newsletter

10 March 2022

Term One

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
18 March

Diocesan Feast Day St Joseph the Worker
19 March

Harmony Week
21 - 27 March

Wear Orange for Harmony
21 March

Earth Hour for Schools
25 March

PJs for Flood Relief
25 March

Last day of Term One
31 March

PUPIL FREE DAY Bishop's Inservice Day
1 April

OUR SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

GOD IS WITH US as we LIVE LOVE LEARN in a COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Dear Parents,

One of my favourite prayers is the Serenity Prayer however it was only quite by accident that I only recently learnt of its historical origins. The prayer has worked its way into so many cultural outlets that many non-Christians know it, or at least the beginning. The prayer is commonly attributed to Protestant theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, who composed it in the 1940s. According to its website, Alcoholics Anonymous adopted the Serenity Prayer and began including it in AA materials in 1942, which may have done more to canonize it than any other cultural use of the prayer. The language of the prayer is humble, its lessons simple and its history not particularly romantic. But its messages are both personal and universal; easy to understand yet difficult to execute.

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him
forever in the next.
Amen.

The prayer reveals five timeless truths (and no doubt more!) that challenge us to re-imagine what serenity really is:

1. Acceptance is not laziness.
When we devote inordinate attention to the things we cannot change, we expend physical, emotional and mental energy that could be directed elsewhere. Accepting that there are some things we cannot change does not make us complacent. It constitutes a leap of faith -- an ability to trust, as the prayer goes on to say, "that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will." We thus make the choice to let go and have faith in the outcome.

2. We must have courage to change ourselves.
One of life's greatest challenges is imagining how our lives could be different than they are now. Often, our deeply-ingrained habits are our own worst enemies, and simply identifying them is half the battle. Since habits gain power through repetition, it takes real focus and perspective to take a look at ourselves and our habits and ask, "Is this how I really want to live?" As the prayer states, this act of self-investigation is nothing less than an act of "courage." As Alexander Solzhenitsyn asked in The First Circle: "If you wanted to put the world to rights, who should you begin with: yourself or others?"

3. Hardship can be good for you.
As the prayer states, we must accept "hardships as the pathway to peace." Every person confronts obstacles in the course of his or her life. When we view these obstacles not just as frustrations or failures, but as opportunities for growth and learning, we can transcend our circumstances.

4. Surrendering requires courage, too.
The word "surrender" has mostly negative connotations; we associate it with resignation, failure and weakness. But the Serenity Prayer reframes the notion of surrender as an act of faith and trust. The wisdom of the prayer lies in exchanging a life of endless "what ifs" for a life of trust in powers beyond ourselves.

5. Happiness is attainable -- now and in the future.
The prayer's ending has something very profound to say about happiness: if we follow the prayer's advice, we may be "reasonably happy in this life." Just reasonably? At a time when our culture measures happiness and success mostly in terms of money and power, that word "reasonably" stands out as an appealingly modest definition of a successful life. Rather than wondering why we aren't happier, or picking through every minute aspect of our lives, the prayer asks us to focus on the present, "Living one day at a time" and "enjoying one moment at a time." Whether or not you believe in God or an afterlife, and whether or not the prayer's ending -- a vision of being "supremely happy with Him forever in the next" -- appeals to you or not, there's something universal in the prayer's quiet celebration of understanding our own potential, our own limits, and our capacity for transcendence.
(The Huff Post – The Third Metric, Aug 16 2015)

Wishing you every blessing for the coming week,

Geraldine Rostirolla
(Principal)

RE Matters

PUT ON LOVE – A PRAYER

In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our choices, to pray more deeply, to experience sorrow for what we've done and failed to do, to become aware of the needs of others, to be generous in our support of those around us and to love one another as God loves us.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness, humility, meekness and patience.
Bear with one another and,
If anyone has a complaint against another,
Forgive each other;
Just as God has forgiven you, so you must also forgive.
Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
Which binds everything together in utmost harmony.
(Colossians 3:12-14)

God, You gave us your son, Jesus, the perfect model of a loving life.
Teach us to see the world through his eyes;
To reach out to one another with his hands;
And to walk the path of justice with his feet.
Amen

MJR - MAKING JESUS REAL

MJR is not a program and it is not just something that we 'do' or learn about in our classrooms or school. It is a way of living that brings the presence of Jesus into our everyday language, actions and relationships. MJR promotes friendliness, peacefulness, understanding and acceptance. It encourages us to be fair and to accept responsibility for our attitude, behaviour and choices.

