

ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 WEEK 8
FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2024

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

Hope

Light the Advent candle



Advent is a special time in the church year when we prepare and get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

God, you give us hope. 

As we light this candle in your name, we ask you to help us share hope with family and friends this Advent.

Amen

The word 'Advent' means 'coming'. When we light the candles on the wreath, it symbolises the coming of light (Jesus Christ) into the world.

- Candle 1 (violet)** represents hope
- Candle 2 (violet)** represents peace
- Candle 3 (rose)** represents joy
- Candle 4 (violet)** represents love

The central white candle is lit on Christmas Day and represents Jesus Christ. This Advent may we learn, act and pray for a more just and fair world – a world full of hope, peace, joy, and love.



Principal's Message

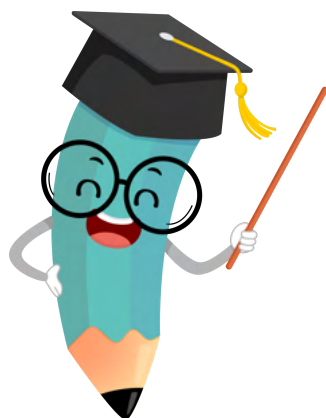
From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

Tomorrow (Nov 30) is the Feast of St Andrew. Today we celebrated our school feast day with a whole school mass as well as all students participating in a dance workshop for a bit of fun. St Andrew was amongst the first called into discipleship by Jesus and he gives us a great example of how to follow Jesus. I look forward to seeing many of our families join our St Andrew's community mass at St Andrew's church at 9:30am on Sunday 1 Dec. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a Catholic School community and share the Eucharist. It would also be a wonderful way to begin the season of Advent with your family in preparation for Christmas Day.

Last Wednesday, our 2025 Foundation students and their families attended the third and final session of their transition program. During the morning they learned about their new classes and their new teachers, Grace Robertson and Paris Ballan.

As the secret is now out, I will share the classroom teachers for next year.



Foundation	Grace Robertson	Paris Ballan
Year 1	Nicole Sciberras	Brooke Maisy
Year 2	Primola Afribo	David Marshall (new)
Year 3	Mary Ornelis	Tennille Purton
Year 4	Anne Go	Catherine Scott (new)
Year 5	Candida Fitzgerald	Marijana Jerkovic
Year 6	Anne Marie Palmer	Stephen Silva (new)

Catherine Scott has been on staff for a number of years as a Learning Support Officer and recently has completed her teacher training. She is well known to the students and we are very much looking forward to working with her in her new role.

David Marshall is also well known to students as he has been a casual relief teacher with St Andrew's for a number of years. This will be his first ongoing role at St Andrew's

Finally, Stephen Smith is new to St Andrew's having previously worked at Christway College.

Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Departing Staff:

- Beth Du Plooy, Literacy Leader, has commenced parental leave and we are awaiting news of the birth of her new baby. Beth intends to return for Term 4, 2025.
- Amy Casley, Creative Arts Teacher, will commence parental leave at the end of this school year. We also will be awaiting the news of her newborn baby. Amy intends to take the whole 2025 year as leave.
- Jasmine Staunton, Foundation Teacher, has decided to return to her home state of Queensland. We thank her for her service to St Andrew's and wish her well for the future
- Natalie Milanese, Performing Arts teacher, has decided to resign and work closer to home. Natalie, too, has given great service to St Andrew's and we wish her well for the future.
- Helen Richardson, Play Therapist, has resigned as she is moving closer to home. Although it was a short time at St Andrew's, she has made her impact and will be missed.
- Tiffany Rigato, Learning Support Officer, will be finishing her contract to have her first baby. We thank Tiffany for her service, wish her well, and hope to see her back one day.

The students will find out their new classes and teachers at our Orientation morning on Friday 13 December.

Regards,



Michael Gavaghan

School Saving Bonus

The \$400 School Savings Bonus was announced some time ago by the Victorian Government. In Catholic Schools it is made available to families who qualify for CSEF. Families with a valid Health Care Card must have applied to the school for CSEF funding to qualify. If you have not done so already, families will be able to apply early next year and still receive the School Start Bonus.

The School Start Bonus will be applied to 2025 school costs once we have been directed how to apply it by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools. Families who receive the bonus will see a reduction in their school costs next year.

PARENT ASSOCIATION - NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the recent Annual General Meeting the following parents were elected to a role on the committee for 2025:

Amy Jilbert-Care - President & Treasurer

Lillian Jilbert - Vice President

Ros Eade - Secretary

Committee Members - Aimee Cuthbert, Rachel Letty & Lauren Hadzic

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

We are looking for new School Advisory Council members in 2025.

If you have an interest in being part of this committee, who offer support to the principal and leadership of the school and provide a parent perspective in decision making, I ask you to send an email to, principal@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au expressing your interest. The group consists of Parish Priest, Principal, Staff representatives and parent representatives and are an official part of the governance of MACS. We usually meet on Tuesdays at 6:30pm on six occasions each year.

