

# ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 WEEK 8  
FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2024

## Prayer

*You cannot be my disciple unless you carry your own cross and come with me.*

Lk 14:27

O Lord, you invite us to follow Jesus. Help us to be close followers of Christ by placing Jesus first in our lives. Amen.



# Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear Parents & Carers,

What wild weather we have experienced recently. Last Monday we looked more like a school in Mt Buller rather than here in Werribee with all the hail. Despite these weather events our Year 5 students have still managed to get away to Bacchus Marsh for their camp and the Year 6 students travelled to Arden St, Nth Melbourne to participate in The Huddle's, Maths Hoops excursion.



I hope all dads had a happy Father's Day. Last Friday's breakfast was very well attended and well over 300 breakfasts were served. It was another highly successful school community event and I thank the staff for making themselves available from 6:00am to cook and serve the breakfasts then teach a full day of classes. They are a truly dedicated bunch.

Earlier this year I travelled to Hobart and while there I visited Mawson's Hut. Mawson was a very famous Antarctic explorer and I was visiting as I have an interest through an uncle, who was part of early Antarctic expeditions in the 1960s. I was invited to sign our school up to participate in the recent 2024 Antarctic Festival and thanks to Amy Casley, our Art teacher, our Yr 1/2 students decorated penguins and sent them to Hobart to be displayed with many other schools. It's wonderful to have St Andrew's School being featured beyond our small Werribee community.



Next Friday 13 September, our Parent Association is holding the Annual Trivia Night. A number of tickets have already been sold but we need more people to sign up with a table of 10 or less or buy a ticket and have the Parent Association allocate you a place where you can join with other families to support the school and meet others. At \$10.00 a ticket it's great value. There are many games and auctions on the night to make it great fun. Join in and also help the school through fundraising. Tickets can be purchased using the QR code on the gates around the school or by clicking [here](#).

The end of term is quickly approaching, the term ends at 1:00pm on Friday 20th September and Term 4 begins on Monday 7th October.

Regards,

Michael Gavaghan

## Parent Association

The Parent's Association committee is seeking new members. Please consider giving some time to this great team of parents who are working hard to build community and raise much needed funds. The committee meets each term, usually on a Monday evening in the second and seventh week for about an hour and a half. The next meeting is Monday October 14 @ 7:00pm.

Upcoming events are:

- Trivia Night on Friday September 13
- Dim Sim Lunch on Thursday September 19.

## School Advisory Council

The next meeting of the School Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday September 10th.

Any parents wishing to raise any matters or present any ideas for discussion are invited to do so via email, [principal@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au) prior to the meeting.

## 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](mailto:enquiries@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au)

### Office Hours

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



# Library News

From our Teacher Librarian, Mrs Josie Briffa

As we continue to foster a love for reading and learning in our students, I need to address an important matter regarding overdue library books. Many students currently have overdue books, and your support can significantly encourage them to return these items. Also please remind your child, that P.E. Day is Library Day. Thank you for your support.

## The Process for Overdue books is:

1. Notify student of the overdue book **(first notice)**
2. Notify parents on Remind **(second notice)**
3. Notify parents via a letter **(third notice)**
4. If book/s are not returned by the end of the term, a letter will be sent to the parents for the cost of replacement. **(Final notice).**

## Family School Improvement Survey

In 2024, our school is participating in Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools – School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS). MACSSIS is an annual process whereby our school listens to the thoughts and feelings that our Year 4 to Year 6 students, families and staff have about how our school can improve. These surveys help inform the ongoing improvement of our school.

One of the main goals of the family survey is to identify the strengths and areas for improvement in our school. MACSSIS data benefits everyone within our school and provides valuable community insights on areas that each school can focus on. Our school believes it is important to encourage families to have a voice and contribute to shaping the ongoing improvement of the school.

The survey is available online from Monday 2 to Friday 20 September 2024. The school has randomly invited some families to respond via this survey and participation is completely voluntary. There are no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ answers – all responses are completely anonymous and at no point are any of the responses from students, families or staff identifiable by the school.

