



Emmaus
Christian College

Newsletter

Week 1 Term 9 | 30 March 2022

IMPORTANT DATES

SOUTH PLYMPTON

&

BROOKLYN PARK

*Please check College
[Website](#) for Important
Dates*

Whole School Casual Day - Friday 8 April 2022 (Week 10)

Gold Coin Donation

With funds supporting [HealthServe Australia](#) (see last page)

From the Head of Junior School - Brooklyn Park

Dear Emmaus Families and Friends

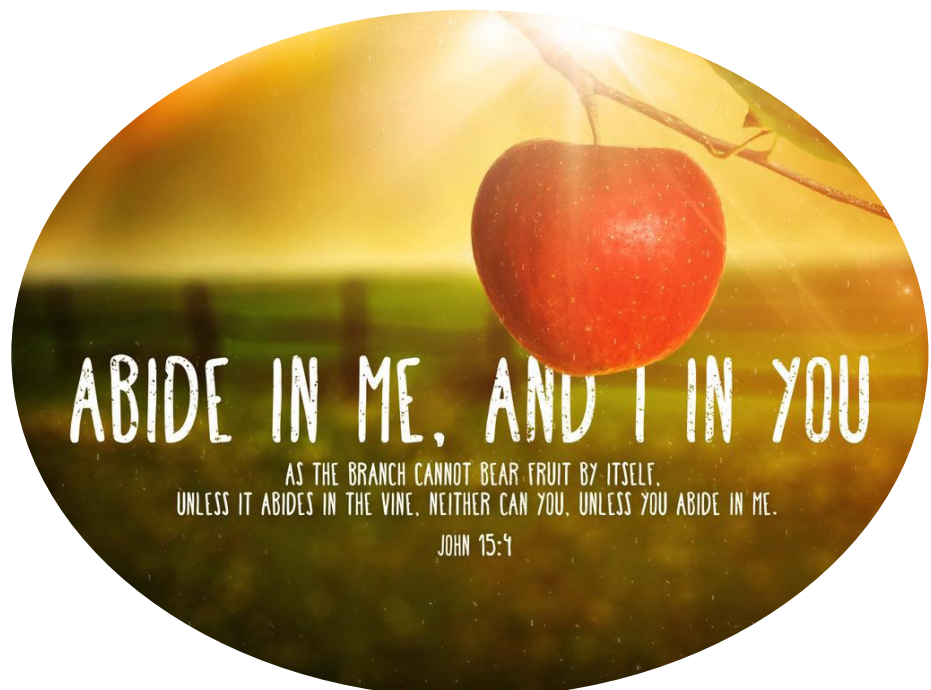
God is our Gardener

I have a terrible history as a gardener. Though my attempts have been valiant and well-meaning, I have left in my path, a trail of neglected, weed-ridden, sad and empty looking pots and garden beds that have left my green-thumbed mother bewildered. The worst offence would have to be the Aloe Vera plant that I was PROMISED I could not kill... May it rest in peace.

A year ago, a friend of mine convinced me to try again and with dreams of having an 'insta-worthy' indoor plant collection, I agreed. Determined not to repeat my past (multiple) mistakes, I downloaded an app that told me exactly when to water and fertilise my new purchases. What a game changer! Having expert advice not only at my fingertips, but set to remind me daily has made all the difference. I am very proud that I now have over 20 thriving houseplants, a number of which I have even propagated myself!

It reminds me of the passage in John 15:1-8, when Jesus describes God as the gardener. As our creator there is no one more qualified to know exactly what we need and what we do not need. Not only does He lovingly tend and care for each of us, his children, but he takes the time to prune and shape us to become more loving, grow more into His likeness, and to be more fruitful. We are promised that when we abide in God's love, we are fed, watered and pruned enabling us to flourish and grow, producing the fruit that brings great glory to the Father.

I find it so encouraging to be reminded that the time we spend in our Father's care, whether it be in an enjoyable season of growth or a painful season of pruning, is all for our good. We are lovingly tended to that we might be better equipped to be able to continue serving the Godly purpose that we are called to.



Marni Greenwood
Head of Junior School, Brooklyn Park

Junior School - South Plympton

Max Dal Santo and Andrew Cope have challenged their Year 6 Mathematics classes with the task of building a catapult over the last week. This may not seem to be a traditional activity for a Mathematics class, however, the inclusion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities in Maths gives the students a broader understanding of concepts in a 'hands-on' and 'mind-on' activity.

