



VINEYARD
Lutheran School Clare Valley

Term 1 Week 9
27th March 2020

Upcoming Events 2020

Wednesday 1st April
Story Time in classes

Friday 3rd April
Casual Day

Term 2 Upcoming Events 2020

Saturday 22nd – Friday 28th August
Book Week

Vineyard Term Dates 2020

Term 2: Mon 27th April – Fri 26th June (9 Week Term)

Please note: Vineyard Staff PD Week
will be Mon 29th June – Fri 3rd July 2020

Term 3: Mon 20th July – Fri 25th
September (10 Week Term)

Term 4: Mon 12th October – Thurs 10th
December (9 Week Term)

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Vineyard Wire

A Word of Encouragement from Amy

In a world that is going through a crazy time at the moment we can still find peace. This week I came across a great reminder on YouTube. It's called **Coronavirus – What They're Not Telling Us**. In a time where we are being bombarded with fear-based reports and almost forced to focus on the negatives we can still choose to focus on the positives around us.

Yes, we are facing a very real challenge at the moment that is very true but as I look around at the things that are being restricted, I am becoming more aware of the positive opportunities this creates. In a time where we are being told to self-isolate and social distance from friends, family and community, I am seeing communities pull together, support each other and become creative in how they can stay connected. I am seeing people ban together in a way like never before, not psychically but through technology. I am seeing people offering to help those in need and hearing people encourage each other whereas previously they may have been too busy to care.

During this time if we plug into God and pray, He can give us His peace that will help to carry us through this time. The most frequent command in the bible is, do not be afraid. Philippians 4:6 says Do not be anxious about anything but in everything through prayer and partition with thanksgiving let your request be known to God. It's not that we don't care about anything but we don't need to be consumed by our worries because we can take these things to God through prayer.

Fear is such a negative emotion that takes up so much energy but our God is a BIG God with BIG shoulders. He can handle it. We can give our fears to God. Psalm 55:22 says Cast your cares upon the Lord and He will sustain you.

Please know during this time that we at Vineyard are a supportive community. We are all here to love, help and support each other. If you need someone to chat to, need a listening ear, would like someone to pray for you or with you, I am available for you.

Check out the clip on YouTube. I hope it blesses and encourages you as it did me. <https://youtu.be/h662vIPpq4>



Lord give us all the wisdom we need to keep ourselves safe during this time. Thank you for the blessings you give us each day and help us to be aware of them. God, I ask for your provision to be on every family that you would make a way with finances and bring your peace. We ask that you would place a hedge of protection around our families, staff and loved ones. Thank you that you are with us. Amen.

Take care and God Bless.

Amy Gogoll

School Chaplain

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of Vineyard,

As you know, this week, life has suddenly changed for all of us, and as I write this I am acutely aware of the difference between what we thought we would be doing at the end of this term, compared to what's actually happening. I look at the front of this newsletter and see the events we had planned that have now been cancelled – like our Walkathon, our Skipathon and even whole school chapels, and like you I feel sad that we now miss out on these opportunities. Who would've have believed there would ever come a day when parents would be restricted from coming into the school and classrooms for health/safety reasons. We are certainly in challenging times.

However – this week I have also seen so many positives, and it is those things which I encourage us all to focus on, as we take each day as it comes and choose to see the love, laughter and life in what happens. I want to thank our staff, students and parents for doing all that you can to help minimise the spread of COVID-19 and protect both our Vineyard and wider communities. I want to sincerely thank our dedicated staff who have been so flexible, calm and compassionate with each other and especially our students, some of whom we know are struggling with the uncertainty. Your professionalism and desire to do what's best for our children is heartwarming – and truly a sign of what this place is all about. Thanks to our students too, who are still smiling, still doing their best, whilst also accommodating the social distancing measures we have put in place.

