



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

**TERM 2 WEEK 4
FRIDAY 10 MAY 2024**

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

OMG! What a great turn up we had to this morning's Mothers Day breakfast. It was our pleasure to provide breakfast for all the mum's (and dad's) and families. We served over 400 breakfasts, which was amazing. It wouldn't happen without staff who are prepared to be at school from 6:00am to set up, cook, serve and clean up, so I thank them all for their commitment to our school community. If you can find a moment I know a small Remind message of thanks will be greatly appreciated.

I also thank our wonderful Parent Association for holding the Mothers Day stalls earlier this week. They willingly give of their time for the benefit of the school and its students. Congratulations to Orian (4B) for winning the closest guess and receiving a jar full of 202 chocolate hearts.

We are enjoying some amazing Melbourne weather at the moment and we all have fingers crossed that it holds for one more week as our year 6 students and teachers will be off to Camp Wyuna, Queenscliff next Wednesday to Friday. We hope they have the best time.

Recently we have been managing inappropriate online behaviour by some of our senior students. I would like to take this opportunity to alert parents to be mindful of their children's online activity. The incidents to which I am referring involved the downloading and sharing of indecent content. These incidents are not only inappropriate but carry a risk as to who might be the potential audience, not everyone who is online is always who they say they are. These incidents occurred in the evenings so they are not at school nor on school devices but they involve our students. As I have mentioned before, in instances where we are made aware of online behaviour that occurs outside of the school environment we will inform the parents of the students involved. The school continues to educate students about online responsible and safe online behaviour. Parents can access support from the aSafety Commission website [here](#)

Michael Gavaghan

\$400 School Saving BONUS

This week the Allan Labor Government announced a \$400 School Saving Bonus for all school students in government schools regardless of income, but only for Health Care Card holders in Catholic schools.

This is deeply unfair.

We believe the payment should be means tested for all students or apply to all students.

It should not be based on which school you attend.

This policy punishes families for choosing to send their children to a Catholic school.

Our school, St. Andrew's and the peak body, the Victorian Catholic Education Authority, are working hard to oppose this policy and we need your help.

We need to show the Victorian Government that punishing families who choose a Catholic school is unacceptable.

Please consider contacting your local Member of Parliament to express your concern.

Our school's local MP is Tim Pallas and they can be contacted by calling (03) 9741 1133 or by emailing tim.pallas@parliament.vic.edu

Thank you for your time in reading this and for advocating for your family and our school.

A template is included here to assist you with making your voice heard:

Dear Mr Pallas,

I am very concerned by the Allan Labor Government's \$400 School Saving Bonus for all school students in government schools regardless of income, but only for Health Care Card holders in Catholic schools.

As the parent of a child in a Catholic school I believe this payment should be applied equally. Either means tested for all students or available to all students.

It should not be based on which school you attend.

Families in Catholic schools are also experiencing cost of living pressures. This announcement discriminates against my family and punishes me for choosing to send my child to a Catholic school.

I have the right to expect the government treats me and my family equally regardless of our choice of schooling.

Please vote against this discriminatory policy and treat all families fairly.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely,

Student ABSENCES

Just a reminder to all parents and guardians to ensure that you are notifying the office or your child's teacher in the event of your child being away. You must give the reason for the absence.

For longer periods of absence, such as in the event of a holiday, please notify the school office in writing.

School Uniform Survey

Thank you for the swift response to the uniform survey, everyone still has until the end of next week to have their say either in paper format or online. Please refer to the Operoo message sent on Friday 3 May for more information. The survey can be completed online [here](#) or on a paper form available in the office.

OFFICE HOURS

Please note that office hours are 8:30am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday.



SUBWAY lunches can be ordered for the rest of the year through the Canteen Hub website: <https://app.canteenhub.com.au/login>

You can place an order up until 5pm on the Wednesday before the Friday delivery date.

Our next SUBWAY lunch day is:

Friday 17 May

Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal Mr Glenn Mugavin

Teaching and learning about Prayer

Our Foundation students have been learning about prayer; how to pray, where to pray and understanding that Jesus teaches us how to pray to God.