This term our focus has been **GREET, SPEAK, TREAT**. This asks us to welcome and include others, speak and act with kindness and respect, and treat others as we would like to be treated. It has been great to see lots of cheery smiles and hear "*Good Morning*", "*Please*", "Thank you", "*You can play*", and "*I'll help you*" all around the school.

"One smile can start a friendship. One word can end a fight. One look can show your care. One person can change your life." (Unknown)

When linked to our school motto, ***God is With Us***, core values (Faith, Love, Dignity, Respect, Justice, Honesty), Virtues of the Fortnight and Catholic Social Teachings, our students are learning that they can be the face, hands and feet of Jesus on earth today.

Keep up the great work everyone.

PJs FOR FLOOD RELIEF

We have been considering how to help families and communities impacted by the flooding in Southeast Queensland and have decided to do some fundraising and to pray for those affected.

On Friday 25 March, all students are invited to wear their pajamas to school. We do this in solidarity with those who had to leave their homes in the middle of the night with nothing but the clothes on their back. Parents are reminded that students must wear closed in shoes, and pajamas must be sunsmart. All students are asked to bring a gold coin donation. Thank you for your generous support.

For details of the *Vinnies Queensland Flood Appeal 2022* and how to donate please visit: https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-qld/vinnies-disaster-appeal-qld-2022

HARMONY WEEK – 'EVERYONE BELONGS'

Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Harmony Week is an opportunity to appreciate the multi-cultural nature of our society, from the oldest continuous cultures of our first Australians to the cultures of our newest arrivals from around the world, and to value the diverse contributions of all who call Australia home.

At Emmanuel we will be celebrating Harmony Week with a number of activities.

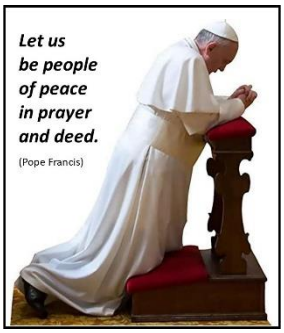
Students are invited to wear something orange (t-shirt, socks, shoelaces, ribbons) with their school uniform on Monday 21 March.

It is not a free dress day. No donation is required for participation.

For more information about Harmony Week go to: https://www.harmony.gov.au/

Harmony Week - Behind the News @ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rl-Wt6mktjI

POPE FRANCIS - PRAYER AND PEACE



On Ash Wednesday we joined with people around the globe to pray for peace in our world. Prompted by this, Pope Francis's call and the events unfolding in the Ukraine and across Europe, we have decided that each Friday of Lent, we will host a day of prayer. All class will be timetabled to visit the chapel and to offer prayers for those affected by war, natural disasters and poverty. Together we will make a difference in the world.

Our **'FARMITAS'** campaign has gotten off to a great start. Lots of students have already bought chicks, goats, pigs and cows (tokens, not real ones) and they have been added to the sacred space in their classrooms.

Buying these tokens will help to provide a welcome source of food and income for needy families in different parts of the world.

Chicks	**$1.00**
Goats	**$2.00**
Pigs	**$2.00**
Cows	**$5.00**

The class that buys the most chicks, goats and cows will lead the school in a special dance at Assembly in Week Nine.

LENTEN CHALLENGE – ONE FOR FAMILIES

This Lent we invite you to join us in undertaking a life giving and loving challenge - a challenge that involves reducing, recycling and regifting the many things that we own, but do not need. Not only will you reduce the amount of 'stuff' in your house and feel good about it, but you will help others too.

