



MEL MARIA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

MEL MARIA NEWS

TERM 2 WEEK 8

ISSUE 08



From the Principal

Head of Campus

Religious Education

Year 5 News

#MakingADifferenceEveryday

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Term 3 School Photos

PN Campus 26 -27 July
SJP Campus 26 - 28 July

Family Photos PN and SJP
26 - 28 July

Year 6 Graduation photo
27 July



| | |
|---------|--|
| 2 June | Pupil Free Day |
| 5 June | WA Day Public Holiday |
| 7 June | Pn Year 4 Mass 9am PN Year 3 Reconciliation 10am |
| 8 June | Author Visit Years 3-6 SJP @ 11.40am PN@1.20pm |
| 10 June | PN Year 4 First Holy Communion 3pm |
| 14 June | PN Year 4 Assembly |
| 15 June | Year 6 Winter Carnival |
| 20 June | SJP Japanese Incursion |
| 21 June | School Cross Country Carnival |
| 22 June | SJP Japanese Incursion |
| 23 June | PN Red Edudance Concert 2.15pm |
| 26 June | PN Japanese Incursion SJP Green Edudance Concert 2.15pm PN Green Edudance Concert 2.15pm |
| 28 June | PN Japanese Incursion SJP Red Edudance Concert 2.15pm |
| 30 June | Last Day of Term 2 |

The full term calendar can be located on the website
<http://www.melmaria.wa.edu.au/our-parents/calendar>

2023 Pupil Free Days

6 April
 24 April
 2 June
 21 August
 21 August
 9 October

Whole School Events Save the date

23 June PN Red Edudance Concert 2.15pm
 26 June SJP Green Edudance Concert 2.15pm
 26 June PN Green Edudance Concert 2.15pm
 28 June SJP Red Edudance Concert 2.15pm
 26 & 27 July School Photos PN and SJP
 26 -28 July Family Photos PN and SJP
 28 July School Photos SJP
 27 July Graduation photo @PN
 1 September Father's Day Breakfast
 25 October Grandparent's Morning tea

Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Carers,

'The power of collective capacity is that it enables ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. – for two reasons. One is that knowledge about effective practice becomes more widely available and accessible on a daily basis. The second reason is more powerful still – working together generates commitment.'
Michael Fullan (McKinsey & Company Report).

Each child at Mel Maria Catholic Primary School, is encouraged to be a global citizen, who understands their actions contribute to building their community's values and practices. The children have opportunities to develop sustainable habits and an appreciation for our world. Social justice is promoted throughout the school and all of the children are encouraged to share their gifts and talents with the community.

At Mel Maria Catholic Primary School, we believe in:

- A continual focus on leadership for learning.
- Empowering all students to be leaders.
- Developing high standards of professional practice, and strong instructional leadership.
- Setting high expectations and promoting a community of learners who share explicit and articulated learning goals.
- Developing a passion for learning, knowledge of current research and the concept of continuous improvement.
- Developing leaders who are motivated to inspire and engage others in articulating the shared vision of [#MakingADifferenceEveryday](#).



Mel Maria 2025

As we transition to the new model of schooling here at Mel Maria Catholic Primary School (in 2025), we are really invested at looking at ways that we can build capacity in our students. The prospect of having a school that is entirely focused on Early Childhood will provide our students and teachers so many opportunities, one of which will be the chance to demonstrate their leadership skills, as well as developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Equally, at the Primary campus we will continue to look for ways that our older students can lead as they work through the various ministries in our school. There will be opportunities over the year (in the new model) where our Year Six Leaders will come to the early childhood campus working with them on various projects. This all going to be very exciting for our students on both campuses.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our Year 4 students at Pater Noster who received their First Holy Communion over the weekend. This was a most important time in their life when they received Jesus for the very first time. Many Thanks to our Year Four Teachers, Mr Owen Connolly, and Mrs Judith Shales for assisting in the preparation of the students for this very special sacrament. I would also like to thank the Parish catechetical team led by Ann Chew as well Fr Joseph and Deacon John for all their support.