The survey is available in many languages including English, Arabic & Dinka. This year, our school is hoping for TWENTY family survey responses. If you wish to contribute your voice to improving our school & would complete a MACSSIS family survey, please contact [enquires@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au](mailto:enquires@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au)



**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 11 October.**

# Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal, Mr Glenn Mugavin

## Teaching and learning about the legacy of St Mary MacKillop

In Religious Education, our Year 6 students have been learning more about St Mary MacKillop & the Sisters of St Joseph, and the legacy they have left for us.

Inspired by a guest speaker, Mrs Kennedy, who shared her story, experiences & memories of her time at St Andrew's being educated by the Josephites, our Year 6s faith-in-action was to identify their legacy & to pass it on to their 1/2 Buddy. They created a gift, a legacy-brick, naming the legacy they wish to leave & accompanied this with a letter describing what Mary MacKillop had inspired them to be & their hope for their buddy.

This action was a real transfer & application of learning & understanding from the classroom to relationships in life, bringing our faith into context.





# Student Wellbeing News

From our Deputy Principal, Mrs Lisa Black

Parents, families, and carers play a crucial role in a child's early development, laying the foundation for lifelong learning and success. When they are actively involved in a child's education, it fosters academic achievement and social and emotional well-being. I have attached a flyer from CMY, Centre for Multicultural Youth on tips on how to be actively involved in your child's education. Our Friday morning Parent Cuppa and Chat is a great way to keep up with all the great things happening at St Andrew's.

## **Fostering Healthy School Drop-Offs**

As we near the end of another busy term, we notice that students are tired and have less stamina than usual. This often presents in the morning, particularly separation from parents, which can be quite overwhelming for both student and parent. Rest assured, at St Andrew's, we continue to strengthen our morning routines with a slow start and mindfulness activities. Some general tips on how to create positive school drop-offs are:

- **Establish a consistent routine** - a ritual at drop off. This could be a special word or gesture
- **Open communication** - talk to your child about the day ahead and what they are looking forward to
- **Short goodbyes** - keep this short and sweet
- **Stay calm and positive** - bring the child into your calm. Do not enter their chaos.
- **Connect** with the classroom teacher if separations intensify.



# I Can –Education Support Tips for Parents

Parents, families and carers are a child's first and most important teachers. Getting involved and engaged in children's education can improve their chances educationally and socially for years to come.



## Call the school and speak to:

**Administration** for enrolment, fees, paperwork and absences

**Wellbeing team** for mental, physical, emotional health

**Teachers** for school work and learning progress

You can ask the school to arrange an interpreter for phone calls via LanguageLoop or if you would like to call an interpreter directly you can contact TIS National on 131 450

If I have questions, concerns or need more information about my child's education

I can...



Attend parent teacher interviews

Read the school newsletter regularly

Email my child's teacher

Get involved with the school by volunteering, joining a committee, attending social events and information nights.

Download digital applications used by the school such as Compass/ Sentral/ Seesaw

I can ask for help with this if I am unsure

Engage with my child's learning at home.

\*turn over page for ideas >



Have them read to me in English (or my first language)

Help them set up a comfortable place to study

Share our culture with them



Get them to help calculate the change from grocery shopping



Go for a walk or a jog with them looking at our neighbourhood



Speak in my first language with them so they become multi-lingual

**I might not be a teacher,  
but I can support my child's  
education in lots of ways**

**I can...**

Have a conversation about what they are studying in a particular subject

Make a cake or food and ask them to do the measuring and mixing

Help them look for groups and patterns in our house and count and discuss them



Support the scheduling of devices across a day or week so everyone can have a turn



Ask them to show me the signs of the seasons in the garden, or at the park

Ask them to find items in our home that start with letters of the alphabet



Teach them a skill I have such as sewing, soccer, cooking, or painting



Share a piece of music that I enjoy and explain why, and then ask them to do the same



Sit with my child and play or make up a game or do a puzzle

Support them to put naming labels on items in our home in English (or our first language)



# MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING NEWS

R U OK DAY IN WEEK 9  
SEPTEMBER 12

Ask R U OK? Any Day because life happens every day.