As well as being fun, this activity is engaging and challenging, providing the students with valuable skills such as:

- Problem-solving
- Spatial awareness
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- Realistic mathematical application (measurement, angles, data, shape)
- Construction

STEM activities such as this help our students to overcome failure and show persistence, which is a vital part of having a healthy Growth Mindset.

We look forward to seeing the end results!



Caroline Wicks
3-6 Curriculum and Learning Coordinator

Brooklyn Park - ELC

Literacy Learners in the ELC

This term in ELC, we have implemented the PreLit literacy language program. Our preschool students of Class 4 have been excited to engage with a range of stories over this term.

PreLit focuses on two essential reading prerequisites: phonological awareness, or the ability to identify sounds and associated letters, and oral language development. Through a structured program of story time, discussions, games and activities, children will develop the confidence and skills associated with learning to read. PreLit gives children the skills with the most effective teaching strategies for learning to read, which requires two related abilities: Word recognition – correctly identifying words, and Comprehension – understanding their meaning. To develop these abilities, young readers will need to develop five key skills, referred to as the Five Big Ideas. As a dedicated pre-literacy program, PreLit focuses on four of the Five Big Ideas: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary and Comprehension (the fifth big idea; Fluency is developed later in the reading journey).

Children have extended their interest in storytelling through a range of small world story play, games, puzzles and interactive reading lessons. We look forward to continuing to implement this program as part of the wider literacy/language curriculum supporting children's learning at our Brooklyn Park campus.



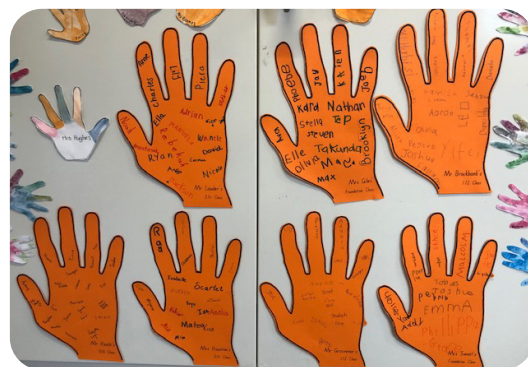
Lisa Bennett
Educational Leader

(On behalf of Class 4 Teaching Team: ShinYie Chew, Emily Sanders and Jaimie Newman)

Brooklyn Park

We believe that EVERYONE BELONGS!

We have been acknowledging and celebrating Harmony Week as a community, as we discuss our strengths and differences. We have talked about how we are all connected and belong in our community. We looked at some of our similarities, but also some of our differences: where we come from and who are in our family. We discussed how we are all unique have different attributes and gifts to bring. We also looked at how uniquely and wonderfully God made each of us and how he loves us so much.



LINKS TO:

EYLF:

- Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity.
- Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

NQS:

- Quality Area 5: Relationships with Children
- Quality Area 6: Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities

PHILOSOPHY/PURPOSE:

"We offer a nurturing environment where respect for both ourselves and others is to be a characteristic. This speaks of a community where the diversity of gifts and abilities are fostered and celebrated, where empathy and compassion are evident and serving others is an aspect of worship."

BIBLE:

Psalm 133 (KJB) - "It is good and pleasant when God's people live together in peace!"
Galatians 3:28 (KJB) - "Now, in Christ, there is no difference between Jew and Greek. There is no difference between slaves and free men. There is no difference between male and female. You are all the same in Christ Jesus."

Together at the Brooklyn Park Campus
ELC – Year 6

Middle School

Who is God?

Who is God? Who am I (in Christ)? These are the 2 opening topics in our Year 7 Christian Studies curriculum here at Emmaus. Students spend the majority of Term 1 analysing different biblical views on The Trinity and base their morning devotions on this theme. We decided to link into the theme of analysis of who we are in Christ by getting students complete a "My#inspo" presentation on any person that inspires them in their faith. The pictures attached show Adam and Adele (7M) reflecting on key people who have played a part in inspiring their faith.



Chris Bright
Middle School Teacher



Senior School

On Tuesday 15 March, Year 9, 11 and 12 Dance students attended Bangarra Dance Theatre's Wudjang: Not the past.

BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE are one of Australia's premiere contemporary dance companies, sharing Indigenous stories and themes in their multi-modal performances. WUDJANG: Not the Past, was deeply moving, challenging and inspiring for our students and staff.

What a privilege to witness Bangarra live.