Chelsea: *In the morning, we put the candle and the cross on the prayer table. We pray when it is quiet, and we use nice words. I pray with mum and dad, and I sit between them.*

Sebastian: *We pray together at home; mum, dad, my brother & I, sit in a circle. Our Foundation students will be learning how to pray the Our Father together for mass.*

For many, Mother's Day is a time to celebrate important women in our lives and the blessing from God that they represent. For Christians, Mother's Day is an important day of prayer and reflection, recognizing not only the gift of Mary to the Church, but the gift of mothers and female role-models in our lives. Mother's Day also falls during the Month of Mary in the Church calendar, reminding us to focus on Mary as a guide to better know and love her Son, Jesus.

We also recognise that Mother's Day can be a challenging time for many. Our prayers are with those who have recently lost their mothers, those who might not have the best relationship with their family or any others for whom it's a difficult or traumatic day.

A Prayer for Mothers

May the God of our Mother Mary be your fountain of life to bless you and give you health and happiness, so that you may be a blessing to your family and to all who are in your care.

May Jesus, the Son of Mary, give you strength and peace, so that you may be a refuge and haven for your family. May the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, give you joy in being a mother to your children. Amen.



Connection to the Catholic Community

On Thursday 9 May, we began what we hope to be a new tradition at St Andrew's, our Buddy Masses. Our Year 6 students joined with our Year 1/2 students to attend mass with the parishioners. The 1/2s invited their mums in connection with Mother's Day and it was wonderful to see so many parents in attendance. Fr Albert thanked everyone. Each year level will have a buddy-mass with a younger level during the year.

Connection to the Community

National Reconciliation Week is 27 May to 3 June.

The theme for 2024 is 'Now More Than Ever'.

National Reconciliation Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation as individuals, and as a school community. As a school we are exploring ways to acknowledge National Reconciliation Week within our community.

Numeracy News

From our Numeracy Leader Brittany Holland



Last week, the focus of our Cuppa and Chat was maths fluency. Thank you to the parents who were able to come along and join in the fun. For those who missed it, this is what we looked at:

What is maths fluency?

Fluency is the ability to quickly and accurately solve maths problems without pausing to think about it. For example, if someone is fluent with addition, they are able to solve simple addition problems without needing to count on their fingers or think about it step by step. Maths fluency is built through repetition and practice, which helps to strengthen the connections in the brain. The more you practice, the more fluent you become.

How do we work on fluency at school?

One way we work on fluency is through Daily Reviews. Students are given a range of questions to be answered quickly. These questions are based on learning that has already happened and is designed to improve their retrieval time and efficiency. Fluency is also built through games.

How can you help develop maths fluency at home?

Here are the games we played during cuppa and chat that you can try at home.

All you need for these games are;

Dice

Paper

Pencil

Game 1: Make 10 (Fluency in number bonds of 10)

Write the numbers 4-9 on a piece of paper

Take it in turns to roll a die and work out how many more you would need to add to make 10. Cross that number off.

The first person to cross off all of their numbers wins

Game 2: Operation Strike (Fluency in the 4 operations)

Write the numbers 0 to 12 on a piece of paper

Roll 2 dice and perform an operation (add, subtract, multiply or divide the numbers) and cross off the result

Continue until all numbers have been crossed off.

Game 3: Lowest to highest (Fluency in comparing and ordering numbers)

Draw 8 lines on a piece of paper

Roll 2 dice and use them to make a 2 digit number

Write that number on one of the lines. You are trying to order the numbers from lowest to highest so think carefully about where to put the number

Continue until you have filled all 8 lines

Remember, the numbers must be smallest to largest so if you roll a number that is not going to fit, you miss that turn

For more fun maths games that you can play at home, visit the [love maths](#) website.

Student Wellbeing News

From our Deputy Principal Mrs Lisa Black



Our Children
Our Communities
Our Future



Building a national picture of child health

From May 2024, our school, along with thousands of others across the country, will participate in the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC is a teacher-completed census (similar to a questionnaire) which provides a comprehensive picture of how children have developed by the time they start their first year of full-time school.

The AEDC is an Australian Government Initiative and is completed nationally every three years.

Children don't miss any class time while the AEDC is completed, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information.

The data collected through the AEDC is used by schools, communities and governments to better understand children and families' needs, and identify the services, resources and support they need.

AEDC data is reported at a school, community, state/territory and national level. AEDC results for individual children are not reported and the AEDC is not used as an individual diagnostic tool.

Some teachers have found that completing the AEDC made them more aware of the needs of individual children and their class, and that the data was useful for planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing programs.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary, however the AEDC relies on all schools with children in their first year of full-time school participating in the collection. Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census.

