



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

TERM 1 WEEK 8
FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2024

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are in the final days of Lent and on the cusp of Holy Week, the most solemn and sacred of weeks in our Catholic church's tradition. The week begins with Palm Sunday, recognising the triumphant and joyous entry into Jerusalem by Jesus and his disciples, and ending with the crucifixion on Good Friday then resurrection on Easter Sunday. How can our families prayerfully enter into this time?

I am currently at a conference with approx. 250 other Victorian Catholic Primary School principals. The conference is held every two years and brings us together for collegiality and professional learning and inspiration. In 2019 the theme was Leading with Courage, in 2022 the theme was Hope and this year it is, With Strength. We have had the privilege of hearing top quality speakers share their stories. I have been particularly moved by Craig Foster, a former Soccerroo player who has more recently become a champion of anti racism, refugees and Indigenous Australians. He was very strong on how all people who live in Australia get to share equally in all our great country has to offer. We also heard from Jelena Dokic, a former champion tennis player who has survived abuse and domestic violence inflicted by her father, to arrive at a time in her life where she describes herself as thriving. Her journey is horrendous as well as a message of triumph. Those who have seen the movie Lion, will know the story of Saroo Brierly, who at 5 years of age became separated from his family in India, survived being a young boy alone on the streets of Calcutta and finally being adopted by an Australian family and ending up in Hobart. Some 20+ years later after an exhaustive search using Google he was able to locate his home town and reconnect with his Indian family. A truly moving story. I'd love to share some of my insights with you, just ask me when you see me.

This week our Year 3 and Year 5 students completed their NAPLAN testing. I congratulate all the students for doing their best and thank the teachers for preparing them and assisting in the testing. Results will be available in a few months.

Recently, we completed a risk assessment of the dismissal practices as we have had some issues especially at **gate 3**, the gate closest to the Foundation classrooms on Mortimer St. We have a few Foundation students who require extra support at dismissal time and it is difficult when many other students 'swamp' them at the same time.

Our solution is to try to open **gate 4**, the gate near the soccer pitch on Mortimer St, at dismissal time. We ask for your assistance. We will instruct the students that we will be reserving **gate 3** for the Foundation students and their siblings. Any student from a year level other than Foundation who is not with a Foundation sibling will be asked to exit through **gate 4**. Children riding bikes will also be asked to exit through **gate 4**. This will begin next week.

Next Thursday is the end of Term 1, students will be dismissed at 1:00pm.

Michael Gavaghan



2024 School Photos - Monday March 25th

Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps on your child's personalised flyer once you receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

There is no need to return any forms or payment to the school before photo day, however it is important to register each year to link to your child's new images.

2025 Foundation Enrolments are NOW OPEN!

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

Existing families will be encouraged to complete an Enrolment Enquiry online any time from March 1 until the end of Term 1.

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.

Office Hours

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



PE News

From our PE Teacher Ms Sally Taylor

Swimming

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Etain Parker** on another successful swim at the Divisional Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 6th March. She again achieved a PB and finished 3rd in her 50m Freestyle event.

St Andrew's Yr 3-6 Athletics Carnival

Our 3-6 Athletics Carnival was a fun filled day that had the children competing in 100m, 200m, Hurdles, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Chicken Throw, Tug-O-War and Hula Hoop games.

The results were:

4th - Fatima (Blue) = 195 points
 3rd - Padua (Green) = 207 points
 2nd - Loyola (Red) = 220 points
 1st - Penola (Yellow) = 252 points



Well done Penola on back to back wins!

Year 6 Summer Gala Day

The Yr 6 Summer Gala Day held on Friday 15th March had wonderful outcomes for our children.

The Boys Basketball team were undefeated taking out the title of Werribee District Champions and will progress to the next round. Our Girls Basketball team finished Runners-up in a very hard and physical game against Werribee going down by 2 points. Our Mixed Volleyball team also won the Werribee District Champions title progressing into the next round and our Girls Volleyball team were Runners-up as well. Our mixed Cricket team played 3 games winning 2 of them and easily beating Werribee in our consolation final. The children had a fabulous day and all the teachers present were extremely proud of their sportsmanship, behaviour and results. Great effort Yr 6.

Hockey Clinics

We are excited to welcome the Hockey Victoria Roadshow to our school working with our Yr 5 & 6's. Students are being given the fantastic opportunity to try out the exciting game of hockey! They will learn the skills of the game through exciting game-based activities suited to every year level and ability.

Hockey Victoria will be sending their amazing Participation Officers to our school in the coming weeks to provide an engaging, fun, and safe hockey experience for everyone.

At Hockey Victoria they pride themselves in providing an enjoyable experience for every student, so keep an eye out and see if you can spot one of their coaches at school soon!

If you enjoy the sessions during school, you can continue with your hockey experience by joining a local Hookin2Hockey program www.hookin2hockey.com.au. With programs all over the state you can find a local program that will suit your schedule.

PE News

From our PE Teacher Ms Sally Taylor

Upcoming Events:

Yr 3 & 4 Basketball Clinics - Wed 20th March and Wed 27th March.

Yr 3 Hoop Time Trials - Wed 20th March

Yr 4 Hoop Time Trials - Wed 27th March

Yr 5 & 6 Hockey Clinics - Tues 23rd April

Cross Country - Wed 24th April

Yr 5 & 6 3V3 Hoop Time - Tues 30th April



Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal Mr Glenn Mugavin

Catholic Education Week 2024: In the Light of Christ

Written by Lachlan, Gavan, Mila, Kiara, Lilly, Maya, Amelia & Vanessa who attended the Catholic Education Week mass.