A lot can happen in a year, a month, a week. Whether it's your friend, family member, colleague, partner, or teammate, the people you care about go through life's ups and downs every day.

By having regular, meaningful conversations, you build trust and normalise talking about what's really going on, so when the people in your world find themselves struggling, they know you're someone they can talk to.

So whilst R U OK? Day on Thursday September 12 is our National Day of Action, we encourage you to Ask R U OK? Any Day of the year because a conversation could change a life.

The logo for 'Ask RUOK? ANY DAY' is displayed on a yellow rectangular background. 'Ask' is in a black, handwritten-style font. 'RUOK?' is in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a smiley face icon replacing the letter 'O'. 'ANY DAY' is in a black, sans-serif font, with 'ANY' enclosed in a thin white oval.

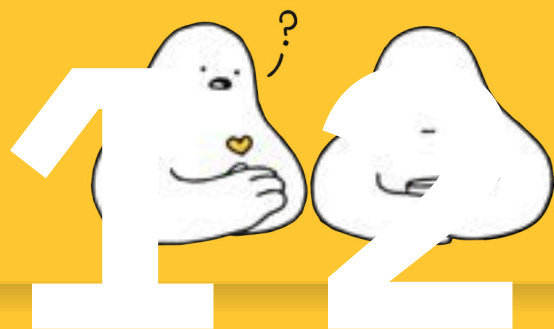
A conversation could change a life.

## ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE R U OK DAY AT STA....

On Thursday, 12th September, our whole school will engage in social and emotional learning focused on checking in with one another and building friendships. We will also have a buddy lunch, allowing students from different year levels to connect and support each other.

# Ask RUOK?™ ANY DAY

Have a conversation using these 4 steps



How are you travelling?

You don't seem yourself lately – want to talk about it?

**Ask R U OK?**



I'm here to listen if you want to talk more.

Have you been feeling this way for a while?

**Listen**



What do you think is a first step that might help you?

Have you spoken to your doctor about this?

**Encourage action**



Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing?

Have things improved for you since our last chat?

**Check in**

Learn more at [truok.org.au](http://truok.org.au)



# PE News

From our PE Teacher Ms Sally Taylor

## Wyndham / Hobsons Bay Divisional Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to the following students that have been selected to represent Werribee in the Divisional Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 10th September.

These children will compete in the following events:

Emrys K - 100m and 100m relay

Dare Y - 100m, 200m and 100m relay

Mia D - 100m and 200m

Kawac B - Hurdles, High Jump and 100m relay

Klara A - 800m and 1500m

Abel E - Shot Put

Tymirah D - Shot Put

Akio S - Discus

Ajak K - Discus

Deng B - High Jump and 100m relay

Clyde R - High Jump

David M - High Jump

Happy M - 100m relay

Luca M - 100m relay

Lachlan S - 100m relay

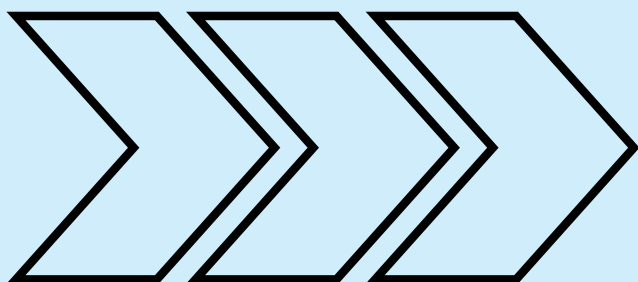
Abraam S - 100m relay

*We wish them the best of luck in their events.*

## Footy Fun Day

Last Friday we celebrated all things great about Football. The children enjoyed the fun inflatable AFL activities conducted by SEDA and took part in football related learning during the day. The move to the end of day footy team parade was a highlight. This year we had a larger group of Soccer lovers as well.

