St Augustine, our patron saint, You loved God with all your heart.  
Teach us to live God's word through respect for ourselves, others and the world around us.  
May God always bless St Augustine's school.  
May God walk with us and be beside us.  
May God help us to grow into a strong, loving and peaceful learning community.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord  
Amen
Welcome back to Term 2! The children have been excitedly retelling their holiday stories and the interesting activities they have participated in. I too have had an interesting time. During my second week of the holidays I spent some time, with my husband, in Bali. The first week of school I remained in Bali and met up with 16 other Catholic Primary School Principal's from the North Western Zone to participate in Professional Learning. We have been working with an organisation called ‘Project Thrive’. We have been discussing the conditions we need to co create with our students, that best helps them to thrive. Statistics around mental health and resilience were discussed and a knowledge that connection, community and self efficacy are crucial in participating actively in today's world. It was an inspirational experience as we visited the 'Green School' in Bali where they are committed to educating for sustainability in a natural environment through a purpose-driven curriculum. They believe schools should be places of joy, and strive to champion a new model of education that fully ignites the imagination of children so they can engage and learn with optimism, inventiveness, wonder and student agency. There were so many parallels with our Catholic schools but certainly many other things to consider. I look forward to discussing this with the staff as we continue to strive for student improvement, agency and understand the impact we all have on their learning and wellbeing.

Last Friday Ms Olivia and 3/4O facilitated our **Easter Sunday Liturgy**. They were reverent and well prepared, allowing us all to reflect on this most Holy day.
The children participated in a **casual clothes day** to support the St Augustine’s church on the last day of term 1. They raised $278 for this cause. What a great effort! Families also bought raffle tickets for the Easter egg baskets. This was an amazing effort by all families with an abundance of eggs being donated. Thank you to everyone as you continue to support our fundraising efforts. Thank you to the Parents Auxiliary for your continued support of the school.

A reminder that the first two weeks of term two are given as two weeks grace as we transition into **winter uniform**. It is expected that all children will be in their winter uniform by week 3, next week. If you have difficulties with this please notify your child's teacher or contact the office. As discussed with the Education Board, we have discontinued the yellow beanie. However, we have introduced a brown beanie (optional) as we felt this was a more popular colour that children would be more willing to wear. Noone, our school wear suppliers, are endeavouring to have these in stock by next week. Please call them first if you wish to purchase one.

At St Augustine’s, May has been deemed the ‘**Month of Manners!**’ Our children are always considered to have beautiful manners, however, it is still something that needs to be taught. Please have a conversation with your child about manners and the situations in which they are most appropriate. Please refer to the Wellbeing page for more information.

**Grandparents** are integral to the St Augustine’s community. We continue to celebrate their involvement in their grandchildren’s lives and pay homage to their wisdom and experience. We will be celebrating our grandparents day on Monday 6th May at 9:30 am till 10:30 am, with morning tea in Cooinda at 10.30am. Please read the information on the Noticeboard for further details of this day.

It has come to my attention that there are ‘red insects’ on the oval. I have engaged a pest control company to manage these pests. They will be working on the oval on Saturday. If you are someone who likes to walk through the oval on the weekends I kindly ask that you stay away from this area until Sunday.

**Cathy Steere**

**Congratulations**

To the Tonkovic family on the arrival of 'Manolo'. A brother for Mia and Molly!

**Condolences**
To the Barresi family, on the passing of Adrian's grandmother, please accept our sympathy and prayers. May you find comfort in knowing our community is thinking of you at this difficult time and find comfort in the memories and stories shared. May God's love be a source of strength and give you hope in your sadness.
Looking Ahead

Coming up ...