Jessica Worley
Senior School Teacher, Performing Arts Key Teacher

From the Canteen

Emergency Lunch Process

At our Canteen, we do not want any child to go hungry at lunch! So, we are pleased to provide an emergency lunch for children who have forgotten to pack their lunch box or did not order on Qkr or place their order in the class box.

To ensure that all our student and staff orders are made on time, we have a standard emergency lunch consisting of: a piece of fruit for recess and for lunch, the student will be offered one of the following depending on what's available, either a baguette or ham & cheese sandwich or cheese & Vegemite sandwich. We can only adjust this emergency lunch order to accommodate special 'dietary requirements' but not for 'taste bud preferences'.

To request an emergency lunch, Junior School students can go to their class teacher or Students Services by 9.30am or come to the Canteen with an Emergency Lunch Slip from their teacher or Student Services at the start of lunch. Middle and Senior School students can make the request at the Canteen. Payment is required the following day.

Please note, we do not check emails during the day so email requests from parents may not be received in time. Calling the Canteen with a late lunch order will be treated the same as an emergency lunch, calling the Canteen is not recommended as we are unable to answer the phone during our service times (recess and lunch times) and messages may not be listened to in time.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Then Jesus declared, *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."* **John 6:35**

God Bless

Sharon Hughes
Canteen Manager

Student Wellbeing

Encountering Change with Resilience

When we think of change, what do we believe? Do we think from the perspective of it being an everyday experience, or do you think change is something that occurs as a singular big event? The good news is it is both! Change happens daily, sometimes in our control and sometimes out of control like Covid-19. Change can be both good and bad, so it is essential to understand how we can adapt to sudden changes and simple minor changes with a healthy headspace and good resilience gain. Gaining a better understanding of change enhances us to be more adaptive to change. It is a good life skill to have.

Common misconceptions about resilience

One of the common misconceptions about resilience is that we are either born with it or not and cannot be learnt. Both assumptions are wrong and are just assumptions. Resilience can be learnt, including those who have low resilience in the past. Another misconception is that resilience is only necessary in times of significant adversity. Resilience is something that we need every day. Life has a very demanding way of wearing us down. Resilience is misconstrued as something we can shake off and bounce back. Although this stands true to a degree, resilience is having the capacity of a dynamic system to adapt successfully to disruptions that threaten our ability to function.

How do we build resilience with change?

- Know what is in your control and what is not. Reflect on this question and think about what you can control and cannot.
- Focus on what brings out your strengths
- Practise mindfulness
- Take time, even a few minutes, and reflect on positive things
- Understand that you can adapt to a growth mindset

Coping tools with change:

- Acknowledgement – Whenever a change is present, it is essential to acknowledge and understand what is happening. This can alleviate some of the stress that denial and putting it off may cause.
- Strive for normalcy – When life feels out of control, we often crave normalcy and cling to whatever gives us a piece of that! So wherever possible, keep the routines and structures that make you feel like you have control.
- Celebrate the positives – The glass is half full! Ask yourself, is it all bad? What good is there in this? Maybe a few extra weeks at home or with your kids has its perks?
- Manage your stress – Are changes adding to stress or creating new pressure? What can you do to lighten your load or support your self-care? Self care is important always but especially when we are struggling.
- Seek Support – Where all else fails, or you still feel like you need help – seek support.

If you need further support, the well-being team is here for you. You can connect with us by popping your name down on the referral time sheet, and we can contact you.

Resources:

"Raising Resilient Children" Dr. Justin Coulson and *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble"* **Psalms 46**

Blessings

Tash King
Student Wellbeing Counsellor F-12

Launch News

The Oliphant Science Awards

The Oliphant Science Awards is an annual competition that aims to support, encourage and celebrate Science education. The competition is open to students in Foundation through to Year 12 and includes a range of categories to suit a wide variety of abilities and interests.

Learning Science encourages students to develop a range of skills such as observation, prediction and communication as well as expanding their knowledge within and between the diverse domains of Science.

Sir Mark Oliphant is the patron of this competition named in his honour. The Awards recognise the excellent work of students with prizes in each age group and category, along with Sponsor and school prizes for outstanding achievements.

If your child is interested in learning more about the different categories, click [here](#) to go to their website.

Please contact me via [email](#) if your child is interested in entering.

Susanne Milne
Launch Coordinator ELC-10

Uniform Shop

Parents are welcome to come into the school to purchase uniform during the opening times below. Please wear a mask.