## Upcoming Events



Date	Event
<b>Tuesday 10 September</b>	Wyndham / Hobsons Bay Divisional Athletics Carnival
<b>Friday 13 September</b>	F-2 First Aid in Schools Program
<b>Monday 16 September</b>	Years 5 and 6 Hoop Time Competition



# Year 3 News

On the 21st and 22nd of August, the Year 3s went on camp to Sovereign Hill. The first activity we did was in the old school. There we used cool quills to write on paper using ink and a slate pen to write on the slate boards. After that, we went to the Red Hill Mine and it was so cool because we went underground and saw a big nugget of gold called the Welcome Nugget. We also watched the Red Coat Soldiers and we saw them fire their muskets. It was very loud and after that we got to take a picture with them.

One of our favourite activities was the sweet demonstration. As soon as we walked in we could smell the lollies cooking. They even let us taste a lolly but they said that kids are only allowed one lolly that has to last them the whole week! We also enjoyed going to the blacksmith and seeing the gold pour. Luis and Livia were lucky and got to hold the solid gold bar!

At night, we went to the AURA show. We got to see how gold was created and was deposited in the earth, the perspective Aboriginal people had about gold and the creation and the history of Ballarat during the Gold Rush.

The next day, we played Aboriginal games that taught us skills that are important to Aboriginal people, such as hunting and fishing. We rushed to the Candle Making Demonstration where they dipped the wick into the hot wax over and over. Once it is dry, it can be dipped into coloured wax. The activity that we did next was everyone's favourite, and it was going gold panning. We all tried our hardest to find some gold, but we were a bit unlucky and didn't find any.

We all had a great time on camp and would like to thank Mrs Ornelis, Miss Purton, Mrs Du Plooy, Mrs Candusso, Ms Sheridan and Matthew for taking us on camp. We also would like to thank Mathew from Sovereign Hill for planning our camp with Mrs Ornelis and Miss Purton.

By Giordano









# Italian News



**Date:** Thursday 26 September

**Time:** Ages 3-6 - 10am-11:30am

Ages 7-12 - 12pm-3pm

**Price:** Ages 3-6 - \$30

Ages 7-12 - \$55

**Location:** CO.AS.IT. 199 Faraday Street  
Carlton

See below to book

Spring has sprung, so come and immerse your child in the enchanting world of Spring themed Italian art and language with our exciting workshops inspired by Sandro Botticelli's "La Primavera."

Each workshop will be carried out in both English and Italian and will teach children a variety of different art techniques they can then use at home.

The Italian vocabulary used will teach children words and phrases themed around Spring, Flowers, Animals and Art and each workshop will introduce children to the painter Botticelli and his famous artworks.

Don't miss this unique opportunity for your child to explore Italian art and language in a fun and engaging environment. Spaces are limited, so secure your child's spot today!

## AGES 3-6 Spring Painting with Vegetables \$30

*Thursday 26 September / 10am -11:30am*

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

In this session, children will paint vibrant spring landscapes using vegetables as stamps, all while being introduced to basic Italian language. They'll also learn about Botticelli and his artwork La Primavera and enjoy storybook readings along with additional activities.

All art materials are provided. Children will also receive an activity booklet to take home. We ask that children bring along an art smock or apron.

## AGES 7-12 Recreate 'La Primavera' by Botticelli \$55

*Thursday 26 September / 12pm-3:00pm*

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

Children aged 7-12 will learn about the history and significance of Botticelli and 'La Primavera', then dive into hands-on activities. They'll create their own version of "La Primavera" using multiple techniques including the spolvero technique used to paint frescoes, as well as oil pastels, and fine markers.

They'll then get creative by making vibrant flowers with crepe paper, which can be used to decorate their artwork or made into a wearable flower necklace.