Representing the school

Mila and Kiara represented the school with proud leadership in St Patrick's Cathedral. Walking in the procession with the school banner was a really proud moment for us. After this we sat behind the altar with other schools to listen to all of the prayers and the songs that were read and sung.

The Mass

It began with two men in kilts who played the bagpipes to represent St Patrick's country of Ireland. Archbishop Peter Comensoli told us about a principal, Mr Rob Brennan, a secondary school principal, who had passed away. Mr Gavaghan attended his funeral while we were at mass. Secondary school students led the singing at the mass and other students read prayers. The bishop had his hands in the same position as Jesus did.

One school together with many schools

There were many other Catholic schools that were at Catholic Education Week mass. Archbishop Peter greeted all students and adults, who were seated in front, to his left and to his right. We all sat down, At Communion it felt nice walking down the aisle with students from other schools around Melbourne. It was really busy.

St Patrick's Cathedral

St Patrick's Cathedral started construction in 1858. It took almost 40 years to build and it was built because it was needed and could be afforded. The first mass was held in February 1939. St Patrick's is the cathedral church of Melbourne and Victoria. It is known as the "Mother Church" of the archdiocese itself and is dedicated to St Patrick, the Irish bishop who led the church. We were also told that underneath the Cathedral is a crypt in which past bishops are buried from many years ago.



Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal Mr Glenn Mugavin



Teaching & Learning - THE STORY OF EASTER

A dramatisation of Jesus' final days and His Resurrection, by Foundation and Year 1/2s, and choirs of singers from all year levels, Thursday 28 March, 9:30 in the Sports Centre.

Our junior students will perform The Story of Easter: A dramatisation of Jesus' final days and His Resurrection. In Performing Arts this term, the students have been learning about Drama. They have been learning about acting as a character, using the basic elements of drama; facial expression, body movements and voice. This term we have learnt about the events that lead to Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. Students from the Choir will assist with singing and reading during the play. My hope is that we can all enter prayerfully into the events of Holy Week, as we end our first term.

Thankyou to Mrs Sweeny for preparing, teaching and leading this prayer service.

Social Justice in Action

Our Mini-Vinnies Team first social justice action this year is to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion & connecting to almsgiving in Lent.

Our student leader chose to raise funds for girls in rural schools in Nepal so that they can access essential hygiene products.



PROJECT COMPASSION



Spanning across the six weeks of Lent, Project Compassion brings thousands of schools, parishes and supporters together to raise funds for the most marginalised communities around the world.




**LAST DAY OF
TERM 1
Thursday 28th March 2024**




CASUAL CLOTHES DAY



MINI-VINNIES



Gold coin donation 



If you want to wear casual clothes you need to bring a gold coin because we are raising money so that girls in rural Nepal can have sanitary products



HOLY WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S WERRIBEE

2024

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND



Saturday 23th. March

6.00pm Mass with Blessing of Palms in the church

Sunday 24th. March

8.00am, 9.30am & 5.00pm Mass with Blessing of Palms in the Church

11.00am Blessing of Palms near the Memorial Gardens and procession into the Church followed by Mass

Monday 25th. March – Wednesday 27th. March Mass at 9.00am

EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY 28TH. MARCH



8.00pm – Celebration of the Mass of the Last Supper – Procession of The Eucharist to the Penola Hub and adoration till midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY 29TH. MARCH



9.00am Morning Prayers & Divine Mercy Novena

11.00am Ecumenical Stations of the Cross from Werribee Piazza to St. Andrew's Church

3.00pm Celebration of The Lord's Passion and Death

HOLY SATURDAY 30TH. MARCH



9.00am Morning Prayers & Divine Mercy Novena

8.00pm EASTER VIGIL CELEBRATIONS

EASTER SUNDAY 31ST. MARCH



8.00am, 9.30am & 11.00am Easter Masses

10.00am Easter Mass in St. Michael's Church, Little River

NO EVENING MASS

Child Safety at St Andrew's

Definition: A volunteer is someone who engages with students in a school environment.

Volunteer responsibilities:

- To keep students safe in our school environment
- Be familiar with and follow our school's:
- Volunteer Policy and procedures for responding to incidents
- Child Safety Code of Conduct
- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Implement inclusive practices

Volunteer requirements:

- Working with Childrens Check
- Read and sign a Code of Conduct
- Read and Sign the St Andrew's Volunteers Responsibility form
- Ongoing education and training

Volunteers make a valuable contribution in promoting child safety within our school community.

Every person has the responsibility of promoting wellbeing and keeping students safe in our school environments.

MACKILLOP COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Wednesday 1 May 2024

4.00pm - 6.30pm

Final Tour at 5.45pm

All welcome to attend and tour the College.

For further information regarding the College please visit the College website: www.mackillop.vic.edu.au

Enrolments for Year 7 2026:

Applications close on Friday 16 August 2024

School Uniforms - Donations

If you have any school uniform pieces that are no longer suitable for your child/children, we would gladly accept uniform donations at the school office.

We do accept school shoes and backpacks as donations.

All we ask is that the items are clean and are in good condition.

Thank you!



WESTERN REGION VOLLEYBALL PRESENTS
**EVERY TUESDAY AND
THURSDAY**



VOLLEYBALL IN THE WEST SIDE?

DIVE INTO THE GAME AT EAGLE STADIUM

TUESDAYS

5:00PM-6:00PM

6:00PM-7:00PM

THURSDAYS

4:30PM-5:30PM

5:30PM-6:30PM

Want More Information?

Get in Contact With Lachlan Caruana:

Lachlan.WRV@gmail.com

0449 861 968

Registration Fee?

FREE TRIAL

What are you waiting for?



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 Years 3-6	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