2022 Normal Opening Hours

Monday	8.30am - 10am		3pm - 5pm
Thursday	8.30am - 10am	1pm - 1.30pm	3pm - 5pm

If you need any uniform, please do not hesitate to [email](#) or phone on 08 8292 3810. If you know your child's size, you can order and purchase via the Qkr App.

Christine Blom-Cursaro
Uniform Shop Manager

Costume Club

Calling all Sewers, Gluers, Cutters and Enthusiastic Helpers!

This year the Primary School are presenting 'Mary Poppins the Musical'.

Would you like to help create their costumes? If sew!...then the NEW Costume Club is for you!

All help and skill levels are welcome and appreciated.

When: Each Wednesday 3.30pm - 5pm
Where: Room G10 - Home Economics

If interested, please email [Rochelle Wildman](#) for further information.

Performing Arts

Autumn Instrumental Evening

Unfortunately, our Autumn Instrumental Evening on Thursday 31 March is CANCELLED.

The College Leadership have advised that at this stage AISSA have not eased restrictions to allow parents onsite and due to Music Faculty being unwell, in isolation and/or daily RAT testing, we cannot guarantee we will have staff available to support the evening. Cancelling the night is in keeping with the spirit of SA Health guidelines.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate the changing climate that is COVID.

Tracey Medhurst
VET, Performing Arts, Learning Support

Sporting News

Our annual Year 7-12 Sport Day took place on Friday 18 March at Bowker Street Oval. A new program, new students and new involvement of staff at the event have been big reasons for the success of this year's event. Despite staff and students who missed the event due to restrictions, those who attended certainly made the most of the great weather and atmosphere generated by those who were there. The amount of participation by students in the new 'participation' or 'competition' based events was great to see, allowing all students to do their best, have fun and support one another. A bit biased but the highlight of the day for me was chaperoning the Year 11 Boys and watching a crowd of 60-80 students all clapping in a rhythm to support Jaeden attempt some impressive heights in High Jump. The crowd making 'ooohhh' sounds when Jaeden did not clear the bar, followed by loud claps and people jumping around cheering him on when he cleared the bar was contagious even staff were getting involved. This was just one highlight of the day, and this is why sports are so important to be involved in, creating those memorable moments, having fun with mates and remaining physically active now and into the future. The winning House this year was Topaz, followed by Emerald, then Ruby. A big thank you to all staff, Students House Leaders, Southern Districts Little Athletics Club, Old Scholars Fraser Western and Matthew Rohrlach and Adelaide Coachlines.

Our weekly Netball, Basketball and Soccer teams for Junior, Middle and Senior School are now in place. The various sport seasons are all starting at different times so please keep an eye on your emails about when your child's exact sport season will be starting, coaches and team managers names, etc. Those registered will be given more information shortly. We are looking forward to working with everyone to provide not only matches but structured sessions to further improve the abilities of your child(ren) over the course of the winter season.

After school Tennis has been a massive success with many students being involved in Tuesday and Thursday sessions. Information will soon be communicated to families about Tennis continuing in Term 2 at both sites.

Our first and largest representative sporting event SACS Primary and Middle/Senior School Athletics is happening in Week 10. Selected students have been informed of their selection in the first draft team sheet. We hope that both our teams will be full of keen and eager students to take part in a strong and competitive event as both our teams will be competing in Division 1 again and hopefully will continue to upstage some of those larger schools.

If you have any questions or queries regarding sport at Emmaus please email the [Sport Department](#)

Daryl Porter

PE, Health and Sports Coordinator (F - Year 12)

College News

Whole School Casual's Day is on Friday 8 April (Week 10)

ECCO decided that a gold coin donation is requested from students and staff who wish to participate, and money raised from this day and the BBQ Lunch from Year 7-12 Sports Day will go towards [HealthServe Australia](#).

Their Vision

Global health transformed by accessible, compassionate and high quality health care for all.

Their Aim

To develop sustainable health programmes that will improve the total health and wellbeing of communities. HSA aims to help build a community's capacity for meeting its own health needs through partnership with community groups in projects.

They work alongside the ICMDA Leadership in Christian Health and Development Initiative. [Click here](#) for more information.

On Casual's Day please note that appropriate dress is ESSENTIAL

Inappropriate slogans on T-shirts, low-cut, strappy or midriff tops, see through clothing and short shorts are NOT allowed.

Thong type shoes are also NOT permitted. This is particularly relevant to 'Home Ec' and 'Tech' lessons where this becomes a safety issue.