"It is in giving that you receive." (St Francis of Assisi)

CARITAS - PROJECT COMPASSION

'For All Future Generations' is the theme of Project Compassion 2022.

It reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to make the world a better place by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues.

Don't be surprised if your child asks you for a job, so they can earn some money to put in the Project Compassion box in their classroom.

For more information, about the work of CARITAS and projects that the 2022 Project Compassion Appeal will support, check out the Caritas Australia website @ https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18
The Lord establishes a covenant with Abraham.

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1
All who call upon the Lord will be saved.

Luke 9:28-36
Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James and John.

For weekly Gospel readings, reflections and meditations go to http://www.prayasyoucan.com.au/

Download this week's parish bulletin @ https://rok.catholic.net.au/parish/mackay-st-josephs/#

For Parish News, updates and to book for weekend Masses go to the ***Catholic Parishes of North Mackay and Farleigh*** Facebook page.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Brigid's Church - Saturdays 6:00pm

St Joseph's Church - Saturdays 6:00pm, Sundays 9:00am

St Brendan's Church - Sundays 7:30am

VIRTUE OF THE FORTNIGHT – GENEROSITY

"***Generosity isn't an act. It's a way of life.***" (Chip Ingram)

Generosity is one of the best ways to show love and friendship. You share freely, not with the idea of receiving something in return. Someone showing generosity is happy to give time, money, food, or kindness to people in need. When you are generous, you put others before yourself. When you're forgiving, kind and gentle to people, you show generosity of spirit.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." (Winston Churchill)

SAVE THE DATE - BISHOP'S IN-SERVICE

Our annual Bishop's Inservice Day will be held on Friday 1 April. This is a PUPIL FREE DAY and all staff will be attending. The school office will be CLOSED.

Please Note: The last day of Term One will be Thursday 31 March.

EMMANUEL **GOD IS WITH US AS WE LIVE LOVE LEARN IN A COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Noeleen Kliese
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Curriculum Corner

ORAL LANGUAGE

Oral Language is the foundation for successful reading and writing. Throughout the term, students in Prep – Year 2 have participated in a short Oral Language Assessment to ascertain their oral language fluency and capabilities. The development of your child's oral language is an area most easy for you as parents to support our classroom teachers in developing, as all you need to do is engage in conversation with your child. When we talk to each other we are using many skills, to assist our listening and speaking. The art of conversation provides us with opportunities for interacting and thinking. Below are some of the purposes in which we are required to talk, as adults we take it for granted that we can interact confidently in many of these situations, however our children require the opportunities to engage and interact in meaningful conversation to develop the skills involved to become successful speakers and listeners. Teachers will respond to the Oral Language Assessment data in many ways throughout the day in the classroom providing varied opportunities for children to develop and strengthen their oral language capacity. Oral Language assessments will then be conducted again in Term 3 to measure students' growth so as we can continue to respond to the needs of all children.

Exploratory talk

We talk to help us understand and develop ideas.

Predict, question, hypothesis, discuss, investigate, clarify, reflect, explain, infer, imagine, compare

Presentational Talk

We talk to share ideas and information and to entertain others.

Recite, perform, debate, improvise, narrate, retell, impromptu speaking, interview, persuade, report, monologue

Conversational Talk

We talk to build community and relationships.

Greet, introduce, recount, compliment, apologise, explain, ask, suggest, agree, disagree, state opinions, express thoughts and ideas, invite, thank, comment

Speaking clearly

We use specific skills to speak effectively and appropriately.

