



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

**TERM 1 WEEK 2
FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2024**

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we complete the first full week of 2024, I can say it's been a very settled start with routines being established and the students responding accordingly. Thank you to the staff for your hard work and expertise in helping each child to settle back into school.

Yesterday we gathered in St Andrew's church to celebrate mass to open the school year. Fr Albert was the presiding priest and he gave a blessing to the students for the year ahead. I was very proud of the way our students conducted themselves so reverently and our choir, under the leadership of Susanne Sweeney, helped make the liturgy a joyous occasion. I especially want to acknowledge our Year 5 students who are buddying our new Foundations, they took their buddies to mass to assist them in understanding the expectations for gathering in church. Well done Year 5.

Specialist programs began this week. On specialist day students are required to wear their sports uniform. Years 5 & 6 Specialist Day is Tuesday, Years 3 & 4 Specialist Day is Wednesday and Years F-2 have their specialist day on Thursday.

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, this day marks the beginning of the season of Lent for Christians. Lent is a period of 40 days that leads into Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. The children will be learning about Lent and its meaning in their RE lessons. Next Wednesday the Year 3-6 students will attend mass at 9:00am with the parish, please have the children here by 8:50 so they are ready for the start of mass. The Year F-2 students will have a liturgy in school, where they will also receive the ashes.

Michael Gavaghan

SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

2024 Statements were distributed to families this 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.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 & 5 participate in NAPLAN (National Assessment Program - Literacy & Numeracy). This year's NAPLAN will be held between 13 - 25 March. At St Andrew's the following test program will be followed:

Wed 13 March 9:30am - Writing

Mon 18 March 9:30am - Reading

Tues 19 March 9:30am - Numeracy

Wed 20 March 11:30am - Language Conventions

Parents are asked to keep these dates and times in mind when making other arrangements. If a student is unable to take a test at the designated time with a valid reason then make up times are available.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to your child and NAPLAN please make an appointment with your child's teacher or Carolyn Martin (Learning & Teaching leader), Beth Du Plooy (Literacy Leader), Brittany Holland (Mathematics Leader) or Steve Dalton (Learning Diversity Leader).

2025 Foundation Enrolment

Any families with a child who will turn 5 before 30 April 2025 should be enrolling them to start school next year.

We will hold an information session for new families on Thursday 29 February at 6:00pm in the Foundation - 2 building. Please spread the news in your social circles.

Existing families will be encouraged to complete an Enrolment Enquiry online any time from March 1.

Office Hours

Please note that office hours are
8:00am - 4:00pm Monday to
Friday.



Student Wellbeing News

From our Deputy Principal Mrs Lisa Black

Welcome to our new students!

Each year we welcome new students to St Andrew's across Grades 1-6. This year we have seen 12 new faces and we welcome them with excitement and enthusiasm. Not only is this a new start for our students, but also their families.

We welcome our new families to the St Andrew's community and look forward to working in partnership.



Overdressing Your Child

There is no doubt that we want our little ones to be comfortable and warm when they head out the door, but remember that they are going to school which means they will be moving around a lot.

During Terms 1 & 4 we ask that students wear full Summer uniform. This means that it is not necessary to add layers under school shirts (boys) and dresses (girls). Children, particularly in the younger years are unable to control their body temperature and as such are at risk of overheating.

Some tips to guide you:

- Two layers of clothing in the warmer months are ideal. For example school shirt or dress followed by a school jumper.
- Allow your child to practice putting on and taking off their school jumper.
- Encourage your child to drink water throughout the day.

A visual guide is on the next page to assist with uniform requirements.

Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal Mr Glenn Mugavin

Yesterday we gathered as a whole school in St Andrew's Church to mark the beginning of a new school year, with mass celebrated by our parish priest, Fr Albert Yogarajah.

We welcomed our Foundation 2024 students, other new students & staff to our school.

Thankyou to the parents who were able to join us at this mass.

It was also the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita, who is the patron saint of Sudan and the patron saint of freedom from slavery. St Josephine longed to know God, and despite her suffering she had a heart that showed love and compassion.

St Josephine Bakhita, pray for us, that we can have your heart to love and worship God.

More can be read about St Josephine [here](#).

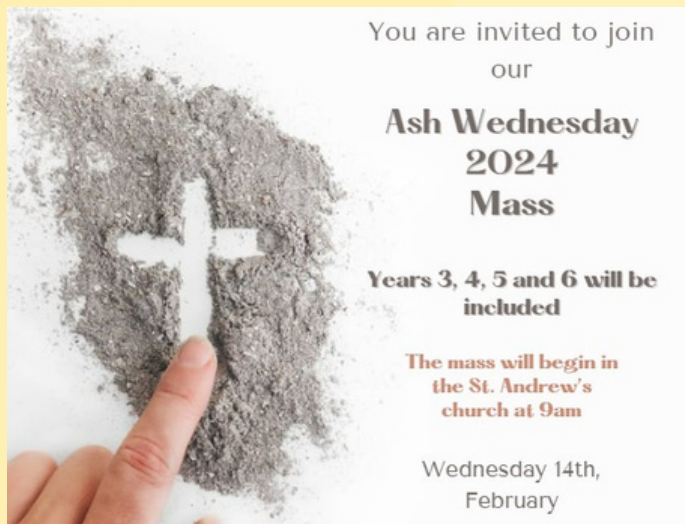


Connection to the St Andrew's Parish

Ash Wednesday Mass & Ash Wednesday liturgy:

We invite & encourage school families to pray with us at:

- Parish mass on **Wednesday 14 February at 9am** in St Andrew's Church for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Junior school liturgy on **Wednesday 14 February at 2:20pm** in St Andrew's Church for Years 1 & 2



Social Justice in Action

On the final day of last year, we held our St Andrew's Water-Fest fundraiser for Ukraine.