Well Deserved Break

This week we say goodbye to Mrs Joanne Scouler who will be taking Long Service Leave for the remainder of this term and the beginning of Term Three. Mr Roman Popadyne will assume Jo's role in the interim as he is already a member of the school leadership team. If parents have any questions or concerns outside of what their class teacher can provide, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Popadyne at Pater Noster Campus.

School Reports

The task of personally reading over 750 student reports is always a very humbling experience. As I spoke about at our assembly this week (PN Campus) it is wonderful to see the progression that students have made in first half of the year. It is obvious that most children have worked well this semester and have been engaged in important learning. I thank the teachers who have spent many hours writing the reports.



As humans, we naturally want to compare our children with others, but it is really important that each child is working to their potential, their personal best, and that we try not to compare one child to another. This is sometimes even harder when you have two or three children at school.

We all have our own gifts and talents – some are good at maths, some music, some athletics, and some have the gift of hospitality, ensuring the rest of us are made to feel welcome and special – we should celebrate the diversity and enjoy the differences.

Interschool Winter Carnival

Today our Year 6 children competed in Football, Soccer and Netball against other schools in our Association. Netball was held at Noranda Netball Courts and Football and Soccer at Yokine Recreational Space. The Year 6 children, from all accounts had a fantastic day.



Lifelink

Lifelink Day was officially launched on Wednesday 7 June 2023. The Lifelink Day Schools Initiative was established in 1999 to;

- Promote understanding of the Church's response to people in need within the community.
- Instil in Catholic students attending Archdiocesan Schools, a sense of responsibility for caring for those less fortunate.
- Each school is encouraged to raise money for this appeal to assist the Archbishop with the various charitable organisations.



Provide education and information of the work the Lifelink social service agencies - identitywa, The Shopfront, Centrecare Inc, Catholic Ministry for People who are Deaf and Hearing Impaired, Catholic Outreach, Emmanuel Centre, Daydawn Advocacy Centre, Emmaus Community, Centacare Employment and Training and Samaritan Projects which help many thousands of Western Australians in need each year.

Mel Maria Catholic Primary School 3-Year-Old Kindergarten Program 2024

The Three-Year-Old Kindergarten at Mel Maria is an educational program for pre- kindergarten children. The program at the school is very much play-based and helps the children develop independence and creativity by offering interesting and fun activities, that are developmentally appropriate, in a semi-structured form. The program follows a routine similar to Kindergarten where the children are in the care of a teacher and a teacher assistant for the duration of the session, but parent help is encouraged.



Who May Attend the Program?

The 2024 program is offered to children who will have turned THREE by 30 June 2024 and plan to continue attending Mel Maria Catholic Primary School in 2024 and beyond. Regulations prevent us from taking children until they have turned three years of age. Please note that enrolment at the Mel Maria Three-Year-Old program does not guarantee a place in the Four-Year-Old Kindergarten Program. Interviews will be conducted for both places.

Interested parents are asked to contact **Mrs Sylvia Tamigi** at the school office for enrolment forms for 2024 Three-Year-Old program.

From My Readings . .

Teaching kids to be kind

Rachel Tomlinson – Parenting Ideas

Judgement and criticism are the stock in trade for many people in today's fast-paced world. In our playgrounds and parks, children often act cruelly – or are simply uninterested in how other people feel. Little kids, big kids, and even adults can respond reactively and unthinkingly, or sometimes intentionally, with unkindness.

Although being unkind is nothing new (it's happened from the beginning of humanity), technology is enabling cruelty in faster, easier, anonymous ways. Technology is also making it hard for our kids to develop skills to delay gratification. Exercising impulse control – self regulation – is trickier because waiting isn't needed.

These things combine to make it increasingly hard to be a compassionate and kind person, someone who considers the needs of others rather than acting out of self-interest. It demands intention and commitment.



The Helper's High

Our brains release "feel good" chemicals (like oxytocin, serotonin, and endorphins) which fight stress and make us feel happy when we engage in, or even witness, acts of kindness. It's called the "helper's high" and it's our brains' way of rewarding us for doing good, making us want to repeat the behaviour to get the same good feeling again. Not only does being kind feel good, but it generally keeps us safe because it makes us more likely to be accepted by social groups. It builds social capital when we are considerate of the needs of others.

