

St Patrick's College Jaffna Old Boys Association

Melbourne, Australia

Established 1992



Website: www.spcaustralia.com

Email: secretary@spcaustralia.com

Newsletter 45

Facebook: www.facebook.com/spcobamel

March 2024



Our Objectives

Socialise and share the Patrician spirit with benevolence.

Support our Alma Mater in meaningful ways.

Fide et Labore
Faith and Labour

I fear nothing, because of the promises of Heaven; for I have cast myself into the hands of Almighty God, who reigns everywhere. As the prophet says: Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you.



President's Message

Dear Patrician Family,

Once again, I am delighted to reach you via this newsletter. It has been nearly a year since the new committee was elected and a lot has happened in this time. St Patrick's Day celebrations 2023, two casual catchups, Patrician Nite 2023, and Australia Day weekend Family Fun Day 2024. Thank you all for attending and supporting these events. I hope you enjoyed these events as much as I did.

Apart from these events, we also had our 2024 AGM on the 8th of March via Zoom. Thank you to those who attended. There were no new office bearers proposed, and as you may be aware, the same committee from last year has been reinstated to serve for another year. It is an absolute honour to be able to serve this wonderful organisation for one more year.

You may recall that at the start of this committee's tenure, we set ourselves 3 aspirational goals. I am pleased to advise that we have achieved two of the three goals by creating opportunities for OBA members to meet more often in a more casual setting and improving the association's financial position. This was made possible due to many members' dedication, hard work, and support. For this, I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

In the coming months, our focus will be on our third goal which is to set up a scholarship fund to provide: (a) Ongoing support to students facing financial difficulties and, (b) Professional development opportunities for SPC teachers.

I am also delighted to inform you that our former rector Rev. Fr. Bernard will grace our Patrician Nite 2024 as the chief guest on the 5th of October. He will also say Holy Mass on the 6th of October for the Patricians and their

families. Please keep these dates free on your calendars.

On a slightly different note, our alma mater will be celebrating its 175th anniversary in 2025. Some of you may want to travel to Jaffna to participate in these celebratory events being organized by the college. If so, I suggest you sort out your travel plans early to get better deals on flights/accommodation and avoid any last-minute rush.

As always, we would welcome your ideas and participation to improve everything we do to run our organisation better. So, if you have any ideas or would like to help us out with anything, please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee members. I am counting on your continuous support. Until next time, may the blessings of St Patrick be with you and your families!

Jenith Jesuthasan

President

Office Bearers and Committee Members 2024-25

President - Jenith Jesuthasan

Vice President - Fredy James

Secretary - Parthiban Vivekanandan

Assist. Secretary - Berchmans Tennakone

Treasurer - Anton Sivapragasam

Assistant Treasurer - Richman Mangalanayagam

Committee Members:

Angelo Fernando, Clero Theonis, Dr Hutchinson

Thuraiajah, Jeyandra Antonipillai, Noel Rajiv,

Raj Niruban Vimalathasan, Dr Sanjeev Alfred and

William Nimalraj.

Support Group:

Anandarajan James, Antony Gratian (Editor), Chrysostom

Gunanayagam, Dr Florentine Singarayar, James Joseph,

Jeevaranjan Fernando, Patrick Rajaratnam and Philip

Ravindraraj.

**St Patrick's Day celebrations will be held on Saturday, 16 March 2024, at
St Clare Church, 138 Woodhouse Grove, Box Hill North, commencing with Holy Mass at 5.00 pm.**

Patrician Nite—Saturday, 18 November 2023



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A night of fun,
food, music and
camaraderie.



Lenten Reflections

What is Lent trying to rub in our faces with all the talk of mercy, forgiveness, reform, and repentance?

Admitting our inadequacy

Vigilance over our souls

Radical dependency on Jesus in life and death

Relinquishment

God thirsts for us

What commandments do I make or break?

Abundant life

Salvation and hope

Abandonment to divine grace

Disengagement

All we need is love

Abundant mercy

Yield to the truth

God within reach

Words are not enough

Healing power of love

Recognizing ourselves

God's mercy

Take seriously our sinfulness and God's forgiveness

Do we really weep for our sins and those of others?

Editor: Extracts from the book 'Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter Week' by Fr John Kavanaugh, SJ (2006)



Deep within my heart I feel, voices whispering to me.
Words that I can't understand; Meanings I can't clearly hear!
Calling me to follow close, lest I leave myself behind!
Calling me to walk into evening shadows one more time!

*So I leave my boats behind!
Leave them on familiar shores!
Set my heart upon the deep!
Follow you again, my Lord!*

Galilee Song by Fr. Frank Anderson

Where Do Our Favorite Emoji Come From?

