



GLOWREY
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Glowrey Catholic Primary School

31st May 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

It was wonderful for our staff to meet with parents last week to learn about your children. I would encourage all families to continue this dialogue with our staff and please keep us informed about your children including any concerns you may have.

We have continued to be conducting literacy and numeracy testing on all students to ensure we have a strong understanding of both the strengths and needs of your child. This will continue to inform our teaching. This week we have commenced targeted numeracy intervention programs that will provide additional support to students. I have to say that I am just so impressed with the way all students have settled down and are engaged in their learning.

This week a number of our senior students attended a meeting with the Archbishop at St Monica's in Epping to launch Caritas Australia's program that is supporting the missions. This is very timely as we begin Lent and is a time where we focus on both sacrifice and service to others. We had a lovely service for Ash Wednesday this week where children participated in a paraliturgy and received ashes.





Some of senior students off to St Monica's

I would like to draw your attention to our uniform code and I seek your support in ensuring all children are correctly attired. It is an expectation of the school that our uniform is adhered to which will ensure high standards.

- No leggings or stockings are to be worn with the summer dress
- The track suit top is NOT to be worn with the summer or winter uniform - the woollen jumper must be worn at all times as required
- Winter long pants for the boys are NOT to be worn with the summer uniform. Shorts only!
- The school will advise all parents when the winter uniform must be worn in term two.

I will notify families personally if the children are not attired correctly in accordance to our school dress code.

On a practical note we now have our phone system up and running. Our school phone number is **8579 6505**. As part of all Victorian Schools it is a requirement of parents to notify the school if your child is to be absent. In the coming week we will have a very simple app for you to do this but at this stage please call the office on the morning of the absence or email our office manager Elisa. Finally, each Friday morning we warmly welcome parents to join myself and other members of our leadership team for a cuppa after you drop your children off.

Wishing you and your families an enjoyable, safe and restful long weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Kelly
Principal



School Uniform

We are very excited to have on display our new school uniform. Our uniform suppliers are Academy Uniforms and are located at:

238 Wolseley Place,
Thomastown 3074

HELPING YOUR CHILD TO READ from Prep to Year 2



Reading Together

Reading with your child is a valuable thing to do. Reading increases your child's vocabulary, expands your child's understanding of the world, and gives them confidence when using language. Reading is also an important way to make the link between spoken words and written words. Here are some general tips:

- Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books. This will help develop your child's love of language.
- When reading to your child, read stories with expression, or try putting on the voices of characters. This will help make reading fun.
- Point out important features about a book – for example, the words and pictures, the front cover, the spine, the contents page, or the title.
- Explore words using a dictionary.
- Encourage your child to take over some or all of the reading if they feel confident.
- If your child is confident with their reading, allow them to read without interruption. Fluency is gained with confidence. Mistakes can be discussed after a block of reading, or in subsequent readings.
- Allow your child to read at their own pace. Model good pace when you read to them.

Helping your child work out difficult words:

When your child begins to read to you, they will often have difficulty with long or tricky words. It is important to give your child time to work out difficult words themselves. This helps develop their reading skills. You might, however, help them if they are stuck by asking questions like these:

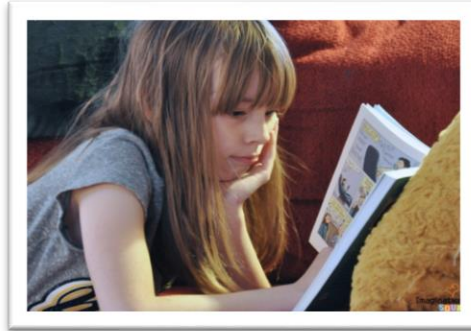
- Look at the picture. What word makes sense?
- Look at the picture. What object can you see in the picture that might start with that letter? What letter (or letters) does the word start with? What sound does that letter (or letters) make?
- What letters are in the middle of the word?
- What sound do these letters make?
- What letter (or letters) does the word end with?
- What sound does that letter (or letters) make?
- Can you put those sounds together to make a word?
- Another good strategy is to ask your child how they worked out the word.
- This helps reinforce reading strategies they learn from you and from school.