Create Opportunities for Kindness

Even though they are hardwired for kindness we still need to create opportunities for our kids to engage in acts of kindness. We also need them to know what it feels like to have someone treat them kindly (so they know what behaviours to copy, and why kindness is important). So how can you help them?

Model Kindness

Show your children how you treat others kindly. Hold open doors for people, put trolleys back that are in the middle of the car park, drop a meal to a sick family member, donate old towels to an animal shelter, let someone in when traffic is heavy. They don't have to be grand gestures, just small and gentle ways of considering the needs of others.

Use Kind Language

Consider how you speak to your child and what you say when you speak. Ask how you speak about others (and yourself). Our kids use our behaviour as templates for how they should act. So let them see your compassion shine through for those around you. Be kind as you listen. Be kind as you talk. Say kind things.

Encourage Helping

Is one child great at maths and their younger sibling isn't? Invite them to teach them or guide them through their homework. Ask them to show you how to play their favourite video game. If they are great at cooking, ask them to help you prepare dinner. Having them involved in prosocial ways gives them a helper's high.

Build their Emotional Intelligence

Kids who struggle to regulate and manage their emotions will find it harder to treat others with compassion. An essential part of teaching kids to be kind centres on teaching them to manage challenging emotions and giving them coping strategies to navigate their way through.

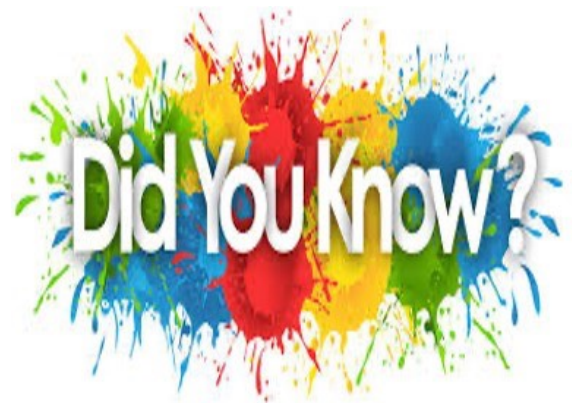
Teach them the words for feelings. Without the right words to share how they feel it can leave kids confused, fearful and frustrated...which only serves to make their big feelings more intense. When you see them experiencing a feeling, name it for them: "I can see that made you so mad", "I wonder if you felt sad when your friend left you out".

Help them identify when they are escalating, but don't try and reason with them when they are in the "red zone" – we cannot reason with them at this stage as they are in the emotional part of the brain (mid brain) not the part that lets them be logical (pre-frontal cortex). Discuss strategies and practice when they feel calm. Get them doing things like squeezing play dough, talking about how they feel, going for a run, switching on music that makes them feel good, drawing or writing stuff down.

When you do this, you're being kind, teaching kindness, and helping them be kind to themselves.

In Closing

Encouraging kids to be kind is essential in helping them avoid seeking instant gratification, ego-centric solutions, or being cruel. When people are empathic and kind, they are more likely to experience better overall wellbeing, this is in part due to the helper's high, but also because they feel fulfilled and tend to have better quality relationships. Kindness is cool!



Did you Know?

- One penny (cent) doubled every day becomes over 5 million dollars in just 30 days.
- It takes 17 muscles to smile and 43 to frown.
- You can't fold a piece of paper in half more than seven times.
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt"!

Prayer for the Week

Last week was the official launch of Lifelink 2023. We pray for all those in need and all those supported through the donations and work of Lifelink.

A Prayer for Charity

God of mercy and compassion,
We praise you for your goodness.
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Fill us with the spirit of loving service we recognise in
those we meet
the face of Jesus your Son.
Through the generous work of our Lifelink welfare
agencies,
May burdens be lifted from the shoulders of your
people,
And may they feel the warmth of your kindness and love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Thought for the Week

Remember that no one is perfect . . .
That each of us has faults we'd like to fix and mistakes we'd like to erase . . .
We all have fears to fight, lessons to learn and room to grow.

Kind Regards

Handwritten signature of Paul Hille

Paul Hille
Principal

#MakingADifferenceEveryday



Semester One Reports

Semester 1 Reports for Pre-Primary to Year 6 students will be made available on Friday, 30 June at 3:30 pm.

