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Week 4

## News from Mrs Hey

#### Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful welcoming the children back to school for their day of learning over the past two weeks. It is clear to see from the expressions on both the teachers and children's faces just how much they appreciate being back together in their classrooms. For some students it is the first time in the newly refurbished spaces. It has also been so wonderful to see the children meeting up with their friends and connecting with each other after such a long time.

As the students have returned to school on their day of learning I have been overwhelmed by their positive attitude towards the learning that they have been engaged in at home.

The teachers have worked tirelessly to prepare and monitor every child's learning when they have attended on their day. In my recent conversations with many families, they have expressed their gratitude for the standard of work that the teachers have prepared, and the feedback students have received on their learning. As you are aware the teachers have also connected with the children on a regular basis via email, Zoom, google classroom/seesaw or even by phone call at times. This effort has been outstanding, and I think in conjunction with all the hard work of parents, has been responsible for our children having such a positive attitude.

It is well known that there are two ways to look at life, positively or negatively. The choice is ours and there always is a choice, provided we take charge of our attitude. This COVID context that we are all experiencing together, has certainly put this to the test for us all. In typical Trinity style, students, parents and teachers have worked not only collaboratively to make the best of a very challenging situation but have also actively promoted a positive attitude and approach to the circumstances for the children. I would like to say a HUGE thank you to teachers and parents for your wonderful spirit and support of each other. Of course, I also say a HUGE congratulations to the boys and girls for their grit and "have a go" attitude over the last months.

COVID has certainly presented teachers and parents with the opportunity to demonstrate for our children how we can maintain a positive attitude in adverse circumstances. Our attitude towards life determines life's attitude towards us. Attitude is contagious and when we have a positive attitude it gives energy to you and to those around you.

COVID has of course made each of us feel vulnerable but at the same time it has invited us to appreciate a more simplified and pared back lifestyle, as well appreciate the importance of our social and family relationships.

As we start to move out of isolation and towards less restrictive socialisation I wonder how we will continue the great work that we have done in building our children's positive attitude to life in 2020? Some questions to ponder:

- Are we offering our children encouraging thoughts?
- Are we leading our children to read and view positive material that will inspire them rather than worry them?
- Are we encouraging our children to be outward in their thinking? there's much more to think about in life than themselves.
- Are we encouraging our children to focus on the "good things" they have in life and to be content?
- Are we expressing gratitude?
- Are we praying together?

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"May you arise each day with a voice of blessing whispering in your heart, that something good is going to happen to you. May you find harmony between your soul and your life. May there be kindness in your gaze when you look within. May the presence of the Almighty be forever in you Amen."

We look forward to seeing many of you back at school next week. Cathy Hey PRINCIPAL

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### My child gets lots of feedback from their teacher but *why* is it so important?

Over the past few months as our students have been working remotely (from home). Student learning and student relationships with their teachers have also changed. However, one very powerful tool teachers continue to use to drive student learning in all areas particularly English, Mathematics and Religious Education is *feedback*.

Feedback is information for the student and/or teacher about the learner's performance. It relates to learning goals and is based on evidence (student work). At Trinity, our aim is to develop 'Assessment Capable Learners,' a phrase you may have heard a lot about through our school communication. This means a student is able to articulate;

- Where am I going in my learning?
- Where am I now in my learning?, and

What's next to improve my learning?

The feedback provided by teachers is what will assist students in their understanding of the third key question, *What's next to improve my learning?* 

Teacher's feedback can be either verbal or written depending on the task. It is important that students apply this feedback to the next steps of their learning. *This* is why it is important. To learn is to gain greater knowledge and understanding and to develop new skills, but to do this we need to know what more can be done or how it can be done differently.

How effectively someone has learned is the ability to 'transfer' what they have learnt to a new situation or problem.

### What can I do as a parent/ carer?

Let's work together to help students really take note of teacher feedback and what it means for them as a learner. Ask them about learning rather than the recall of daily events.