6 May

- Grandparent's Morning
- School Fee 2nd Instalment Due

May 7

- Family Week Liturgy Year 2
- Parent's Auxiliary Meeting
- Hot Dog Lunch Day

May 8

- Mother's Day Stall

May 10

- Interschool Sport v St Albans

May 14

- Education Board 7.30 pm

May 14 - May 24

- NAPLAN (Year 3 & 5 students only)

May 22

- Reconciliation Workshop 7.00 pm

June 3

- Parent Thrass Information Session 9-10.50am (in the school Library)
Notice Board

As the cooler weather approaches, it is expected that students be in their winter uniform from next week. Please contact our uniform supplier, Noone, 543 Keilor Road, Niddrie, Phone 9379 5037 for all your uniform requirements.

As requested, the gold beanies will be replaced by brown beanies. These are currently being embroidered by Noone and should be available shortly.

Grandparents/ Grandfriends Morning

Grandparent/Grandfriends are cordially invited to join us @ school as we celebrate the gift of families and in particular, the senior members of families whose stories, wisdom and great love contribute to the role families play as the central building block of our community.

When: Monday 6th May

Time: 9:30 am till 10:30 am - Class Visits

10:30 am till 11:30 am - Morning Tea in Cooinda (School Hall)

(Please bring a plate to share with your fellow Grandparents/Grandfriends)

Toddler Time (Commences - Friday 3rd May)

Every Friday morning 9-9.30am in the school library

Bring along your baby, toddler or pre-schooler to our story time sessions in the school library. We have lots of fun craft, songs and stories to share.

It's on again ... between 1st May and 25th June, collect as many stickers as you can from Woolworths. Sheets have been sent home for your stickers. More sheets are available from the office. Please place your stickers in the boxes, either outside the office or outside the library. The more stickers we collect, the more our school can
Let Us Pray...

In Praise of Saint Joseph

Joseph, patron saint of workers,
blending skill with charity,
silent carpenter, we praise you!
Joining work with honesty,
you taught Christ with joy to labor, sharing his nobility.

Joseph, close to Christ and Mary,
lived with them in poverty,
shared with them their home and labor,
worked with noble dignity.
May we seek God’s will as you did,
leader of his family!

Joseph, inspiration for workers,
man of faith and charity,
make us honest, humble, faithful,
strong with Christ’s true liberty,
Make our labor and our leisure
fruitful to eternity!

*Yesterday, 1st May is the Feast Day for St. Joseph the Worker. He is the patron saint to The Universal Church, Fathers, The dying, Social Justice and Workers.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Year 3 students have begun their preparations to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you have a child in Yr 3, please note the following information.

Sacrament Workshop: Wednesday 22nd May @ 7pm in Cooinda (Only student and parent/s to attend)

Sacrament Ceremony: Wednesday 29th May @ 7pm @ St. Christopher’s Church (please arrive 10-15 minutes early so that a group photo can be taken before the ceremony begins)

Family Week Liturgy

As a school, we will celebrate Family Week with a Liturgy in Cooinda. The liturgy will be on Tuesday ...May @ 2pm. Parents and families are welcome to attend.
Caritas (Project Compassion)

Our Lenten campaign for Project Compassion has now come to end. Please return your Project Compassion box to the front office or to your child's teacher. Thank you for your contributions.
Hi families,

Hoping you had a great break over Easter and are ready for a new school term. This month is all about

'MANNERS in MAY'.

As a school we will be focussing on reminding our students the importance of using manners when around others. We will look at why we use manners and the impact this has on others as well as ourselves.

Today's article looks at ways we as parents can teach our children about kindness and why this is so important in our daily interactions.

Happy reading,

Ms Jodie

Little Ways to Encourage Kindness

Kids are actually hardwired to be considerate and kind. "The desire to help is innate," says David Schonfeld, M.D., director of developmental and behavioral pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. And their sense of doing good develops as they grow. "At first, children like to help others because it helps them get what they want. Next, they do so because they get praise. Finally, they begin to anticipate the needs of others, and it becomes intrinsically rewarding to do nice things for people in their lives."