To find out more about the AEDC and how it is being used to help children and families visit:
www.aedc.gov.au.

If you have any questions, you can contact Lisa Black at lblack@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au



Mental Health & Wellbeing News

From Teacher Ms Nicole Sciberras

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING UPDATES



Happy Mother's Day to all the special women in our student's lives!

THIS FORTNIGHT WE ARE RAISING AWARENESS FOR THE BULLYING NO WAY POLICY!

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening. Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records). Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

At STA we promote the values of being safe, respectful and responsible. We practice social and emotional skills during our daily morning circles to explicitly teach our students the importance of being strong members of the community.

HOW FAMILIES CAN RESPOND TO BULLYING

Schools can be much more effective when parents report bullying and support their efforts to deal with it.

If your child reports that bullying is occurring at school, or the bullying involves students from the school outside of school, you should let the school know the situation.

Working together with the school is the best way to help your child resolve bullying issues.

Schools will work with you to resolve the situation and will also work with the other student's parents. Due to privacy laws, they will not be able to share information about any other students involved.

PE News

From Teacher Ms Sally Taylor

3 v 3 Hoop Time

This year our Yr 5 & 6 Rep squad players had the opportunity to play a new 3 v 3 Hoop Time competition.

The boys played 6 games including finals, unfortunately losing by 1 point and missing out on making the State finals. They played well and had a wonderful new experience.



National Walk to School Safely Day

We will be holding our Walk to School Safely Day on Friday 24th May instead of Friday 10th May so we don't clash with our Mother's Day Breakfast or our Yr 6 Camp.

The objective of walking to School Day is to promote better health, reducing car dependency, spending time with our family and to teach awareness of road safety practices.

If walking to school isn't practical then perhaps parking along Greaves St Nth and walking a few blocks can be a great start.

Hobsons Bay & Wyndham Divisions Cross Country Championships

Well done to Lola Richards, Klara Arbanas and Luca Morrison for qualifying for the next round of the Cross country to be held on Tuesday 28th May at Presidents Park. We wish you all the best.

Free Multisport Afternoon

Wyndham City are conducting free Multisport sessions at Eagle Stadium on Sunday May 19th for children with disabilities over the age of 5. These sessions start at 1pm until 3pm. The sports offered are Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Soccer, Netball, La Crosse and Table Tennis.

Upcoming Events:

Yr 3 & 4 Hoop Time - Wed 15th May

National Walk to School Safely Day - Friday 24th May

Divisional Cross Country - Tuesday 28th May

FREE INCLUSIVE MULTI-SPORT FUN AFTERNOON

For people with disability to take part with their family and friends

- ▶ Come and try Cricket, Netball, Basketball, Athletics, Table Tennis, Soccer, Tennis and many more. Suitable for all ages.
- ▶ Bookings essential

Where:

Eagle Stadium,
35 Ballan Rd, Werribee

When:

Sunday 19 May, 1pm to 3pm

For more information:

WWW.WYNDHAM.VIC.GOV.AU/INCLUSIVESPORT



wyndhamcity

ACTIVE
WYNDHAM



HOOK IN 2 HOCKEY



**FIRST SESSION IS FREE!
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED!
CALL OR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!**

Club: Werribee Hockey Club

Venue: Gate 3 Presidents Park - Hockey Pavillion

Program Start Date: Monday April 8th 2024-June 24th 2024

Time: 5:30pm-6:30pm

No. of Weeks: 12 but you can join in ANYTIME!

Price: HA/HV Player Registration + \$30 (OPTIONAL equipment pack available for purchase)

Coordinator Name: Zeyna Gould

Coordinator Email: juniors.whc@gmail.com



**SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER**





St. Andrew's Primary School Calendar

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Yrs 1 & 2 Wyndham Basketball Clinics	3 Assembly 9am SUBWAY Day Parent Cuppa & Chat 2pm	4
5	6	7 School Advisory Council Meeting 6:30pm	8 Yrs 1 & 2 Excursion Werribee River	9	10 Mother's Day Breakfast 7am	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17 Assembly 9am SUBWAY Day Parent Cuppa & Chat 2pm	18
19	20 STEM MAD Excursion Werribee Zoo	21 Eucharist Family Faith Night 6pm	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Assembly 9am SUBWAY Day Parent Cuppa & Chat 2pm	