Appropriate voice levels, articulation and body language, gestures and eye contact; a variety of everyday and learned vocabulary; appropriate tone, pace, pitch and volume;

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Please Note: Several presentations are protected by a password. The passwords are as follows:

Prep	**.d2p8W^?**
Year One	**52?kp7WU**
Year Two	**@1P9ncM7**
Year Four	**Z4kPEv?!**
Year Six	**r7#*uP!y**

NAPLAN ONLINE

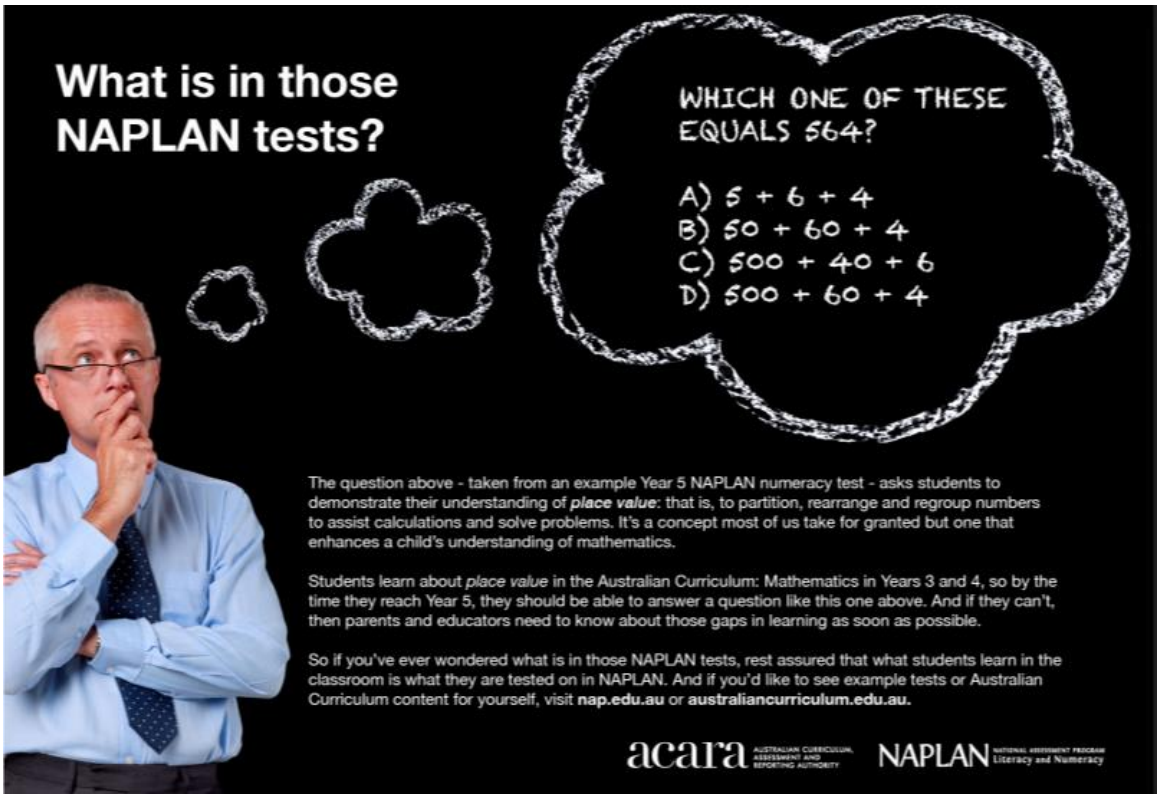
Students in Year 3 and 5 will undertake NAPLAN Online in May this year. NAPLAN Online brings many advantages, including a test design that offers assessment items tailored to students' knowledge and current skill level.

The NAPLAN Online Practice Test will be conducted at Emmanuel on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 March (Week 10). This is an excellent opportunity to fine tune any technical and logistical issues, as well as familiarise students and teachers with the online testing process prior to May. The practice test is not an assessment of student knowledge and there will be no reporting of student results. *Year 3 and Year 5 students are not being tested at this time, they are operating our technology devices to ensure the school's technical capabilities and the NAPLAN Online Platform are ready in preparation for NAPLAN Online in Term 2.*

This year a Public Demonstration Site is available and will continue to be updated so as parents can assist their children to prepare for NAPLAN Online at home. The site includes FAQ's; Parent Information and Practice Tests. If you are interested in looking at this site please follow the link provided:
http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site

Parents and caregivers of students in Year 3 and 5 need to be aware of important information relating to privacy, which can be found on the NAPLAN Online Queensland website's parent information page - (https://naplanonline.qld.edu.au/getting-ready/parent-information) last updated November 2020.