Reports will be provisioned online this semester through the SEQTA Engage portal.

All parents who have received their child's report online previously have been provisioned with a SEQTA Engage account.

The SEQTA Engage web address is <https://melmaria.coneqt-p.cathednet.wa.edu.au/>

Please note there is also a 'Reports - SEQTA Engage' tab on the FAMILIES page of the school website that links directly to the above link.

Please ensure you can log into your account so that you can receive your child's Semester 1 report.

If you are unable to locate your login information, please follow these steps:

- Click on the Forgot your password? link
- Enter your email address into the relevant box and click on Reset my password
- Go to your email box and reset your password according to the instructions in the email.
- The password reset email will expire after 1 hour of being generated.

Parents who are new to Mel Maria this year or who have not previously been provisioned with a SEQTA Engage account will receive an email shortly inviting them to create one.

Please contact the front office if you have any issues logging into your SEQTA Engage account before the end of the term.



School Photos Term 3

We are thrilled to announce that school photo day is just around the corner!

To ensure a picture-perfect moment, kindly ensure your children are dressed in their full winter uniform, complete with their tie and jumper.

We kindly remind you to pay attention to the correct school shoes for an impeccable appearance. We can't wait to see all our wonderful students looking their best and showcasing their school pride.

Parents will receive Photo forms by the end of term.

- SJP School Photos 26 - 28 July
- PN School Photos 26 - 27 July
- Year 6 Graduation Photo @PN 27 July
- Family Photos SJP & PN 26 - 28 July

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC)

The Department for Education Child protection in schools, early childhood education and care services policy states that 'all children and young people in the department's preschools and schools will access the approved child protection curriculum'.

Keeping Safe is the Child Protection Program that all CEWA schools follow.

The KS:CPC teaches children and young people to recognise abuse, tell a trusted adult, understand what is appropriate and inappropriate touching and ways of keeping themselves safe.

Themes

The curriculum is based on two main themes which are presented through topics and activities.

- Theme 1: We all have the right to be safe
- Theme 2: We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.

Focus Areas

The two themes are explored through four Focus Areas, which are examined in growing complexity in accordance with the age of the learners.

1. The right to be safe
2. Relationships
3. Recognising and reporting abuse
4. Protective strategies.

More information can be found on the KS:CPC [website](http://tiny.cc/KSCPC-ParentCarerInfo): <http://tiny.cc/KSCPC-ParentCarerInfo>.



Expression of Interest
EXTRA DAY PRE-KINDY
PATER NOSTER
Friday, commencing Term 3
REGISTER NOW
www.enrolments@melmaria.wa.edu.au

CELEBRATING
50
YEARS
MEL MARIA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

A young boy wearing a blue cap and a striped shirt is smiling and looking up. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.



MEL MARIA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Religious Education

Joanne Scouler and Ros Nichols

Andrew Chinn to visit Mel Maria

Renowned musician Andrew Chinn will be visiting Mel Maria in Week 10, where he will share his passion for liturgical music with the school's students. Andrew Chinn is eager to inspire the children in a unique learning experience, promoting an appreciation for the richness of liturgical music and prayer. The students at Mel Maria can look forward to a memorable and enriching musical journey with Andrew Chinn, helping to foster a love for prayer.

Pater Noster
Saint Joseph Pignatelli

Tuesday, 27th June
Thursday, 29th June



First Holy Communion at PN

Congratulations to our Year 4 PN students who celebrated their First Holy Communion on Saturday! The students displayed great reverence and were well-prepared by their teachers for this joyous occasion. We hope these young individuals will continue to strengthen their spirituality and grow in God's love.

A heartfelt thank you to Father Joseph Lee, Deacon John, Parish Coordinator Mrs. Ann Chew, Year 4 teachers Mrs. Judith Shales and Mr. Owen Connelly, and Mrs. Sylvia Tamigi and Mr. Luke Murphy for their dedication and hard work in making this celebration truly special.



Year Five Class News

On Tuesday the 13th of June, our Year Five students embarked on a captivating journey to Fremantle Prison, delving deep into Western Australia's rich history on a thought-provoking convict tour. Led by knowledgeable guides, our young historians had the opportunity to explore the cells, walk the corridors and gain a unique insight into the lives of the convicts who once resided there.



