Grade 6
St Brigid’s Catholic School

Welcome to our Grade 6 Newsletter!
We hope you enjoy reading about what your child has been learning in Grade 6.
We look forward to seeing all students returning refreshed and eager for a studious Term 2 after the holidays.

BUDDIES!
This term students have been getting to know their Kinder buddies. The buddies started the year by drawing a portrait of each other. Grade 6 helped their Kinder buddies create some special Easter items and we have been doing daily PE rotation activities with the Kinder students. Grade 6 were responsible for a particular station and had to explain the activity clearly to younger students and model how to engage in the activity accurately.

English
Students are learning how ideas can be expanded and sharpened through careful choice of verbs, elaborated tenses and a range of adverb groups/phrases. Students know that verbs often represent actions and that the choice of more expressive verbs makes an action more vivid. Students are learning to identify and explain how analytical images like figures, tables, diagrams, maps and graphs contribute to our understanding of verbal information in factual and persuasive texts.

Maths
In Mathematics we have been continuing our focus on Mental strategies (subtraction) and place value. Students are also learning to convert between fractions and decimals. It is still pleasing to see the continued progress students are making with their recollection of Multiplication tables.

Seesaw
We are trialling the app ‘Seesaw’ which is a digital portfolio platform on which students add work, include learning intentions, comment respectfully on each others work and can ‘like’ their peers submissions. We will be introducing parent access to individual child’s digital portfolio of work soon.
Watch this space...
Formative Assessment

During the school day students have access to their own ‘traffic light’ coloured cups. This is proving to be an extremely effective tool in determining from students their understanding either during discussions and explanations, or whilst completing group or independent work. Green means they understand a concept and feel confident about what they are doing. Red means they are having some difficulty grasping an understanding of the content and require some teacher help. Yellow means they are coping, but are slightly unsure as to whether they are completing the work accurately, or they may have a slight level of misunderstanding. A peer with a ‘green cup’ indicates they may (in some situations) assist others who are having difficulty. This is a wonderful form of peer support. Finally, the ‘blue cups’ are our ‘lids’. When we are not using the cups we keep the blue lids on top. Students also have the option to indicate privately at any time on a sticky note (their perceived/assessed level of understanding on any task). From this we are able to gather students together who require further support, consolidation or extension.

Religion

During Religion, students have been learning about the events of Holy week; Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Students watched a presentation on the Stations of the Cross and reflected on the significance and meaning these events can have for them today. Students participated in sequencing activities, and attended the Holy Week and Palm Sunday Liturgies.

ART

Grade 6 students have been learning about ‘Songlines’ and have attempted their own drawing representing ‘songlines’. Students used a variety of methods to create their work. Songlines are a route through the landscape which is believed to have been travelled during the Dreamtime (or Alcheringa) and features a series of landmarks thought to relate to events that happened during this time.

Words of Wisdom…

"The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything."

-- Edward Phelps
Thank you for those who came to our ‘Getting to Know You’ evenings. It was a wonderful opportunity to engage in conversation regarding your child. Any parents who would like to schedule an initial or second meeting, please feel free to make an appointment for Term 2.

There are still some contact detail forms, ICT agreement forms and ‘Getting to Know You’ forms outstanding. Please return these at your earliest convenience.

**Star Talent**

We are our very fortunate to have our local gymnastic coaches and our wonderful Mrs Clarke who are fostering confidence in our students and seeking the amazing star talent within them.

**Health and PE**

Students enjoyed learning new basketball drills with Mike (American import for Somerset Heat men's basketball).

**Squiggle Monster Art**

Students have completed some very creative designs. Their design needed to include an endless line, an overlapping/layering effect and colour segmentation, using a variety of ‘expressions’ regarding each character (eyes, mouth, nose etc).