Further information pertaining to NAPLAN Online testing in May will be published in future Newsletters.



Janine Refalo
Assistant Principal Curriculum

Emmanuel Catholic Primary

Strategic Priorities 2022

Catholic Identity and Ethos	Effective Teaching and Learning (NSIT Domains 2,5,6,7,8)
Continue to strive and maintain Emmanuel as a dialogue school. *Students will move from literal understandings to a post critical (symbolic) belief.*	**Every student is engaged and learning successfully in their own ways at their own pace.** *To improve student learning outcomes in Mathematics.*
Pastoral Support and Wellbeing (NSIT Domain 3)	**Leadership, Partnerships and Resourcing** (NSIT Domains 1,4,9)
Students to be self directed learners. *To enhance student voice and wellbeing.*	**Establish deliberate and strategic school community.** *To enhance student understandings of Indigenous Perspectives.*

APA News

COLLECTING STUDENTS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Now that we have been back at school for some weeks and all parents and students are familiar with our pick-up procedures, the times that students will be dismissed from class will go back to normal.

From next Monday 14 March students in Prep and Year One will be dismissed at 2:55pm.
All other students (Years 2-6) will be dismissed at 3:00pm.

Parents are encouraged to use our STOP DROP GO for the drop-off and collection of students. Parents are welcome to walk in to collect their children.

Please share this important information with grandparents and other carers who collect students from school.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE

Next Friday, 18 March, is the annual National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. In the lead up to this day, students in all year levels will participate in activities that highlight this important issue. It is timely to look at the procedures for handling bullying at Emmanuel. These include:

- Listening openly to all sides of the story and clarifying the facts and feelings involved
- Speaking to all participants separately to clarify what they want from the other person/s
- Bringing the two parties together to confirm facts and feelings in the company of a teacher as a supporter and observer
- Using the technique: When you do…….
  I feel…….
  I would prefer you to ……...
- Deciding mutually acceptable behaviours for the future
- Making appropriate apologies
- Encouraging confidentiality
- Conversations held with parents/caregivers
- Frequent check ins with the students involved and classroom teacher after the incident.

<u>Ways to Report Bullying</u>

Students often feel that to deal with the problem of bullying can only make it worse. Students are encouraged to realise that bullying can only be dealt with if a significant adult knows about it. The significant adult could be a parent or a teacher. Bullying can be reported by:

- Telling a parent, teacher, or member of the Administration Team
- Having a friend speak to a significant adult on your behalf
- Using the "Bullying Box" located in the Library.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Now that some COVID restrictions have been lifted and Catholic Education guidelines have been reviewed in line with these changes, we are happy to announce that School Assemblies can recommence. Assemblies will take place in the Marist Centre at 8:50am every Friday. Parents and members of the Emmanuel community are welcome to attend. Please be aware that social distancing is still required.

Karla Falzon
Acting Assistant Principal Administration

COVID Update

Emmanuel Catholic Primary School wishes to advise you that, during the past week, we have been notified of positive cases of COVID-19 in our school community.

Our school regularly consults with the Catholic Education Office and relevant authorities and continues to follow the advice of Queensland Health regarding cleaning requirements.

Queensland Health has advised that no quarantine of students or staff is required.

As COVID-19 remains active in our community we ask you to continue to monitor your child's/children's health and if they develop any flu-like symptoms:

- **Keep your child/children at home**
- **Seek a PCR or Rapid Antigen test where it is recommended and notify the school of positive results. Please be aware, a negative COVID test does not change the requirement to be symptom free to attend school.**
- **Follow the advice of Queensland Health**

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, please remind your child/ren to:

- **maintain good hand hygiene at all times**
- **cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of their elbow and dispose of tissues in the bin immediately.**
- **practice social distancing from others where possible**
- **wear masks when required**

We will continue to work closely with health authorities to keep our school community informed of any developments and advice. Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Around the School

LEARNING IS FUN IN PREP

Prep have been having lots of fun learning their letters and sounds. Some activities have involved the wearing of **sensational socks** and **terrific tutus**. The Teddy Bear's Picnic was a great success. Students brought their teddy's (lots of different types) to school and tasted Tiny Teddies.

