



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

**TERM 1 WEEK 4
FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024**

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

'Time stands still for no man' so the saying goes. By the end of next week we will be in March, the end of summer, and hopefully the last of the extremely hot days we have had over the past few weeks. Next week is also the final week of modified attendance for the Foundation students, from the first week of March they will be attending school every day.

Next Friday, March 1, the school community is invited to our opening of the year picnic. Come along with your own picnic hamper and enjoy the company of other families as we continue to build up the strong sense of community that makes St Andrew's such a special place. This is a Parent Association activity and we thank Amy Jilbert-Care and her team for their ongoing support of the school. Our fingers are crossed for perfect weather.

This week our School Advisory Council will meet for the first time for the year. This year the members are; Fr Albert, Glenn Mugavin, Matthew Majur, Kearan Gibaldi (Chair), Jenny Douglas, Stevin Carvalho, Anyieth Deng, Richard Shortt and myself. The Council meets about 6 times per year and offers us the opportunity to present school plans and canvas feedback into decision making. Please keep an eye on future newsletter for reports on the council's work

During the week some of our Year 6 students were visited by Bishop Martin Ashe, the regional bishop for the west, as they are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 22. Please keep these candidates in your prayers over the next few weeks as they continue preparation with their families for this special and holy event.

Our year 4 students are also getting excited for their camp to Anglesea, which will be held from March 6-8. School camps are an exciting time for our students and an important part of our wellbeing curriculum as they offer students a chance to practice many wellbeing characteristics, such as resilience, persistence, relationship building, risk taking, etc.

Finally, the school calendar has been updated on our website and now families are able to access many of our known dates for the year. Closure days, school holidays, Parent Association events, and many more are now displayed.

Michael Gavaghan

SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

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.



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 1 March.

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 & Wellbeing, Family Engagement and PBL Leader Mrs Lisa Black

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole-school framework that promotes positive behaviour across our school and helps us to develop safe and supportive learning environments.

Our behaviour matrix explicitly outlines school-wide expectations to ensure our students are safe, respectful and responsible. Our staff ensure all students are explicitly taught the expected behaviours and establish clear and consistent boundaries. Staff take a proactive, preventative approach to ensure all students receive the appropriate level of support to help them to be successful at school.

Let's work together - Before school is an opportunity where our students and families can come in and make connections with the school community. It is a time when our children can meet with their friendship groups before the day begins. Our children respond very well to calm routines.

One way we maintain calmness is by asking our students not to play on the play equipment. **We ask that you support us in this decision.**

Please use the following time as a guide:

8:30 - School gates open

During this time we have 2 teachers on duty to supervise designated areas. We do not allow ball games during this time or play on the playground. Some tips for our children while they are waiting for their classroom to open:

- Read a book on a bench
- Sit with friends and talk about your morning
- Say hello to the teacher on duty
- Talk to a friend you haven't seen in a while
- Make a new friend

8:50 - classrooms open - enter safely, respectfully and responsibly into your classroom by:

- Walking
- Talking quietly
- Keep hands and feet to yourself

9:00 - Gates close and teaching begins



Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal Mr Glenn Mugavin

Teaching and learning

Our students in Year 6 are learning more about the Sacrament of Confirmation and deepening their understanding of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. They are researching saints and modern-day saintly people and drawing inspiration from stories.

Bishop Martin Ashe, our regional bishop and the celebrant visited St Andrew's on Tuesday. He asked the Year 6s about Confirmation and shared part of his own story of why he became a priest and a bishop.

The Season of Lent

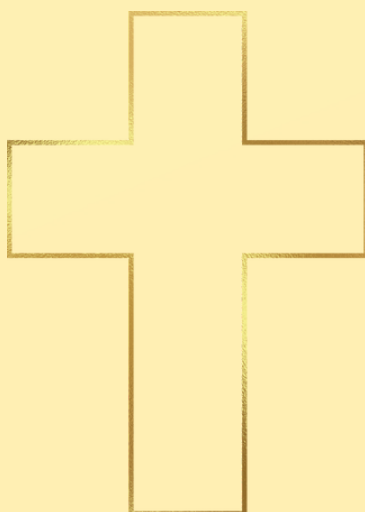
During the forty days of Lent we prepare ourselves for the most important event in the Church's calendar: The resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

But how can we prepare? Through prayer, fasting & alms giving. Alms giving is the selfless gift of giving to others without seeking return. Below are some simple suggestions that your family may choose to do during Lent

More information about Lent can be found in the [Melbourne Catholic Magazine](#).

Social Justice in Action

This afternoon we announced the members of our 2024 Mini-Vinnies student team. These student leaders of social justice in our school and wider community will receive their badges at the next school assembly.



PE News

From our PE Teacher Ms Sally Taylor

SSVWD Swimming Carnival

Yesterday was the annual Werribee District Swimming Carnival.

St Andrew's sent 2 swimmers **Etain Parker and Kiraleigh Gaskin** both in Yr 6. Such a great effort on a hot day of competition by both of the girls. Congratulations to Etain who swam a PB and has progressed to the Divisional Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 6th March again at Werribee pool. **Good Luck Etain!!!**



St Andrew's Yr 3-6 Athletics Carnival



This year sees a change as we move to a Yr 3-6 Athletics day on **Thursday 14th March**. Parents the permission note is also on Operoo for your approval please remember to do this so your children can come and participate. This will be a day where I collect times for the 100m, 200m and hurdle events to select a team to represent St Andrew's later in August. I have adjusted the day so the children will also participate in fun games as well. Parents are also invited to come along and cheer their children on.