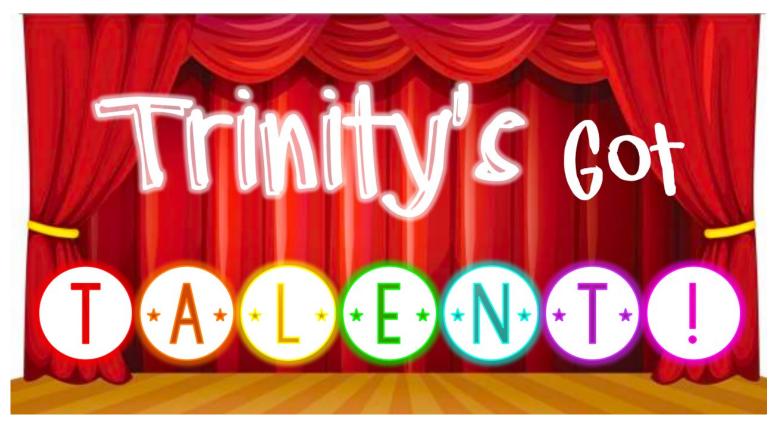
Perhaps instead of asking - What tasks did you do today (online or at school)?

try

What feedback did you get from your teacher today? What's next to improve your learning?

As our learners become more familiar with our questions, they will take more notice of their feedback and become more ready to respond. What lifelong learners our students are becoming!

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Peter	6	ampan DIPTA
Isaac	6	
Amelia	7 <	
Daniel	7	
Ashton	7	
Charlotte	7	
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Have you got a hidden talent? We know you do! Can you do a cool dance, complete a handstand, balance a basketball on your finger? Whatever your talent is, record it at home and share it with us to celebrate Trinity Feast Day 2020!

The teachers will be selecting one winner per grade and the wining videos will be compiled into a showcase video to be shared on Friday 5th June. Check your Seesaw next week for the assigned task to complete at home.

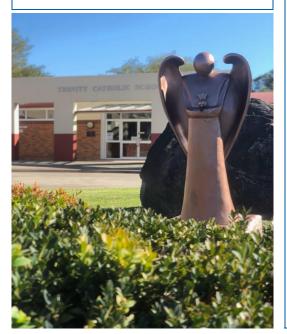
## Please upload your video by Friday 29th May, 2020

# Some important reminders about return to school protocols next week:

- During morning drop off, parents are asked not to enter the school grounds. Please say goodbye at the gate near the office or children can walk down from the carpark. Hand sanitizer will be available at the gate.
- In the afternoon, parents may enter the school grounds but are asked to follow social distancing protocols and not to linger after you have collected your child. To assist with this there will be a phased dismissal starting from 2:50pm.
- Children must bring their own drink bottle and pencil case. Bubblers will not be used at this time.
- If you have borrowed a device for remote learning, please return both the device and the charger.
- There will be staggered break times for infants and primary students to avoid overcrowding of facilities.
- Hand washing and strong hygiene practices will be reinforced, including more frequent cleaning of desks etc.
- No whole school assemblies, Masses etc. will be held for the time being.

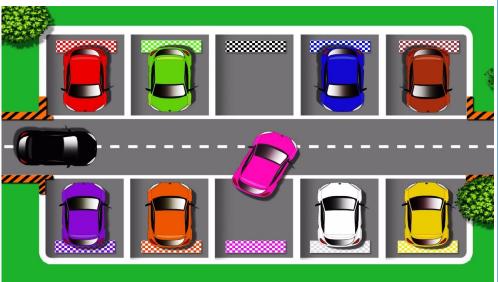
## Illness

If your child is ill, please **do not** send them to school. If they develop flu-like symptoms at school, they will be kept safe in the sick bay area while you are called to collect them. If you cannot be reached via phone, the emergency contacts will be called.



## Car drop offs- **important safety information**

A reminder that parents are asked not to drop students at the bus bay roundabout near the office in the mornings. **This is very important for the safety of all students.** Parents must park in the parent carpark (not staff carpark) and either walk your child down to the gate near the office or they can walk themselves. If you arrive after 9:00 you will need to walk your child into the office for a late slip to be signed and this will count towards partial absences.