Prep 2023

ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR PREP 2023

If you have a child due to commence Prep next year - born between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018 - you are asked to complete an ONLINE ENROLMENT APPLICATION FORM, which is available on the school website.

https://www.ecps.qld.edu.au/application-for-enrolment.html

All sibling enrolment applications need to be received at the office by Friday 1 April to ensure a position for 2023.

If you require any further information, please contact the School Office on 49425999.

Sporting News

REPRESENTATIVE SPORT - TRIALS

It has been great to see so many of our students, aged 10-12 years, interested in representative sport. I have been very busy sharing information and distributing nomination forms.

Please discuss the following list of trial days with your child/ren and remind them to see me if they are interested in participating. It is crucial that students collect and return permission notes before closing dates to ensure they do not miss out on their opportunity.

Sport	Nominations Close	Trial Date	Level	Type
Golf	16 March	16 March	Capricornia	Paper Nomination
Soccer	18 March	25 March	Northern Suburbs	Trial

In the coming weeks we hope to share some more good news about students who have participated in trial days. Please remind your child/ren to let us know if they have been selected for a representative team. We would love to celebrate their success and share it with the wider Emmanuel Family.

Luke Dodson
HPE Teacher

Music News

WE ARE BACK AND SINGING!

It was great to see lots of existing members and to welcome new members to our first practice yesterday.

The Emmanuel School Choir is for all students in Years 4, 5 and 6. We rehearse every Wednesday in the Music Room starting at 8:00am.

Please don't hesitate to contact me by email with any questions:

Linda_Miller@rok.catholic.edu.au

Linda Miller
Music Teacher

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

The following opportunities for instrumental music are offered through the school.

- Jim Scott is once again offering guitar lessons. Application forms are available at the office.
- Musicorp is once again offering lessons for various instruments. Details below.

From the Office

TERM ONE SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

Term One School Fees are now overdue. They were emailed to all families on Monday 21 February, with payment due 7 March. Statements can also be viewed via parent lounge using the 'Make a Payment' tab from the menu bar and clicking on the paperclip. If you did not receive your statement, please advise the Finance Office.

If you would like to establish a Direct Debit Authority, please contact Robyn or Therese in the Finance office, or email enm_finance@rok.catholic.edu.au for further information.

For families with an existing authority, if you have had an additional student commence this year, you may have to increase your current direct debit payment. Please contact the Finance Office via phone or email to discuss the matter further.

Tuckshop News

VOLUNTEER ROSTER
TERM 1 WEEK 8

Monday 14 March:	**Lara LeGarde**
Tuesday 15 March:	**Shirley Bloom**
Wednesday 16 March:	**Renae Borg**
Thursday 17 March:	**Paul Johnson**
Friday 18 March:	**Kara Shepherd**
	Rhylie Ahwang
	Karen Eveleigh

Thank you to all parents and grandparents who have volunteered to help in the tuckshop.
All volunteers are very much appreciated.

Please Note: It is imperative that volunteers **DO NOT** attend tuckshop if they are unwell, have anyone at home who is unwell or have been in contact with anyone who has COVID-19. Proof of vaccination is required (Queensland Government mandate).

A reminder to parents that spoons and sporks come complimentary with all meals, fruit cups, yoghurt, custard etc. There is however a cost of 10 cents per item if supplied for use with foods brought from home. We have replaced our plastic cutlery with a more eco-friendly bamboo option. As they are more expensive, we ask you to please ensure that you include your own cutlery when sending foods/meals that require cutlery from home. Thank you for your understanding.

Angie and Carly
Tuckshop

facebook

Stay connected with us by following our Facebook page for regular updates, photos and stories