This was our global-action fundraiser to support the work of the Jesuit Mission in the Ukraine which helps refugees. Our students had great fun 'playing' with the water balloons (& getting wet) in the afternoon sunshine.

And we raised over \$500!

Thankyou to Ms Staunton, the 2023 Mini-Vinnies Team & the Parents Association.

 Summer

1	2	3	4
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	+		+		✓		✗ 
	+		+		✓	✗ 	✗ 
	+		+		✓		✗ 



SUBWAY lunches can be ordered for the rest of the year through the Canteen Hub website:

<http://app.canteenhub.com.au/login>

You can place an order up until 5pm on the Wednesday before the Friday delivery date, our next delivery date is:

Friday 16 February.

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.

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

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!

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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 extremely 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.

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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!

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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!

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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.

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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!

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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.

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

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.

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

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!

ALPHA @ ST. ANDREW'S STARTS ON 21 FEB 2024 7PM TO 9PM | PENOLA HUB

COME AND SEE.

2024 POINT COOK T-BALL & SOFTBALL PROGRAM

HOME RUN HEROES

COST

\$38

WHO?

JUNIORS
AGED 5-12
ALL ABILITY LEVELS

6 WEEK PROGRAM INCLUDES FUN SKILLS AND DRILLS AND A MODIFIED GAME OF T-BALL OR SOFTBALL IN EACH SESSION

DATES

MON 12 FEB - MON 25 MAR

TIME

5:00PM - 6.30PM

AGES

5-12 YEARS

VENUE:

BROOKDALE ROAD RESERVE, 2 BROOKDALE RD, POINT COOK

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



2024 POINT COOK SOCIAL 7S SOFTBALL COMPETITION



COST

\$72

WHO?

MIXED GENDER
TEAMS AGES 16
AND ABOVE ALL
ABILITY LEVELS

**7 WEEK PROGRAM INCLUDES
FUN SKILLS AND DRILLS FOR 30 MINUTES AND A
1 HOUR GAME OF SOCIAL 7S SLOW PITCH
SOFTBALL EACH SESSION**

DATES

WED 14 FEB - WED 27 MAR

TIME

7:00PM - 8.30PM

AGES

16 & ABOVE

VENUE:

**BROOKDALE ROAD
RESERVE, 2
BROOKDALE RD,
POINT COOK**

SCAN
HERE TO
REGISTER



Welcome to Your OSHC by Camp Australia.

A fun, social space for
your child to grow.



Your
OSHC.

Embrace the
benefits of
OSHC in 2024

Welcome to Term 1, 2024 and a big Happy New Year from all of us here at Camp Australia! Children are at the heart of everything we do, and our focus is helping them grow, learn and have fun. Through tailored experiences that nurture their passions, your child will embark on a journey that ignites their imagination and showcases their unique talents.



OSHC Information Sessions

Discover everything you need to know about Your OSHC Before and After School Care, Rocketeers Extraordinary Holiday Programs, our inclusive CARE program, and everything else in between. From registration and bookings to billing and the Child Care Subsidy (CCS), the 2024 Info Sessions will cover everything families need to know about their journey with Camp Australia.

Session 1: 13 February 2024, 7:00pm AEDT

Session 2: 15 February 2024, 12:30pm AEDT
campaustralia.com.au/virtual-info-sessions

Register your child for Your OSHC

Registering your child means we have all the information we need to safely care for them. By registering now, it gives you the freedom to book whenever you want!

Register now for peace of mind later!

pp.campaustralia.com.au



Register for Your OSHC
campaustralia.com.au

A wide variety of experiences



Cooking



Active Play



Art & Craft



Mindfulness



Group Games



Lots more!

Benefits of OSHC



For parents and families:

- ✓ Peace of mind, knowing your child is socialising and having fun!
- ✓ Convenient location
- ✓ Child Care Subsidy enabled so eligible families can save money!

For children:

- ✓ Builds confidence
- ✓ Meet new friends
- ✓ Explore new activities
- ✓ Learn through self-directed fun

Child Care
Subsidy
available for
eligible families.

by  Camp
Australia



St. Andrew's Primary School Calendar

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	School Advisory Council Meeting 6:30pm	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> No Foundation Students Years 3-6 Parish Mass 9:00am	15	Teeth on Wheels Visit	17
18	19	Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates 2pm Confirmation Family Faith Night 6pm	No Foundation Students	Teeth on Wheels Visit	23	24
25	26	27	No Foundation Students	2025 Foundation Info Night 6pm		