July 17, 2018



By Jane Solomon

In 2018, Dictionary.com added lexicographical explorations of emoji to our site for the first time. We've traced the use and meanings of emoji from 🙄 to 🤡, and in this piece I'd like to take a step back and look at some broader questions about emoji. Where did emoji come from in the first place? Who decides what new emoji appear on all our devices? How does the process of creating new emoji compare to the process of getting a new word into a dictionary?

Where did emoji come from?

The story of emoji begins in Japan.

The word [emoji](#), for that matter, is Japanese: *e* means “picture” and *-moji* means “character.” This term has been floating around since as early as the 1970s before the first emoji set was introduced, but it was in art history and design contexts and did not carry the same digital connotations it carries today.

The first emoji set was created in 1999 by artist Shigetaka Kurita for the phone company NTT DOCOMO. Screen real-estate was valuable, and they wanted a way to express concepts in a tiny amount of space. [Ideograms](#), or written symbols that represent ideas or objects directly, would do the trick.



SHIGETAKA KURITA/NTT DOCOMO/MOMA

So, Kurita designed the first emoji set, a group of 176 12×12 pixel images. These 176 designs have been powerfully influential on the development of the emoji that we use today. In this initial set, there are a handful of emoji related to sending and receiving messages, emails, calls ... and because it was 1999, faxes.

Of the initial 176 emoji, only five are faces expressing human emotion (though we can add the two cat face emoji to this group too). Can you find them?

Kurita's designs were so popular and useful that other Japanese mobile phone companies soon followed with their own emoji. At this time there was no standardization, and so emoji looked different across mobile carriers, which was a communication barrier. Additionally, it was difficult, if not impossible, for people outside Japan to use emoji. But, this all changed in 2010 when emoji moved over to Unicode.

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What is Unicode and what does it have to do with emoji?

Unicode is the technical standard that supports emoji, and the Unicode Consortium is the non-profit organization that maintains the Unicode standard. They have a lofty mission: “To enable everybody, speaking every language on the Earth, to be able to use their language on computers and smartphones.”

The move to Unicode allowed for people to more easily use emoji worldwide across various devices. Different platforms like Apple, Google, and Samsung still have their own proprietary emoji designs, but the Unicode Consortium offers guidance on how each emoji should look.

How do new emoji get created?

Today the Unicode Consortium is the group that decides what new emoji will appear on all our devices. They review and vote on new emoji proposals submitted by people around the world.

Full disclosure: I’m on the Unicode Emoji Subcommittee, so I’m very familiar with this process.

One popular proposal type is various breeds of dog beyond a few existing dog emoji:



. However, these proposals have not been successful historically because the committee believes that a specific type of dog emoji can (and is) used as a stand-in for all types of dogs. If a concept at large is already representable with the current emoji offerings, it is very unlikely to become a Unicode codepoint.

About 60–100 new characters are approved by Unicode each year, but the amount varies. This is because it takes a lot of work to support each individual emoji, and major vendors like Google, Apple, and Twitter are willing to support only a limited amount of new emoji per year.

Anyone can submit a [proposal for a new emoji](#). All you have to do is compile evidence for anticipated usage of the proposed emoji.

New words vs. new emoji

The process of adding new words to dictionaries can be seen as somewhat the opposite of the process of getting a new emoji approved. Lexicographers think about actual usage, and the Unicode Consortium thinks more about anticipated usage.

In modern lexicography, we see how a term is actually being used, and that informs whether or not we add it to Dictionary.com, and how we define it if we do. Lexicographers are not [gatekeepers](#). Rather, we’re observers and recorders of language, taking a particular interest in how meaning changes and evolves over time.

The Unicode Consortium, on the other hand, are very much gatekeepers. Only a small amount of emoji can be approved each year, and these decisions must be made before anyone can know for certain if people will actually use a new emoji. The Unicode Consortium asks questions to get at how a proposed emoji might be used: Is there evidence of interest? Is it frequently requested? Is it [polysemous](#)? Is it already representable?

That last question is something lexicographers would never ask. We don’t exclude words from our dictionary because there are already many ways to say the same thing. We wouldn’t say, “We can’t add *swipe right* to Dictionary.com because there are already a bunch of words that mean you like or approve of something.”

While the process of emoji birth differs from that of adding new words to dictionaries, for both of these, meaning is the prime concern.

Jane Solomon is a lexicographer based in Oakland, CA. She spends her days writing definitions and working on various projects for Dictionary.com.

Source: [Where Do Our Favorite Emoji Come From? - Dictionary.com](#)



Where There Is Dysfunction, You May Find a Scapegoat

Scapegoats serve a purpose in unhealthy families, communities and societies.