Bottom line: Kids want to help. And as parents, it's our job to nurture and guide a child's natural inclination to pitch in and make it a lifelong habit. "It's important to be a good role model—children learn to be helpful from watching you," says Dr. Schonfeld. Try out a few of these simple ways to nudge your kid's helping gene.

These simple ideas teach your children to be nice, generous people, one good deed at a time.

Make helping a family affair.

When a friend gets sick or a local family falls on hard times, grown-ups know what to do. They send flowers, bake casseroles, and pass the collection plate at church. Get your kids involved in these projects. Ask them what they'd like to do to help out, or suggest arranging the bouquet, layering noodles in the lasagna pan, or collecting cans of food. And when you drive over to deliver the gifts, take your kids along. They'll find out firsthand how good it feels to brighten someone's day. This is also a great opportunity to talk about being on the other side of the good-karma equation—ask them whether they remember when someone did something nice for them and how it made them feel.
Share the wealth.

Teach your kids to see the abundance all around them and to think of people to share it with. When your rosebush explodes in bloom, invite your child to snip a few buds and take them to her teachers. Is his shelf overflowing with books? Suggest he donate a box to the library or a local family shelter. Package up leftover soup or cinnamon rolls, and take them to an elderly neighbor.

Teach respect for the earth.

Never litter. Even if something drops by mistake, make a point to pick it up. And if you see an old newspaper or a used coffee cup left on a park bench, throw it away. It feels good to take care of a mess you didn't make and weren't "supposed" to clean up.

Recycle. How's this for a double whammy of doing good? Have your child collect and take empty cans and bottles to a recycling center that pays you for what you bring in, then drop the money you make into the donation jar at the supermarket checkout.

The Art of Pitching In

Assign chores. Kids should understand that a certain amount of helping is requested and required "just because": just because they're members of the family, just because they live under the same roof, and just because it's the right thing to do. So show them where the cat food is and how to clear the dinner table and make their beds. And keep a chore chart to track and reward the completion of their tasks. Your kids will feel great pride in doing their share.

Teach teamwork. How often have you hosted a playdate and been left with what looks like a scene from the movie Twister: dolls and their tiny clothes strewn everywhere, glue and glitter splattered on tables and rugs, juice cups and crumbs all over? When your child is a guest, make sure she helps clean up before she climbs into the minivan. If the host insists it's not necessary, say, "Let us pick up three things and then we'll be on our way." Putting away a few army men or Legos is a great way to practice the art of pitching in.

Perform small acts of kindness. I have a friend who'd had breast cancer. I asked her, "What was the nicest thing anyone did for you when you were sick?" She told me that the mother of one of her daughter's friends packed lunches for her little girl for the entire month after the surgery. This simple gesture meant my friend could take the time to recuperate minus one daily chore. Plus, her daughter enjoyed some new tasty treats in her lunch box.

Look on the Bright Side.

Give your kids rose-colored glasses. Sometimes, it can seem as if bad news is all around us. Point out to your kids the good things that are happening and the good people who are helping others. Cut out newspaper articles about student groups who volunteered to build homes or collect clothes after a natural disaster. This makes your kids feel better about the world they live in and also gets them thinking creatively about ways they can make a difference.

Don't criticize their efforts. Yes, you can get the wet towels off the floor faster, sort the laundry better, and pour the milk without spilling it, but if you take over (or critique too much) it leaves your little helpers feeling inept, unskilled—and less likely to offer their services again. If you're impatient, you can turn a teachable moment into a missed opportunity. "Kids want to help cook dinner, wash the car, and do the dishes, and, sure, they'll do it slowly and imperfectly at first," says Dr.
Schonfeld. You're teaching them that they can make a difference at home. Just imagine how good they'll feel when they step out into the world.

Do Unto Others...

Lighten someone's load. Offer a fellow grocery shopper help to the car with her bags. Let someone with less stuff go ahead of you in line at the supermarket.

