wheels are focused on providing a positive dental experience and specialise with working with children. They can provide check-up and clean appointments and more onsite and will be able to advise you if your child is eligible to received dental care for **FREE** under the Child Dental Benefit Schedule.

Complete your form today and the Teeth on Wheels team will be in contact to schedule your child's appointment.