Year 6 Summer Gala Day

Yr 6 parents please remember to approve your Operoo permission notes for the Yr 6's to participate in their Summer Gala Day on Friday 15th March.

This year we have 3 Basketball teams playing at Eagle Stadium, 1 Cricket team playing at Galvin Park and 2 Volleyball teams also playing at Eagle Stadium. It will be a fun filled day, good luck everyone in Yr 6.



Cross Country

The Cross Country Trials were held last Friday night. Congratulations to all the children who came along to have a go. It's a long run so I'm proud of all of you for trying.

We have 23 children who have been selected to represent St Andrew's at the Cross Country Carnival to be held next term on Wednesday 24th April at Presidents Park. The Operoo permission notes will be loaded next Friday for parents to accept so stay tuned.

The team is: Lola Richards, Serah Bawwkkheng, Elena Murzello, Klara Arbanas, Luca Morrison, Dehan Kodithuwakku, Noah Douglas, Jamie Bozza-Carpenter, Jackson Brady, Ollie Borysewicz, Logan Collins, Nathaniel Odion, Luca Durante, Austin Doyle, Achilles Koshy, Nico Morrison, Archer Pridham, Giordano D'Mello, Emrys Keirl, Mason Eberly, Max Kelly, Happy Muhumure and Eliza Scott.

Digital Ambition News

From our Digital Technologies Leader and STEM Teacher Mrs Laura Chamberlain



eSafety

Students in Years 3-6 took part in Safer Internet Day on February 6, 2024 and participated in a national wide virtual webinar held by the eSafety Commissioner, Canberra. The focus centered around "Connect. Protect. Reflect" and being a good cybercitizen when gaming online. At St Andrew's we educate our students about eSafety using trusted and reliable sources such as eSmart and the eSafety Commissioner.

Parents can also view online webinars targeted for families at: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

STEM

The students in Year 3-6 have been able to use the 28 new iPads purchased for the middle and senior school- this is also an addition to our 1-1 Chromebook Program.

With the mobility of the iPad we can enhance the learning inside and outside the classroom.



Digital Ambition News

From our Digital Technologies Leader and STEM Teacher Mrs Laura Chamberlain

Lego Club

Lego Club is back again this year running on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Students have always been very appreciative and so creative.

Interestingly our most popular Lego sets are the "Creator Lego" our students love the flexibility of making their own Lego creations. A thank you to staff who volunteer to supervise and Good360 charity organization for supplying the Lego at a heavily discounted price.





ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

St Andrew's Family Picnic



Friday
1st
March



Time: 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

Where: St Andrew's Oval

What to bring: Picnic rug, food and drink

Coffee and Twisty Tato Van are available onsite

Fun activities for children and parents to engage in





St Andrew's Primary School Werribee

**2025 FOUNDATION ENROLMENT
INFORMATION NIGHT**

29th February

6:00pm

REGISTER NOW



www.sawerribee.catholic.edu.au

or contact the office 9741 3686



Please share this information with any friends or family that you know who has a child who will **turn 5 before 30 April 2025**.

We will hold an information session for new families on **Thursday 29 February at 6:00pm** in the Foundation - 2 building. Families can register for this event through our website via the home page or under our Enrolment Information menu.

Existing families who have a student starting school in 2025 are encouraged to complete an Enrolment Enquiry online [here](#) any time.

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.

Explore.

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

COME AND SEE.

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

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

Alpha **Powlin**

I have a great passion for teaching and singing. My kids and I came 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!

COME AND SEE.

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

YOU'RE INVITED TO ALPHA.

Alpha **Cora**

I'm a St. Andrew's graduate since 1988. On a sabbatical leave 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.

COME AND SEE.

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

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!

COME AND SEE.

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

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!

COME AND SEE.

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

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.

COME AND SEE.

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

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!

COME AND SEE.

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

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 path.

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

COME AND SEE.

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

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.

COME AND SEE.

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

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!

COME AND SEE.

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



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		



St. Andrew's Primary School Calendar

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 <i>Easter Sunday</i>					1 Parent Assoc. Welcome Picnic 5:30pm SUBWAY Day	2
3	4 Parent Assoc. Meeting 7pm Zooper Dooper Day	5 School Evacuation Drill	6 Year 4 Camp Anglesea	7 Year 4 Camp Anglesea Year 6 The Huddle	8 Year 4 Camp Anglesea	9
10	11 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	12 South Sudanese Community Forum 7pm	13 NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5 - Writing	14 St Andrew's Athletics Carnival	15 Year 6 Summer Gala Day SUBWAY Day	16
17	18 NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5 - Reading Zooper Dooper Day	19 NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5 - Numeracy	20 NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5 - Language Conventions	21	22 Sacrament of Confirmation 6:30pm	23
24 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	25 School Photo Day	26	27	28 Term 1 finishes at 1pm	29 GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	30