As the likelihood of an extended shutdown increases, I want to assure you that plans are in

place for Vineyard to move to remote learning delivery, and that we will continue to provide high quality learning and connectedness for your children via the four delivery methods we discussed in the letter on Wednesday.

Currently due to differing family circumstances, we have some children here at school and some families who have elected to keep their children home. Due to the school still being open, we are only providing a minimal programme for families electing to be at home via email. Learning activities and support are also available from the State Government's "Our Learning SA" website : <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa>.

We will communicate with families directly if these circumstances change.

PUPIL FREE DAYS

Yesterday as per media announcements, we received a letter from John Gardner (our Minister for Education) that says that DECD schools will have 4 pupil free days in week 11 to extensively plan for their remote learning. We are also aware that schools will still need to be remain available to provide support for families in different circumstances including those who cant work from home and vulnerable students.

Given that this is now a Government expectation, Vineyard, like all other Catholic and DECD schools, will have 4 pupil free days in week 11, with our teachers needing this time to prepare for and begin the process of remote learning. We will still provide support for those families who cannot work from home or are vulnerable, and this may be via the delivery of a modified programme at school or through an OSHC option.

As Minister Gardner says: These pupil free days, which are consistent with the Prime Minister's announcement on Tuesday night, will ensure our teachers are best prepared to deliver lessons regardless of whether the student is in the classroom or learning from home.

During Week 11, our staff are expected to be on site in their normal roles (unless otherwise negotiated or sick or self-isolating), whilst maintaining social distancing practices.

As this is COVID19 specific and an additional workload, these days will be in addition to the normal PD /pupil free days we have.

It is looking like we will be providing a full remote delivery from the start of Term 2, but we will confirm that as we get closer to that time.

This means that at this stage, next Friday 3rd April will be the last day of term for students unless parents choose to keep their child at home or they can't work from home and require additional support. We will of course be guided by further Government and Health advice.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS AND ILPS

As mentioned in Wednesday's communication, Parent Teacher Interviews will be postponed until the pandemic restrictions are lifted. Parents may request a phone Interview this term, and the process for ILPs will be changed so that they can be updated as soon as possible. Instead of meeting first and then documenting the changes or new plan, they will be typed up with teacher suggestions and then sent home ready for parent input. Once negotiated, and agreed upon the plan will then be signed by all parties. This typing process will start at the end of this term, and sent home for parents to view and comment on and make suggestions /set goals early next term.

NEXT WEEK – WEEK 10 – WELCOME MR STRAUSS

We welcome Geoff Strauss next week as he starts in his new role as Principal. Geoff will be working from the Principal's office and will be leading the school from this time. I will still be on site as part of Geoff's transition, and will be completing some Admin tasks from a different office. This is an exciting time for Geoff as he begins his Principalship, and he will be available via phone: 88421808 or email: gstrauss@vineyardls.sa.edu.au. Feel free to send him a message of welcome 😊.

STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENT

Last week we were informed that Miss Lena Harmer has accepted a position as Year 3 / 4 teacher at Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Para Vista, starting in Term 3 (second semester). We are very sad that Lena will be leaving us but we congratulate her on her appointment and wish her God's blessings. We know that she will be a blessing in that community just as she has been here at Vineyard. We will now begin our recruitment process and will advertise the Year 6/7 Classroom teacher position to find the best person we can, ready for a Term 3 start. We are confident that just as God led us to the right person to find our next Principal, He will do the same for us with this position. We look forward to working with Lena until that time 😊.

FAREWELL

I am conscious as I write this that this will be my last newsletter as Principal here at Vineyard. I want to thank all of this wonderful community – School Council, staff, students, families and our supporting congregational members, for your support, encouragement and prayer during my time here. From the day I arrived a little short of 5 years ago, I found our school to be something special. Everyone has always been so friendly and there is a care for every member that goes beyond what is expected. I have learnt so much and have grown in my leadership, probably more than in any other of my school contexts, and I have an even greater understanding of what makes our Lutheran schools different to others. I have formed many new friendships and learnt so much from all of you. I know that I have also made mistakes in my time here, so for the times I have made those mistakes or where my actions have caused hurt, I sincerely apologise – it has always been my intention to do what I feel is best for our school and ultimately for our treasured children. Relationships are important to me, and I want you to know I have listened to and valued your honesty and feedback – it has helped me to grow as a person and leader.