## Semester One School Reports

An adjusted school report is being prepared by the teachers to reflect the learning of the students for Semester One. Guidelines for these reports have been provided by the Department of Education and the Catholic Education Office. Reports will include statements about what each child is able to do and encouraged to work towards in Religious Education, English and Maths and a general comment from the teacher. Students will also complete a self evaluation and parents will be invited to provide feedback to their child about their "remote learning." Reports will be sent out in Week 10.

### News from Mrs Gauci

## Books can help parents discuss difficult topics

Sometimes it is hard as a parent to discuss certain issues such as death, divorce, a sibling with special needs, bullying, moving house, a sick family member, anxiety, puberty etc with their children. In these difficult times at school and at home, I have always used books to help me say the 'right' things and explain things the 'right' way. Books are non-threatening and have pictures to help children relate to the topic of discussion. Books open the door to conversation and allow children to ask questions. Most children see reading books as a normal part of their everyday life, so they feel comfortable. Here are some example books that may be useful for your family. It is highly recommended that parents read the book before presenting it to their child - every child is different, and as a parent, you know if the book would be suitable or not.

Anxiety: Jonathan James and the Whatif Monster by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt

Bad days: Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst

Bullying: Red by Jan De Kinder

Dementia: What a Beautiful Morning by Arthur Levine

**Divorce: My Family's Changing by Pat Thomas** 

Grief: Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing After Loss by Pat Schwiebert and Chuck DeKlyen

Moving: A House for Hermit Crab by Eric Carle

Puberty: So That's What's Happening! By Gina Dawson

## R.E.D Journal

## Trinity RED Reading Stars Our reading stars this week come from Year 1 Paige B and Year 4 Ella F.



## **R.E.D** Journal News continued

## Paige B 1A

Interview with Paige conducted by Mrs Gauci.

### Mrs Gauci: What book have you recently enjoyed reading?

Paige: 'The Great Paddle Boat Race', this book has a yellow boat in it and yellow is my favourite colour. Also one of the main characters is called Bill, and Billy is my brother's name. My favourite part is when Captain Bill crashes into the rocks.

### Mrs Gauci: What would you consider to be your favourite book?

Paige: I love the book, 'Hop on Pop' by Dr Seuss, because the front cover is so funny. This is why I read it the first time. I know this book really well.

Mrs Gauci: Where do you like to read? Paige: I like to read on my bed because it is comfy. I also like reading outside on the swing.

Mrs Gauci: Who do you like to read with? Paige: At night time before bed, I like reading with my sister and my brothers.

### Mrs Gauci: Why do you love reading?

Paige: It helps me to learn and it helps me to learn more words.

Ella Year 4

Interview with Ella conducted by Mrs Gauci.

Mrs Gauci: What type of books do you like to read? What is your favourite genre?

Ella: I prefer to read nonfiction books because they contain facts and it is so interesting to learn new things. I also like to read funny fictional stories.

#### Mrs Gauci: Who is your favourite author?

Ella: Roald Dahl. I had read 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and I am currently reading 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.

Mrs Gauci: What is your favourite book? Ella: 'Pig the Pug' by Aaron Blabey because it is so funny. I have also read all the other 'Pig the Pug' books.

Mrs Gauci: Where do you like to read?

Ella: At home, in the lounge room, and at school during the literacy block.

Mrs Gauci: Who do you like to read with?

Ella: I like to read to my 3 lizards - Elliot, Norbit and Vegas. Elliot is named after the dragon in 'Pete's Dragon'; Norbit is named after the dragon that came out of the egg in 'Harry Potter'; and Vegas is a blue-tongue lizard and I named him Vegas because I got him after I returned home from Vegas. I also like to read with my mum and dad.

### Mrs Gauci: Why do you enjoy reading?

Ella : I enjoy reading because nonfiction books give me facts and help me to learn new things. Fiction books are just fun to read and they are so entertaining.

Keep on reading, Mrs Gauci Literacy Leader