All art materials are provided. Children will also receive an activity booklet to take home. We ask that children bring along an art smock or apron.



### **Tuning In To Kids - Emotional Intelligence Program**

Tuning In To Kids is eight-week group program for parents. It can help you to teach your child (5 – 11 year olds) the skills of emotional intelligence. Tuning into Kids program will be running through the Wyndham City Council Youth Counselling Team in in **October** this year. **Sessions will be on Wednesday evenings online using Microsoft Teams.** The program is **free** and is available to parents that live or work in the Wyndham City Council area.

#### **What is Emotional Intelligence?**

Emotional Intelligence is about using your emotions to guide you through the world. It is about being able to use your knowledge of emotions to make decisions, to calm yourself down, to manage anger and conflict, to help you in your relationships with people, to understand what is happening in social situations, and to assist you in any aspects of life that involves you and another person.

#### **Children with greater emotional intelligence have been shown to:**

- ☐ have greater success with making friendships and be more able to manage conflict
- ☐ have better concentration, which means they are more likely to be successful academically
- ☐ be more able to self soothe when upset or angry
- ☐ tend to have fewer childhood illnesses
- ☐ have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults; and have greater career success ... emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

Email Tori Balla [MiddleYearsCounselling@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:MiddleYearsCounselling@wyndham.vic.gov.au) or call on 8734 1355 to express interest in the program.

Click here <https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/youth-wyndham-enews> to sign up to the Wyndham Youth Newsletter to stay up to date with future Tuning into Kids and Tuning into Teens programs that are running.

# 5 tips

## to keep your family safe online



Parents and carers can use a combination of strategies to help young people build their digital technology skills and have safer experiences online.

### 1. Start the chat

Get into the habit of talking about online safety as a family, so your child feels comfortable coming to you if they ever need help working out an issue. It's never too early to introduce [good online habits](#) such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience. As your child grows older, eSafety's advice about [hard to have conversations](#) will help with some of the tricky topics like sending nudes, online pornography and contact from sexual predators.

### 2. Create a family technology agreement

Creating a Family Technology Agreement can help you and your kids decide together when and how digital technology will be used at home. As a family, brainstorm easy-to-follow rules and display them where everyone will see them. Your agreement could cover things like: time limits, apps your kids are allowed to use and online behaviour. Families with younger children can [download](#) a template to guide the conversation.

### 3. Set up parental controls

Parental controls let you monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. It's best to use them in combination with the other online safety strategies listed here. [Taming the technology](#) can help you understand your options. Grab a device and get started with our guides to setting up parental controls on [devices and accounts](#) or in [social media, games and apps](#).

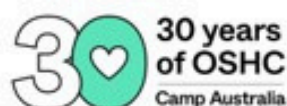
### 4. Choose games and other apps carefully

Use eSafety's [App checklist for parents](#) to think about the positives and negatives when your child asks to download a new game or other app. The checklist covers things like age ratings, managing privacy settings and reporting abuse in-app. You can also use [The eSafety guide](#) to check and set up safety features with your child.

### 5. Use digital technology together

Exploring or playing on devices or online with your child can be a positive experience that promotes learning and development. Ask questions, be curious and get involved. To learn more, read our blogpost [How to encourage good screen practices for your child](#).





**Your  
OSHC.**



**Tuesday 10 September 2024**  
The fun starts as soon as school ends!

Let's celebrate 30 years of outside school hours care with an incredible party right here at **[St. Andrew's Primary School]** Your OSHC!

Featuring awesome experiences like: DIY Friendship Bracelets, Ball in a Cup, Pass The Parcel, Egg & Spoon Races and heaps more!

Plus it wouldn't be an anniversary without CAKE! Leave a bit of room in your tummy for a yummy afternoon tea!

Open to the whole **[St. Andrew's]** community\*!

Come, check out our experiences, have a little food and have a lot of fun.

#### Book now

To book your child in, visit the Parent Portal app now!