Book chat

Discussing the content and meaning of books is an important part of reading. Chat about the book before, during and after reading, and encourage your child to share their ideas and to ask questions about the book. Here are some questions you can ask before, during and after reading the book:

- Look at the cover.
- What do you think this book might be about?
- How would you describe the character at the beginning of the story?
- How does the place the book is set in make you feel?
- What is happening in the pictures?
- What do you think is going to happen next?
- Why might a character have done this? What would you do in the same situation?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why did you like that character?
- What was your favourite part of the book?
- Can you retell the story in your own words?

HELPING YOUR CHILD TO READ from Year 3-6



- Here are some tips to encourage reading:
- It is recommended that you continue to read together in the later primary years, even if your child is reading independently.
- Take your child to the local library often so they can choose, borrow and renew books. Taking your child to the library at the beginning of school holidays encourages weeks of independent reading.
- If your child likes an author, find another book or a series of books by the same author.
- Encourage your child to read about their favourite author or illustrator at their website. Introduce your child to read different genres such as fantasy, science-fiction, action and adventure. » Introduce your child to reading different types of texts, such as poems, music lyrics, and short plays.
- Encourage your child to read non-fiction. The newspaper or an online encyclopedia might be a good start, but your child might also be interested in history books or autobiographies of their favourite sports person or celebrity.
- Encourage your child to use a dictionary to look up words they might not understand.



Book Chat

Book chat is an important strategy to help your child to reflect more deeply on the content and meaning of their favourite books. As your child moves through primary school, add more questions when discussing the book you are reading together, or when discussing the book your child is reading independently. Some further questions might include:

- Does the main character change in the story? How does the character change?
- If you could change the ending of this book, what would it be?
- What do you think is the story's main message?
- What is your opinion about the story's main message?
- Can you relate the story or message to another event or issue?
- How could other people see it differently?

Staff Communication

With the busyness of the school day I would strongly encourage parents to make contact with our staff via email. This is also a great way to set up an appointment with a teacher should you require a meeting.

Principal	Mr.Tim Kelly	principal@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Deputy Principal	Mrs.Leanne Daquino	leanne.daquino@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Numeracy Leader	Dr. Bern Long	bernadette.long@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Literacy Leader @ Year 1/2I	Mrs.Nancy Italia	nancy.italia@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Prep S	Miss Melissa Scalia	melissa.scalia@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Prep R	Miss Sarah Raco	sarah.raeco@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
3/4/5/6 (Phys Ed)	Mrs Rhonda Cadoni Mrs Leanne Daquino	rhonda.cadoni@glowrey.catholic.edu.au leanne.daquino@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Japanese	Mrs Emily Tam	emily.tam@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Office Manager	Mrs Elisa Rizzo	elissa.rizzo@glowrey.catholic.edu.au
Learning Support Officer	Mrs Emilia Barresi	emilia.baressi@glowrey.catholic.edu.au

School Fees

Thank you to all the families that have settled school fees. A reminder that all levies and instalment one must be finalised by 26th March 2019. Your support in ensuring fees are settled promptly is greatly appreciated to ensure we are able to meet our running costs. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call Elisa Rizzo on **8579 6505**.

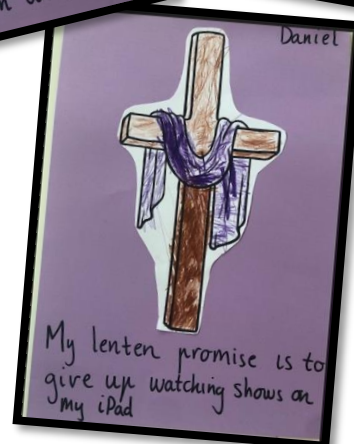
Ash Wednesday and Lent

This Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the 40 days of the season of Lent. The students participated in their first paraliturgy as a school to receive the Lenten Ashes on their forehead. It was a lovely prayer service, the children were very reverent and reflective about Lent and all they had been learning in their classrooms.

What is Ash Wednesday?

On Ash Wednesday, we are invited to the front of the church or sacred space, where the priest (or representative) makes a sign of the cross on our forehead with ashes. The ashes are made from burnt palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations, and are blessed with holy water. The cross reminds us of Jesus' death on Good Friday and helps us to think about how kind Jesus is. Lent is a time where we promise to try to be more like Jesus by praying, almsgiving and fasting.

The children have all been thinking deeply about what Lenten promise they can make to help them become more like Jesus. Some of our prep students have made some very special promises...



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