The Year Fives have also been working hard this semester to Make a Difference with STEM. The students were challenged to create a solution to a real-world problem and utilised the design thinking model to empathise, define, ideate, and create a prototype of their creative solutions. Look out for some our ideas and Year Five projects that will be presented at the CEWA STEM Showcase next term!





This term, we have been transported back in time to the beginning of the Swan River Colony. Our integrated HASS History unit has included many learnings regarding life in the early colony.

Our novel, the Goldfields Girl gave us an insight into the hardships for those on the goldfields and how lucky it was for some of the diggers who struck it rich. We travelled to Maylands, Peninsula Farm, to tour Tranby House overlooking the Swan River. It is a historic farmer's cottage; one of the oldest surviving buildings from the early settlement. We weighed the portion of food that the early settlers received daily, which was dependent on their age. It was the children's job to empty the chamber pot each night. We decided that life in the present day was definitely easier.



CBC students shared in our game's day, where we played some of the olden day games including marbles, elastics, knuckle bones and quoits. We had so much fun that we are still playing them in the classroom now. Fremantle Prison was built by the convicts, and we saw first-hand the cells that they lived their daily life in. Being locked in solitary confinement was scary but luckily, we escaped- a trick we learnt from Moondyne Joe!

The author visit from Steven Herrick had us in stitches listening to his hilarious poems. A highlight of the term was coordinating the St Patrick's food drive to collect food for the homeless people. As Mini Vinnie representatives, we hope to make a difference everyday and we are thankful to our Mel Maria Community for helping us to support those who are in need.



RUNNING CLUB

Mel Maria's Running Club program continues again this year throughout terms Two and Three. The program:

- Is held during this time to support students in the lead up to the Faction Cross Country, and help with training the subsequent Interschool team
- Provides students with a physical experience to start the day, which is proven to help with learning
- Provides a safe, social atmosphere to allow students to engage with others socially as they exercise

We use a QR scanning software which allows us to keep track of the number of laps and kilometres each student completes as they use a personalised card that they retrieve and return each session. This data also allows me to generate one point per kilometre that will go towards each students' faction total for the Cross Country Carnival at the end of Term Two.

Who: Years K-6 (all students have a laminated QR card with their name on it)

Where: SJP and PN Ovals

When: 8:00am-8:30am, Mondays at SJP; Fridays at PN

How it works:

- When they arrive, students come and retrieve their card from one of the staff or Year Six Leaders.
- Start running!
- Every time a students completes a lap, they scan their card at one of the devices next on the tables provided.
- When they are finished or at 8:30am, students return their cards to their year level containers and head to class. Staff and Year Six leaders assist with this process for younger/new students.

Do I need to sign up?: No! The more the merrier, so please come down at any point during the half hour.

We hope to see you there!

CROSS COUNTRY

The Faction Cross Country Carnival is fast approaching, to be held on Wednesday 21st June at Troy Park, Attadale. A timetable of events can be found below, as well as distances run by each year level.

Students are encouraged to attend Running Club to build fitness and confidence ahead of the carnival. Remember the every kilometre travelled at Running Club earns a point for your faction!

Course maps will be posted on SeeSaw and emailed to teachers for Year 3-6 students for students who are keen to test themselves on the course in the lead up to the carnival.

Year Level Distances

Year Three: 1km

Year Four: 1.5km

Year Five: 2km

Year Six: 2km

RACE PROGRAM

***Students to marshal ten minutes before their event**

| Time | Year Level |
|-------|--|
| 9:30 | Walk through of Year 3/4 courses |
| 9:50 | Year Three Girls |
| 10:05 | Year Three Boys |
| 10:20 | Year Four Girls |
| 10:35 | Year Four Boys |
| 10:50 | Year Five and Six students arrive at Troy Park |
| 10:50 | Year Three & Four Students return to school |
| 11:00 | Walk through of Year 5/6 course |
| 11:20 | Year Five Girls |
| 11:45 | Year Five Boys |
| 12:05 | Year Six Girls |
| 12:25 | Year Six Boys |
| 12:50 | Year Five & Six Students return to school |

Please note that all times are approximate.