Over these last five years, our staff have come to understand our Mission statement even more and realise just how special it is. We are here to EDUCATE, NURTURE, INSPIRE and GROW each other in our CHRIST CENTRED COMMUNITY. Every single one of those words is significant and describe what we believe true learning to be – for

every individual here, including our staff. Vineyard is about good teaching practice with real-life application, it's about care and empathy for each other, it's about finding the 'wonder' which engages us all to want to find out more and more, and it's about moving each learner forward from different starting points so they can reach their potential. But most importantly, it's about doing this through a gospel lens – that is, acting in Grace to share Jesus love with each other and our wider community.

I truly believe that Vineyard will continue to be blessed so we can be a blessing to others... it's our calling, and something we not only say, but live by.

I am very sad to be leaving, as Vineyard will always hold a special place in my heart, but I am looking forward to a new challenge in another wonderful Lutheran School, with a different context (and a little less travel).

I will continue to pray for Geoff, our staff and our wonderful school, and I ask that you do too. Vineyard will flourish if we all share our experiences and the reasons why we chose to be here with our wider community.

I want to thank Malcolm and the many School Council, Parish Council and Parent and Friends committee members who have served in formal roles with me during my time here. Your enthusiasm, passion for the school and servant hearts have always been an inspiration to me.

I again thank our staff, who give their best each day because they genuinely have a love for our students and want what's best for each of them. Our staff not only work as a close knit team, but as a family. I will miss you all and the many laughs we have had together.

Finally I want to thank our amazing students who continue to inspire and teach me something each day about how to learn, love and live life to the full. I have felt blessed to watch them all grow over the years and feel so privileged to have been a part of their life journey. Their stories, smiles and laughter will stay in my heart for a long time.

I look forward to this last week, and being in a place that will always be special to me, and I am excited to hear what happens in the next chapter with some new staff, new facilities but the same deep care and excellence in learning that Vineyard has always been known for.

AND TO CLOSE

This week on Facebook I read an article by Tania Savva which helps us focus on the positives and see a different perspective to help us all work through the fear of these uncertain times. I share it with you, knowing that God has got this situation in his hands. Good will come out of bad, and we will all make it through together 😊

I can't help but think WHAT IF ...

- Not having enough toilet paper, tissues or other disposable products makes us think about how much waste we use on a daily basis, and we start to get serious about how we can minimise our usage for longevity
- Not having enough meat makes us think about how we can nourish ourselves by eating more plants
- Not being able to buy fresh produce at large chain supermarkets encourages people to grow a little veggie patch in the backyard
- Not being able to import / export makes us remember that our home soil has every resource we require to sustain us and we keep our resources here for our own use
- Seeing the improvements in air quality encourages us to commute in a better, cleaner way
- Not being able to go to work 9-5pm (plus travel) allows us to see that there IS another way to generate income and how we invest our time. That work / life freedom is possible and we can be even more productive.
- Not being able to step outside of your home and connect with others opens up your heart to want to meet your neighbours (when they've lived next door for years and you've never introduced yourself) when the lock down lifts
- Not being able to earn money to pay off the astronomical debt we carry as a society makes us smarter with our money and we reduce those credit card bills and personal loans to live within our means
- We see that we've been living in a state of excess for so long that we start to minimise and have just enough of what we need
- We showed the same passion and emotion and cared as much about our broken families and relationships as we do about people choosing to stockpile groceries
- Not being able to access everything at the click of a button reminds us how lucky we are and feel grateful for what we do have and how easy it has been to access