Student Absences

Please 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 via email at enquiries@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au

Office Hours

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

Term 4
School
Closure
Days >

Date	Camp Australia program
Wednesday 18 December	Yes
Thursday 19 December	No
Friday 20 December	No

Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal, Mr Glenn Mugavin

Teaching and learning about St Andrew

Today we celebrated the Feast of St Andrew. In the morning we learned about St Andrew. We prayed ***“Jesus help me to follow you, at home, at school, in everything I do. Amen”***.

He was a fisherman who listened to Jesus’ call to “Come, follow me” and then he became a disciple. After recess we prayed at Mass in the church. We listened to the story of St Andrew following Jesus and sang St Andrew Was a Fisherman.

Mr Mugavin brought a present for our school back from Italy. It was a special St Andrew picture, called an icon. Fr James blessed it for us.

Before lunch we had fun learning a dance with Kylie, the Kinect2Dance teacher. After lunch, the Mini-Vinnies team told us the story of St Andrew in a play.



Congratulations to Eve Mezzavilla who received the Sacrament of First Eucharist today during the Mass. Please continue to pray for Evie.

Connection to our Parish Community

On Sunday we have our Community mass in St Andrew’s Church at 9:30am. Families are invited to pray and worship with us to mark the beginning of Advent, the Church season of preparing ourselves for the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

Thankyou to Mrs Susanne Sweeny for organizing this mass and helping to strengthen the connection between our school and our parish of St Andrew.

St Andrew's School Community Mass



Sunday 1st December, 2024

9:30am - 10:30am

St. Andrew's Church

All Families Warmly Invited



Mini Vinnies News

The Mini Vinnies Team are striving to follow the values of St Mary Mackillop. St Mary never “saw a need without doing something about it”, so as our Term 4 Fundraiser the team organised the Christmas Food Appeal.

A big thank you to the families and staff that donated food items for our community in need. It was a huge effort and we took an impressive amount of food items to the Penola ready for packaging into hampers for our community. Our Mini Vinnies will also participate in the packing of these hampers on Monday 9th December.

Noelene from St Vincent De Paul was extremely grateful for your efforts as well, especially as we know everyone at the moment is finding life tough.



Thank
you

Thank you for supporting the
good work of our Mini-Vinnies!

Touch of Heaven

(Alan Ames Ministry) **2024**

**Holy Mass &
Healing Service**



Alan's ministry has taken him to approximately 40 countries. He'll speak of his dramatic conversion from a life of alcoholism and violence to one that is now deeply prayerful and sacramental. Alan's healing ministry has resulted in hundreds of healings and conversions throughout the world.

Monday 2 December, 2024

St. Kevin's Catholic Church
120 Hallam Rd, Hampton Park

Tuesday 3 December, 2024

St. Andrew's Catholic Church
105 Greaves St N, Werribee

Wednesday 4 December, 2024

St. Jude's Catholic Church
49 George St, Scoresby

Each evening:

6:30pm Holy Rosary.

7:00pm Holy Mass followed by Alan Ames talk and healing ministry.

**A unique faith filled experience
of the healing power of Our Lord**

**Only 3 Victoria
Healing Services!**

Don't Miss Out!

**Confessions available
throughout the
evenings.**

**Enquiries, please contact: Kevin - 0425 757 534
or Divine Mercy Publications (John) - 9830 4386**

www.divinemercury.com.au



*ST ANDREW'S
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
2024*

*Parents and friends we invite you
to watch our students performance of*

A Night in Bethlehem

*Monday 9th December
2pm in the Sports Centre
(doors open at 1.45pm)*



Christmas Concert Attire

All students are able to wear Christmas inspired costumes/clothes on the 9th December 2024 for their Christmas Concert.

Please make sure sensible shoes are worn so that students are able to dance and play safely all day.

We look forward to seeing parents and friends attend the Christmas Concert in the Sports Centre at 2pm.



Student Wellbeing News

From our Deputy Principal, Mrs Lisa Black

A new website has been launched as a central hub for educators and families to support the online safety and education of children aged birth to eight years. Developed through a four-year study led by the [Australian Catholic University](#), the platform is backed by prominent organizations such as Early Childhood Australia, the eSafety Commissioner, ABC Kids, and the Australian Federal Police.

The site offers 40 newly developed, evidence-based resources designed for educators, parents, and guardians. These include articles, videos, webinars, interactive modules, picture books, and animations aimed to promote safe and positive engagement with digital technologies.

The resources, created in collaboration with children, families, and educators, focus on practical activities that children and adults can explore together. The content includes infographics, tip sheets, and engaging multimedia tools, empowering families and educators to help young children navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.