[campastralia.com.au](http://campastralia.com.au)



#### Visit on the day

**Come on down and see what all the fun is about!**

\*Please note that only children booked into After School Care will be able to attend unsupervised.

All other children present must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.





**SUMMER SPORT  
IS COMING  
WHAT ARE YOU  
GOING TO PLAY?**

**wyndhamcity**  
**ACTIVE**  
WYNDHAM

FIND ACTIVITIES TO TRY AT [WWW.WYNDHAM.VIC.GOV.AU/SUMMERSPORT](http://WWW.WYNDHAM.VIC.GOV.AU/SUMMERSPORT)

### Wyndham Active Holidays – Spring edition



**ACTIVE  
HOLIDAYS**

JOIN IN SOME FREE  
**ACTIVE FUN THESE  
HOLIDAYS**

**wyndhamcity**  
**ACTIVE**  
WYNDHAM

VISIT [WWW.WYNDHAM.VIC.GOV.AU/ACTIVEHOLIDAYS](http://WWW.WYNDHAM.VIC.GOV.AU/ACTIVEHOLIDAYS) TO FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK

Get out and active this spring with Wyndham's Active Holidays program. From indoor activities like martial arts and dance to outdoor fun. Come and join us, try something new, tell your friends and have some active fun this school holidays.

We have over 40 Free activities for 4 to 18 year olds. From Hip Hop to Footy, Karate to Netball, Lawn Bowls, Cricket, Girls Football (soccer) and more.

Registrations open 7 days before each session. See the timetable and register here:  
[wyndham.vic.gov.au/activeholidays](http://wyndham.vic.gov.au/activeholidays)



# SCHOOL HOLIDAY Program



## Unlock Adventure These School Holidays

Thrilling Bike Rides, Pioneering challenges, the excitement of Hatchet Throwing, and Beach Fun—our action-packed programs are designed to get your kids aged 5-14 outdoors and loving every moment.

Whether building confidence with campcraft or exploring new skills, there's something for every young adventurer. Join us for an unforgettable holiday filled with discovery, fun, and lifelong memories!



**Register Today**



**For more information**

Dates and locations head to our website  
[bit.ly/scout-school-holiday-program](https://bit.ly/scout-school-holiday-program)





# SEPTEMBER



# 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 MACS SURVEY BEGINS	3	4 YR 5 CAMP SUNNYSTONES	5 YR 5 CAMP SUNNYSTONES	6 YR 5 CAMP SUNNYSTONES  SUBWAY DAY  PARENT CUPPA & CHAT 8:45AM	7
8	9	10 SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL 7PM	11	12	13 ASSEMBLY 9AM  TRIVIA NIGHT 6PM	14
15	16 YRS 5/6 HOOP TIME	17	18	19 DIM SIM DAY	20 LAST DAY OF TERM 3  PARENT CUPPA & CHAT 8:45AM  SCHOOL FINISHES AT 1PM	21
22 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	23 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	24 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	25 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	26 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	27 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	28 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
29 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	30 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS					



# OCTOBER



# 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	2 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	3 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	4 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	5 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
6	7 TERM 4 BEGINS	8	9	10	11 FOUNDATION BREAKFAST  SUBWAY DAY  YEARS 1&2 CAMP NIGHT	12
13	14 PARENT ASSOC. MEETING 7PM	15 RECONCILIATION FAMILY FAITH NIGHT	16	17	18	19
20	21 PUPIL FREE DAY (NO SCHOOL)	22	23	24	25 WORLD TEACHERS DAY  SUBWAY DAY	26
27	28	29 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 6PM	30	31		

# NOVEMBER



# 2024

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

# DECEMBER



# 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6 SUBWAY DAY	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 YEAR 6 GRADUATION	14
15	16	17 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 1PM FINISH	18 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	19 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	20 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	21 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
22 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	23 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	24 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	25 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	26 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	27 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	28 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
29 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	30 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	31 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS				