



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

**TERM 1 WEEK 1
FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2024**

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the 2024 School Year.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and found some time as a family to rest and rejuvenate.

We've had a great start to the school year, the students have returned with lots of enthusiasm and as I tour the school, I see that the students are learning the routines that make our school a calm, safe and respectful environment and are already applying themselves to learning.

I'd like to introduce the new staff that have joined St Andrew's for 2024.

- Ms Marijana Jerkovic in Grade 5B
- Mr Steve Dalton - Learning Diversity Leader
- Ms Maria Afferi - Learning Support Officer
- Ms Helen Richardson - Play Therapist

There have also been a couple of internal changes

- Ms Amy Casley - Creative Arts teacher
- Brooke Maisy - Grade 1/2C
- Brittany Holland - Mathematics Leader
- Carolyn Martin - Teaching & Learning Leader

The change from Amy Casely to Steve Dalton is a significant one, Amy requested a move to the vacant arts position to accommodate her personal family circumstances at the time and we have been fortunate to welcome Steve Dalton, an experienced teacher who has fulfilled this position in two previous schools.

I'd like to thank you for making the time over the past few days to come and meet the teachers and discuss your children. The initial Parent/Teacher meetings (3 Way Conversations) have long been a feature of the school as we endeavour to establish the positive partnership between parents and teachers for the year ahead. The information you share about your child is invaluable

Kind Regards
Michael Gavaghan

SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

2024 Statements will be distributed to families next week.

CSEF & Concessional School Fees

Families with a valid, current health care card are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports, Excursion Funding and concessional school fees.

The CSEF is paid to schools by the State Government to eligible students. Each eligible student is entitled to \$125 towards camps, sports and excursions.

Concessional fees for eligible students is:

- 1 child family \$ 780.00
- 2 child family \$1196.00
- 3+child family \$1560.00

Eligible families must complete an application form, available from the school office, and present their valid, concession card with their completed application form to the school office.

Direct Debit Payments

Families wishing to establish direct debit payments and those families needing to re establish their direct debit arrangements for 2024 can do so by visiting or contacting the school office.

Morning Routines

School Gates open each morning at 8:30am.

Students enter classrooms at 8:50am

Classes begin at 9:00

Teachers are on duty from 8:30 -9:00 am

School gates are locked from 9:00am -3:15pm

The time before school is a passive time, school playgrounds are closed and out of bounds. This decision was made a few years ago to ensure students entered classrooms in a calm and centred state, ready for learning.

EXPLORE ALPHA AT ST. ANDREW'S



Starting 21 Feb 2024 | 7 - 9 PM | Penola Hub



Get connected and explore faith with others

- 01 GATHER TOGETHER AND GET CONNECTED
- 02 WATCH AN EPISODE ON A TOPIC OF FAITH
- 03 ASK QUESTIONS AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Penola Hub
33 Mortimer Street, Werribee

COME AND SEE.

This is open to everyone.

Alpha has impacted both church-goers and those who do not go to church alike. It welcomes everyone regardless of race, religion, or cultural affiliation.

Alpha is a safe-space where you can ask any question.

Alpha can help individuals explore topics about life, death, faith, and many more.

Alpha will run strictly from 7:00PM to 9:00PM only. Sessions are FREE and includes dinner.

Limited slots only. Scan and register now.

KEY DATES FOR THE COURSE

- 21 Feb 2024 Is there more to life than this?
- 28 Feb 2024 Who is Jesus?
- 06 Mar 2024 Why did Jesus die?
- 13 Mar 2024 How can I have faith?
- 20 Mar 2024 Why and how do I pray?
- 27 Mar 2024 Why and how should I read the Bible?
- 17 Apr 2024 How does God guide us?
- 20 Apr 2024 WEEKEND RETREAT
- 24 Apr 2024 How can I resist evil?
- 01 May 2024 Does God heal today?
- 08 May 2024 Why and how should I tell others?
- 15 May 2024 What about the Church?

Wednesday Nights
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM only

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

Alpha

Explore.

Join a one-of-a-kind, open-ended, open-minded, open-hearted, pressure free, small group conversation.

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COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

Alpha

Powlin

I have a great passion for teaching and singing. My kids love and come here with my husband and 2 year old son in 2009.

The Alpha sessions offered great insights for prayer and soul-strengthening reflections. I have loved and enjoyed every session.

I invite you all to come and experience this journey!

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Alpha

Cora

I'm a St. Andrew's parishioner since 1988. One a serious, slow gardening and looking after our 3 year old grandson.

I have completed 2 Alpha courses which I'm immensely enjoyed.

Alpha has deepened my appreciation and practice of my Catholic faith. I strongly recommend it to anyone who wants to know more about the real meaning of life.

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Alpha

Sherine

I'm from India and I came to Australia in 2006 to settle here with my family. I love music and yummy food.

Alpha has enriched my spiritual journey with our great God. I enjoy a clear and stronger relationship with God who is most caring but intentionally close to each of us.

Come and experience this journey!

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Alpha

Maria

I have three wonderful kids and a loving husband.

Alpha has allowed me to go deeper into my faith journey and to be closer to God.

I enjoyed the Alpha sessions and have met amazing people who share the same faith as I do.

Come join this journey with us!

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Alpha

Fr. Huy

I started my priestly vocation in 2002 in Nha-Trang, Vietnam and moved to Australia in 2003. I was ordained a priest in 2002. I love reading books, playing table tennis and fishing.

Alpha is a fantastic venue where you can open yourself up in exploring the faith, asking life's big questions and experiencing the life-changing power of God's love.

If you never try, you'll never know.

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Alpha

Susanne

I'm happily married and we have three gorgeous girls. I'm also a primary school teacher and I love sharing my Catholic faith with others.

I've done Alpha twice and I loved it! Meeting people, sharing delicious food, open dialogue and conversations about deeper questions of life.

It's been so much fun and really fulfilling. Can't wait for the next Alpha course 2024! See you there!

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Alpha

Jim & Titus

After decades of professional work, we are now much more focused on community life, evangelisation and mission.

Having been to a number of spiritual seminars, we have found Alpha as a very down-to-earth approach to the evangelisation faith.

We encourage you to make this your first meeting point with the Lord or your re-connection with Him.

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Alpha

Philo

I've got three kids and my job is family counselling.

Alpha over the years transformed my life as I found power through the Holy Spirit during the sessions by hearing people share their stories.

I strongly encourage you to take part and complete ALPHA.

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YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

Alpha

Eric

I enjoy travelling, reading and basketball.

In recent years I've had a lot of questions about God and my faith. I found Alpha to be a fantastic platform to meet like-minded people and freely ask those questions about God.

If you're someone looking to explore the faith, Alpha is a great place to start!

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