Being School Ready

From our Deputy Principal, Mrs Lisa Black



TIPS FOR PARENTS

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD BE SCHOOL READY

THE START OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR CAN BE VERY OVERWHELMING FOR CHILDREN. THE FOLLOWING TIPS CAN HELP.

- Over the holidays, stay in touch with your child's friends by organising a play date
- Revisit our school routines, such as start and finish time, school gate entry
- Chat about their new teacher
- Visit our school [website](#) and explore the information
- Practice packing a lunch box
- Practice wearing school uniform and shoes
- Set a wake up routine to avoid the morning rush
- Drive / walk past the school during the holidays to create familiarity



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St. Andrew's
Catholic Primary School Werribee

Second Hand Uniform Price List



A reminder that St. Andrew's Second Hand Uniform Shop is open from **9:30am to 3:00pm Monday-Friday**. The Parents Association and staff have worked hard to prepare stock so that it is in good condition. **Please see below for our NEW price list.** Please note that the shop is **CASH ONLY**.

Full Uniform	\$	Sports Uniform	\$
Shorts	\$10	Shorts	\$10
Jumper	\$20	Polos	\$10
Winter Tunic	\$20	Jumper	\$10
Long Sleeve Shirt	\$10	Track pants	\$10
Short Sleeve Shirt	\$10		
Summer Dress	\$20		
Trousers	\$10		

Accessories	\$
Beanie	\$5
Sun Hats	\$5
Bag	\$20

PE News

From our PE Teacher Ms Sally Taylor



Basketball State Finals - Friday December 6th

Good luck to the following Yr 5 and 6 students participating in next Friday's State Finals at the State Basketball Centre in Wantirna Sth.

Kawac B, Akio S, Jonathan M, Amelia D, Kiraleigh G, Peyton K, David B, David M and Tymirah D.

Parents just a reminder that this will be a very early start, leaving school at 7.30am to allow the team to arrive for their first game on time. Unfortunately the bus can't wait.

Have fun and demonstrate fair play and sportsmanship.

Thanks,
Sally Taylor
PE Teacher



Women's Cricket Ashes Free Ticket Opportunity

Below there is a flyer and QR code to secure a free child's ticket to watch the Australian Women's team take on England for an Ashes Test at the MCG.

Follow the instructions on the flyer adding our schools special code: **Schools45687**

UPCOMING

EVENTS



Date	Event
Friday 6 December	Yr 5 / 6 Hoop Time State Finals
30 Jan - 2 Feb 2025	Women's Cricket Ashes at the MCG

START THE 2025 SCHOOL YEAR AT THE COMMBANK WOMEN'S ASHES!

Celebrate a historic moment in women's sport as Australia and England get set for the first-ever day-night Test at the MCG.

SPECIAL OFFER:

Buy the Adult + child combo and get the child's ticket free!

HOW TO REDEEM YOUR OFFER

1. Visit Ticketek to book tickets or [click here](#)
2. Select Public Reserve, and the day of the Ashes Test you wish to attend.
3. Enter the password – this is your school's unique code.
4. Select one a seat in the bay of your choice, or general admission.
5. Select the price Adult + Child (School) (Admit 2) and add to order.
6. Proceed to checkout or add additional seat/s to your order.

PLUS

Use your school's unique code and go into the draw to win a memorable experience for you and your class at Australia's training session at the MCG on Jan 29, 2025.*

The school that purchases the most tickets using their unique code will receive an Ashes themed memorabilia pack.*

**T&C's apply.*



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Adults from \$20**
Children from \$5**

***T&C's apply.*

UNIQUE CODE:

Schools45687



YOU NEED TO SEE IT

NOVEMBER



2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 PARENT CUPPA & CHAT 8:50AM	2
3	4 PUPIL FREE DAY (NO SCHOOL)	5 MELB CUP DAY (NO SCHOOL)	6	7	8 ASSEMBLY 9AM SUBWAY DAY	9
10	11 REMEMBRANCE DAY ZOOOPER DOOPER DAY	12	13	14	15 PARENT CUPPA & CHAT 8:50AM	16
17	18 ZOOOPER DOOPER DAY PARENT ASSOC. AGM 7PM	19	20	21 PIZZA LUNCH DAY	22 PUPIL FREE DAY (NO SCHOOL)	23
24	25 ZOOOPER DOOPER DAY	26	27	28	29	30 FEAST OF ST ANDREW

DECEMBER



2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 ZOOPER DOOPER DAY	3	4 YEAR 6 MACKILLOP COLLEGE ORIENTATION DAY	5	6 ASSEMBLY 9AM SUBWAY DAY	7
8	9 ZOOPER DOOPER DAY CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2PM	10	11 YEAR 6 BIG DAY OUT ADVENTURE PARK	12	13 YEAR 6 GRADUATION 6:30PM	14
15	16 ZOOPER DOOPER DAY	17 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 1PM FINISH	18 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	19 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	20 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	21 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
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