BREAD BAG RECYCLING

This term, our school is involved in a bread bag recycling program through Wonder White. All soft plastic bread bags and wrap bags can be sent to school to be delivered to the Sports Shed on Running Club days and your child's Physical Education lesson days.

Thank you to the students, parents and staff who have already been dropping their bags off so far!

The motivation for this is twofold

- Recycling the soft plastics into more bread bags to prevent them going to landfill.
- Earning sports gear for our school!

Please see the flyer attached for more information.

We have nearly filled two bags, with two bags still to fill! Thank you to the students who have been bringing their bread bags to Running Club and PE - some of our students go through an amazing amount bread or are collecting from others! Keep it up, team!

There are only two more weeks to go! Please keep those bread bags coming in over the next two weeks to maximise our sports gear return. I have to return the bags at the end of term so get them in quick!

THANK YOU!

LET'S KEEP COLLECTING!

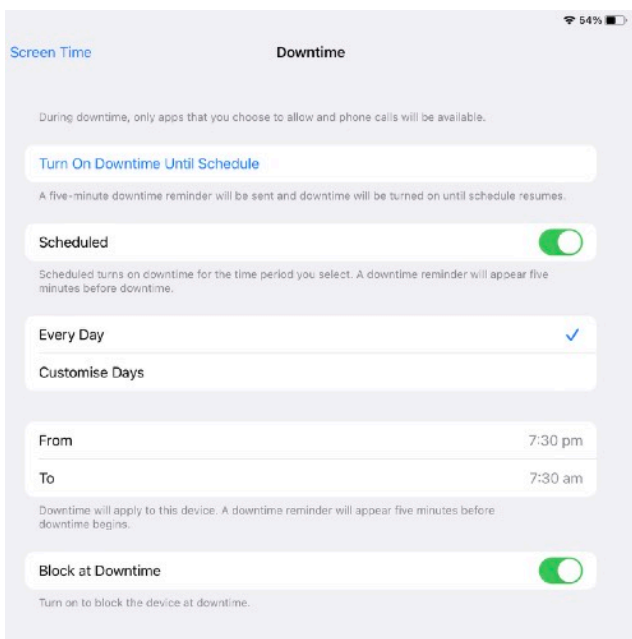


iPad Tips and Tricks

Did you know you can schedule downtime on your Childs iPad? Using the Screen Time option located in Settings, you can block them from using the device during a certain time of day. You can make all apps unaccessible during Downtime or only a select few. You can change or turn off any of these settings at any time.

How to Schedule Downtime

1. Go to Settings > Screen Time, then turn on Screen Time if you haven't already. Enter a Screen Time passcode. This code is used to change the Screen Time settings. Please keep a record of the code and do not share it with your child.
2. Follow the onscreen prompts.
3. Tap Downtime.
4. Turn on Scheduled
5. Select the day and the times the iPad will not be available



Turn on 'Block at Downtime.' During the scheduled outage, all apps will be blocked. Parents using the Screen Time code, can add extra time or make modifications to the device

Why is Downtime great for parents?

Downtime can be set during meal times and overnight. Downtime will send your child a reminder five minutes before the designated time. The only disadvantage with down time is that you are unable to multiple schedules throughout the day.

More information can be found here:

<https://support.apple.com/en-au/guide/ipad/ipadb15cb886/ipados>

School Holidays Borrowing from the Mel Maria Library

Please be advised that Year 3 - 6 may borrow in Week 10 of this term for holiday reading BUT PP - 2 must return their library books before the end of term.

Wastewise News

Did you know that by composting at home or using the FOGO bin, you can significantly reduce the amount of waste your family sends to landfill. About 50 per cent of a typical household's general waste each week is made up of organic materials such as food scraps and garden waste. If organic material is sent to landfill, it produces methane gas.