Cheer up a stranger (or a friend). If you see that your neighbor's newspaper is always getting soaked by the sprinklers, toss it onto her porch. If the guy who drives your bus has been gone for a few days, ask him how he's feeling when he returns. Is a friend sad? Give her a hug. Teaching your kids to notice what's going on in the lives of folks in their own backyard fosters empathy and can inspire them to become keen helpers.

Do something that's above and beyond the call of duty. If your neighbors have lost a pet, call and ask whether they've found their furry friend. If they haven't, you and your child can offer to hang up more signs and keep an eye out for their pal.

Give thanks. Compliment a stranger on her great sweater, say “good morning” to a neighbor, and thank the pizza delivery guy. Sometimes a simple acknowledgment or expression of appreciation is all the boost someone needs to get through the day.

Be a good neighbor. There's probably a group that needs help or a problem to be solved in your own neighborhood. So the next time you see something awry, don't complain. Look at it as an opportunity to get involved. Inspire your kids to find ways to make their corner of the world a brighter place.

By Kristine Breese

Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up.

Jesse Jackson
Learning Matters

Curriculum News- Term 2

Term Two is in full swing already as we prepare for one of the busiest terms of the school year.

This term students across the school P-6 will be getting creative exploring different elements of art, colour and texture, to create their own masterpieces for our ART SHOW and will participate in Art Inquiry based incursions or excursions.

Students will continue to be encouraged to push themselves to achieving their personal best this term and will be building on some of the skills needed to be an effective learner - confidence, resilience, persistence, problem solver, collaboration.

Click on the links below to view the various Year Level Term Overviews

- Prep / 1
- Year 2
- Year 3/4
- Year 5/6

Extra Curricular

Soccer Gala Day

On Wednesday the 24th of April 15 boys from year 5 and 6 represented St. Augustine's at the District Soccer Gala day. It was a huge day with the boys playing 6 matches. We finished with 3 wins, a draw and two losses- placing 3rd out of the 7 teams. The boys showed some great skill, teamwork and determination and should be very proud of their efforts. I know there would have been a lot of sore and tired bodies! A big thanks to Darren for coaching the boys and to the cheering parents who came along to support!
Girls Soccer Gala Day

On Tuesday the 30th of April 14 girls from year 5 and 6 represented St. Augustine's at the District Soccer Gala day. The girls played 5 matches straight. We finished with 3 wins, a draw and one loss placing 3rd out of the 6 teams. Well done to the girls they played terrific! A big thanks to Sandra for coming along as a parent helper!
Craft Power Incursion

This week in Year 2, students got creative and created MONSTERS! Students used wood, nails and glue to create their very own scary sculptures. We cannot wait for you to see the finished products at the Art Show in Term 3.
Congratulations...

Throughout each term, students are acknowledged at our Weekly Assemblies for their efforts, achievements, positive learning dispositions and care and respect for others. It is wonderful to see these students being such great role models for their peers.

STARR STUDENT Award

Presented to Ivana 2B for....

Showing respect to all students, staff and parent community. Ivana is always bright and smiling, greets hello and enquires about people’s day. She works as a team, helps those in need, includes others, uses her initiative and leads others. Ivana persists when challenged with learning and engages in challenges when learning. She is a responsible and organised learner and is resilient in the way she deals with problems with others. Love your work Ivana!
SSSSSHHHHhhhhhh..

Don't let Mum know, but there are some great gifts for sale at the upcoming Mother's Day stall - Thursday 9th May.

$5:00 will get a lovely gift for your mum - choose from jewellery, candles, cosmetic bags, kitchen essentials, photo frames, hand cream or a mug that could be used to give your mum breakfast in bed on her special day - Mother's day Sunday 12th May.

Term 2 Lunch Orders

Tuesday 7th May Hot Dogs

Hot Dogs @ $3.00
Pop Top $1.50
Our Marble Range

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