[Louise Taylor](#), [The Neurodivergent Therapist](#)

Posted September 27, 2021 (Abridged version)

It can be difficult to identify as a scapegoat and it isn't a title that many people would fight for. But being aware of this role and recognizing its existence may prove to be beneficial and liberating for many people struggling with relationships and social and cultural dynamics. If you live in a family, community, or society that is dysfunctional, where there is little or no loyalty, fierce competition between people, a lack of sincere support, love, and respect, there are usually scapegoats.

The scapegoat might be the unorthodox, the non-conformist, the odd, the unusual, the foreign, the disabled, the estranged, the truth-teller, the deviant, or the reject. The person that most others point the finger at and ridicule, and who is not taken seriously or considered worthy of respect, kindness, or positive attention.

Scapegoats play significant and important roles in dysfunctional places; they are the focus of much negativity and are "blamed" for a large proportion of the problems, mainly issues the blamers don't want to face up to or admit they may be responsible for. Where there is a scapegoat, there are usually people shunning responsibility and being derogatory, cruel, or unkind as a means of deflecting from the real problem which is usually found with those who hold power and who have control. Many therapists and psychoanalysts would argue that scapegoating is rooted in patriarchy and the need to dominate, compete, exclude and control.



One of the most telling signs of problems for any family, workplace, community, or society where there is a scapegoat, is the fact that there is a scapegoat at all. Any healthy, functional, caring family, work environment or community will not accommodate, facilitate or allow a scapegoat to emerge or persist. Show me a family where they speak with kindness, affection, respect, and forgiveness about each other, and I will show you a family that is healthy and loving and a family with no scapegoat.

In places where mistakes are made and forgiveness is given with ease, there will be no scapegoat. In homes where the truth is spoken and kindness is the natural *modus operandi*, it will be unlikely that there will be a scapegoat. Refugees have been scapegoated, ethnic minorities have been scapegoated, disabled people have been scapegoated and all of these instances often relate to their inability to function and perform in accordance with projected norms and values.



In my experience, you will always find people offering a helping hand for those who are mistreated and ostracised in society and those are the truly remarkable healers, leaders, and humanitarians of the world—the helpers. As Thomas Cushman wrote, **"Those who are in a position of strength have a responsibility to protect the weak."** As a recovering scapegoat, I now use my skills and abilities to ensure other people, and particularly children, don't suffer as I did. Being scapegoated is exhausting, debilitating, and disempowering. The recovery process can be long and slow, but it is possible.

Everybody deserves love, respect, kindness, and care, especially children. To acknowledge that you won't get the love and support from the people who harmed you can be the first step in any healing journey for those who have been scapegoated. There are ways to use the experiences of being scapegoated to recover and thrive and that is often how many disempowered people begin to take their power back. They use their experiences and they create a better world. I believe all scapegoats are capable of this, and that is why there is power to be found with those who have been subjected to the cruelty that this role can bring.

Courtesy:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/au/blog/reflections-neurodiverse-therapist/202109/where-there-is-dysfunction-you-may-find-scapegoat>

Notice Board

St Patrick's College Jaffna
Melbourne OBA

St Patrick's Day celebrations

Saturday, 16 March 2024

**St Clare Church, 138 Woodhouse
Grove, Box Hill North**

**Holy Mass at 5.00 pm
followed by traditional dinner.**

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL

- ◆ Our next two Casual Dinner Catch-ups will be held in May and July. Dates and venues will be confirmed in due course.
- ◆ Patrician Nite 2024 will be held on 5 October.



Membership Fee Reminder

We call on the Patricians in Victoria who haven't paid or renewed their membership to kindly do so. Only



Online payment can be made to OBA bank account with CBA.
Name: Jaffna St Patrick's College
Old Boys' Association
A/c No: 063000 1152 0575

தொப்பையை குறைக்கும் மிகவும் சுலபமான மூச்சுப் பயிற்சி

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1424587018404646> [4:15]

உடல் & மன ஆரோக்கியம்

16 அக்டோபர் 2023

தொப்பையை குறைக்கும் மிகவும் சுலபமான மூச்சுப் பயிற்சி. தொப்பை குறையும், உடல் சுறுசுறுப்பாகும், சுவாசம் நன்றாக இருக்கும், வயிற்றில் தேங்கியுள்ள தேவையற்ற நீர், காற்று மற்றும் அசுத்தங்கள் வெளியேறும். சிறிது சிறிதாக முயற்சி செய்து பயன்பெறுங்கள். அனைவரும் செய்யலாம். பெண்களுக்கு மிகவும் நல்லது. மிகவும் உடல் பருமனாக இருப்பவர்கள், நடக்க முடியாதவர்கள் இந்த மூச்சுப் பயிற்சி செய்து உடலை கட்டுப்பாடாக வைக்க முடியும்.