- Staying home for two weeks allows us the time to make the phone calls to our besties, bake food, share meals and connect to life in more wholesome ways
- Being forced to stay home and REST allows our nervous system to reset in a way that it's been screaming for far too long
- We realised the impact of incessant whining at all the stuff that doesn't matter and starting to be more mindful of our thoughts and energy
- Not being able to fly abroad to learn about other cultures encourages you to adventure through your home land, which displays one of the most diverse and magical landscapes in the world, and the oldest indigenous culture in the history of humanity
- Not being able to distract yourself with mindless, busy indulgences invites you to cultivate a relationship with God and find comfort there, finally
- You get bored with the internet and start creating - paint, draw, dance, move, play games, cook, journal and dream
- Not being able to send your kids to school, sport, before and after school care and any other extra curricular activities that allow you the time and freedom to work in this societal conditioning encourages you to take responsibility for their care, entertainment, pleasure, creativity and joy and helps you reconnect with them in a profound and meaningful way
- This rest is an opportunity to help you remember what you're passionate about and make changes to your life to ensure that you never have to fear being still for a moment ever again, and actually make it part of your daily existence
- This deep rest promotes deep healing and we overcome some of the chronic health diseases our stressful lifestyle has created
- We read more, learn more, understand more, become more educated about things that really matter, rather than investing energy in things that don't
- We have an incredible opportunity to step into possibility and potential right now. To grow beyond the mindset of lack, fear and anxiety and make sustainable change for us and our planet.

What if this shows us the blessings we already have and provides more opportunities for us to bless others?

Blessings to you,

Take care,

Michelle

School Notices

Mid North Lutheran Ministries – Service Times

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

No Services this week due to COVID-19 cancellations

Family & Staff Prayers

Over the last week in staff devotion we prayed for the: Plowman, Harvey and Clark families, staff member Christina Underdown and Golden Grove Lutheran School.

Chapel services are held every Monday at 8.50am. Family and friends are welcome to join us for these services.

Birthday Blessings

God's Blessings to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week.

1 st April	Lainey Mullighan
1 st April	Cooper Williams

Students of the Week – Term 1, Week 7 – Class Awards

Annabelle Harvey – For demonstrating **Quality** and working really well with her science poster, Christian Studies and her measurement in Maths. Annabelle has shown a positive attitude and put in a great effort this week!

Henry Upton – For demonstrating **Quality**. Well done Henry for always having a go and trying your best. Your determination has resulted in some great work produced in Maths, English and Inquiry. Keep up the good work!

Leah Plowman – For demonstrating **Quality**. Leah you have worked hard at your reading. Great work!

Aiden Sommerville – For demonstrating **Quality**. Aiden you have shown great improvement in your reading this term. Fantastic work.

Tobias Nurk – For demonstrating **Compassion** in everything he does! He continuously seeks to help those around him even if it is just to make them smile!

Lainey Mullighan – For demonstrating **Love** in her manners around the classroom. She looks out for her peers and her teachers and assists whenever possible.

William Michalak – For demonstrating **Quality**. For working hard to reach your first goal in Tricky Hat Words. Well done.

Community News

Please see the school notice board in the stadium for further information on these and other events

Friends of the Clare Library Young Writer's Competition



Fire

Write a story about fire.

Examples of story topics include a personal experience, the memories of someone older, a historic event or the role of fires in Australia plants. Please write a story, not a project.

Include NAME, AGE, CLASS LEVEL and SCHOOL on the back of the entry. A teacher or carer should sign the entry to verify it is all your own work. Entries should be received at the Clare Library by **April 3, 2020** with winners announced at the end of Term 1.

Certificates for all entries. At the conclusion of the competition, all entries will be bound and available to read at the Clare Library. Prizes for outstanding entry's.

Cash Prizes

Free Entry

1000 words maximum

For further information contact:

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