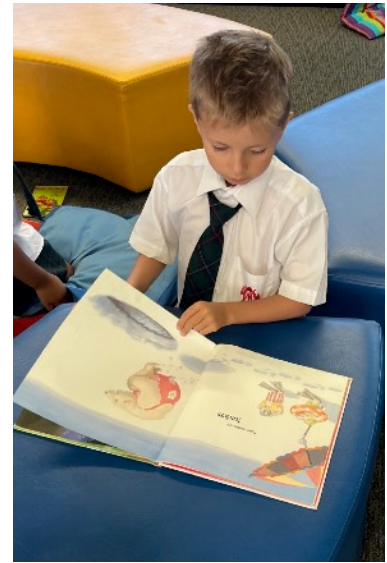
City of Melville School Holiday Program

Visit www.melvillecity.com.au/schoolholidays on Saturday, 17 June at 10.00am to view the many activities on offer across the City of Melville and reserve your place.

Premier's Reading Challenge 2023

Don't forget to sign up for the Premier's Reading challenge. Read 12 books before SEPTEMBER 8. Join up by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.premiersreadingchallenge.wa.edu.au>



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Premier's Reading Challenge





The 5 stages of children's friendships

Children's friendship needs and skills change as they grow. Their ideas about what friendship actually is also changes as they develop. There are 5 stages that children go through as they learn to make and keep friends. The article below refers parents to this 5 step framework by Robert Selman that helps families understand developmental trends in children's friendships. It may be a useful way to look at what's normal and what's not within children's friendships and how to support them through the transitions. <https://kids-first.com.au/the-5-stages-of-childrens-friendships/>

LEVEL 0 Friendship: Momentary Playmates (Approximate ages: 3-7 years) Children at this stage view friends as momentary playmates, and their friendships are all about having fun together. Their friends are kids who are conveniently nearby, and who do the same things they like to do. Children at this stage have very limited ability to see other perspectives. They assume that other children think the same way they do, so they tend to get very upset when they find out that a playmate has a different opinion. Kids this age typically make comments like "she doesn't want to be my friend anymore" when their friend wants to do something different to them.

LEVEL 1 Friendship: One-Way Assistance (Approximate ages: 4-9 years) At this level, children understand that friendship goes beyond whatever their current activity is, but they still think in very pragmatic terms. They define friends as children who do nice things for them—such as sharing a treat, saving them a seat on the bus, or giving them nice presents—but they don't really think about what they themselves contribute to the friendship. Children at this level care a lot about friendship. They may even put up with a not-so-nice friend, just so they can have a friend. They also may try to use friendship as a bargaining tool, saying things like “I'll be your friend if you do this!” or “I won't be your friend if you do that!”

LEVEL 2 Friendship: Two-Way, Fair Weather Cooperation (Approximate ages: 6-12 years) These children are able to consider a friend's perspective in addition to their own, but not at the same time. So what this means is that they understand turn taking, but they can't really step back and get an observer's perspective that would allow them to see patterns of interaction in their relationships. At this stage, children are very concerned about fairness and reciprocity, but they think about these in a very rigid way. So, if they do something nice for a friend, they expect that friend to do something nice for them at the next opportunity. If this doesn't happen, the friendship may fall apart. Children in this stage tend to be very judgmental of both themselves and others. They evaluate themselves harshly, the way they think other people do. So, they say things like, “No one will like me because of my stupid haircut!” They tend to be jealous, and they're very concerned with fitting in by being exactly the same as everyone else. Children at this stage often form small friendship groups based on similar interests. Sometimes these are known as “secret clubs” which involve elaborate rules and lots of discussion about who is or isn't included as a member. Setting rules and learning to negotiate them is important for helping children to develop their understanding of social relationships. However, when children lack cooperative relationship skills it can lead to friendship groups being dominated by some children and excluding others.

Friendships take time What friendship stages are your children at right now? For some children, it takes longer to connect with like-minded peers, but we hope that this information will give you an understanding of where your child is developmentally. If you are concerned that your child's friendship and social skills are not developing in an age-appropriate way, seek information and support from your child's teachers or from a child therapist.





Join the Support Our Schools Program (SOS)

- It's free and available to all Gilbert's customers!
- Gilbert's Fresh Market donates 1% of the money spent by you to your nominated school every time you shop with us.
- Sign up at the checkout and simply present your SOS card for scanning each time you shop to earn funds for your school.

It's so easy!

gilbertsfresh.com.au



SIGN UP
IN-STORE TODAY

GILBERT'S
— fresh market —

HILTON, MIDLAND &
WILLETTON

OPEN 7 DAYS

