

# ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 2  
FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2025

## THE JUBILEE LOGO

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.

The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.

The logo shows how the way of the pilgrimage is not an individual effort, but rather collective, with the impression of a growing dynamism that tends more and more to the cross.

# Principal's Message

**From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan**

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a very smooth and calm start to the 2025 school year. Our Foundation students and their families have settled in and are learning the routines associated with school. We have also had other new students begin at St Andrew's having transferred from other schools. Welcome Alveena Biswas, Cyde & Cassie Dumaboc, Ceanah & Szymon Legaspi, Campbell Matthews, Abigail & Joseph Onasanya, Paul & Haset Seyoum and Ashleigh Willmott, we hope you enjoy your time as student at St Andrew's.

2025 is a special year for the Catholic Church as Pope Francis has announced it as a Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope. A Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance, held every 25 years. We will keep you updated throughout the year. As a local response, MACS has approved the principals of the Western Zone of the Archdiocese to participate in a pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St Paul, travelling to Greece & Turkey for two weeks in March/April to understand his impact on building the early faith community. I look forward to sharing more of this experience with the school community over the next few months.

Some of our community have noticed that Bianca Piscopo from our office has been missing. Unfortunately Bianca's mother passed away last weekend after a long illness. Bianca will return later next week. I ask you to keep Bianca & her family in your prayers. With such a significant member of staff out during this crucial time, I thank you for your understanding and patience as other staff have scrambled to cover the many tasks she normally takes within her stride.

Building a strong community has always been my passion. This week we promoted a number of events coming up over the next week and we have had an overwhelming response. The first St Andrew's school community parish mass this Saturday night at 6:00 will be well attended and will demonstrate our strong links to our parish. Next Tuesday morning, 11 February at 9:00am, Laura Chamberlain will be holding an Internet Safety parent information session. We have had a strong response and I encourage as many parents as possible to attend this important initiative. Finally, next Thursday evening we will hold our Annual Welcome Picnic. For the first time, we have a member of our local Wadawurrung people, attending as a guest of honour for a Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and didgeridoo performance. This will begin at 5:00pm. Families are encouraged to bring along a picnic rug or chairs, a picnic dinner and friendly spirit to launch the school year. The weather forecast looks perfect.

Another family engagement initiative that we implement is the sending home of termly overviews. These overviews give you information about the content that will be taught, a term calendar, etc. so that you can engage with your children about their learning. The termly overview will be sent home next week, please keep an eye out for it.

I am very pleased to see so many students riding bikes to school. This is such a healthy activity.

It is also great to see such safe habits, they are all wearing helmets and most are travelling with buddies.

Regards,



Michael Gavaghan

## **PARENT ASSOCIATION**

The next meeting of the Parent Association will be held at 7:00pm on Monday 10 February in Meeting Room 2, off the office foyer.

New members are always welcome.

## **Upcoming School Closure Days**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Camp Australia Program</b>
Tuesday 11 March	Yes

## **Office Hours**

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

# **School Advisory Council**

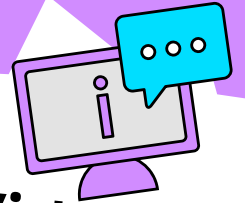
The School Advisory Council is looking for new members. The Council meets on approximately 6 occasions throughout the year, once in Term 1, twice in Terms 2 & 3 and once in Term 4. Meetings are normally held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 and are scheduled to run for 90 minutes.

The School Advisory Council provides a forum for discussion and discernment, where the parent/guardian voice and perspective are available to inform and support the decisions made by the principal and parish priest for the good of school and parish where the wellbeing and outcomes for students is paramount. If you would like to be considered for this important and satisfying role, please email the principal, [principal@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sawerribee.catholic.edu.au)

# Discover how Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) can support your family!

## Your OSHC.

Before School  
After School  
Pupil Free Days



### Virtual Info Sessions!

Join our upcoming virtual info session to learn about our programs, including the activities we offer, the benefits for children and parents, and how OSHC can fit seamlessly into your family's routine.



Learn more about our program and what's on in Term 1. Get details on registration, bookings, subsidies and more.

Monday  
**10 Feb**  
2025

**7:00pm**

Tuesday  
**18 Feb**  
2025

### Reserve your spot now

Monday  
**10 Feb**

Tuesday  
**18 Feb**

[www.campastralia.com.au/virtual-info-sessions](http://www.campastralia.com.au/virtual-info-sessions)



**Find out more**  
[campastralia.com.au](http://campastralia.com.au)

### Missed the sessions?

Visit your school's friendly coordinator or email us at [oshc@campastralia.com.au](mailto:oshc@campastralia.com.au)

by  **Camp Australia**

# Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal, Mr Glenn Mugavin

## Teaching and learning about Prayer

To begin the learning year, our students are learning more about prayer and how to pray. Prayer begins every day at St Andrew's and provides an opportunity to communicate with God. We teach all students prayers and how to pray them; both formal and informal prayers; traditional and contemporary ways of praying; and praying that is personal and praying that is communal. We teach students to take an active role in class and school prayer and liturgies, from planning, to participating and reflecting on prayer experiences.

To support learning, each classroom has a prayer resource called 'Our Prayer Basket'. This basket has symbols; crosses, candles, prayer cloths, rosary beads and a bible and our St Andrew's Prayer Resource book.

To live like Christ  
To love God  
To learn to pray



## Connection to the our parish community

School-Parish Community Mass - Saturday 8 February at 6pm

As part of our connection to our Parish of St Andrew's Werribee, our school is celebrating a Community Mass. We will come together to pray and worship as a parish community.

Thankyou to the families who have accepted the Operoo invitation to attend the Mass.

See you there.

## *St Andrew's School Community Mass*



**Saturday 8 February, 2025**

**6:00 - 7:00pm**

**St Andrew's Church**

**All families warmly invited**

## Feast of St Josephine Bakhita

St Josephine Bakhita, who is the patron saint of Sudan and the patron saint of freedom from slavery. St Josephine longed to know God, and despite her suffering she had a heart that showed love and compassion.

**St Josephine Bakhita, pray for us, that we can have your heart to love and worship God.**

The South Sudanese Community will be celebrating the Feast of Josephine Bakhita on Sunday 9 February at St Anthony's Catholic Church, 90 Buckley Street, Noble Park, from 2:30pm.

Everyone is welcome.



# SUBWAY

***NOW AVAILABLE EVERY FRIDAY!***

Order online at <https://app.canteenhub.com.au/login>

Order by midnight each Thursday (12am) for Friday lunch that week.

For assistance with online account, please email:  
[contact@subsforyou.com](mailto:contact@subsforyou.com)

# Well Being Resources

From our Deputy Principal, Mrs Lisa Black



Arriving on time each day helps your child start their learning journey smoothly. It gives them time to settle in, feel prepared, and begin the day with a clear and focused mind. Punctuality helps them stay engaged in lessons and build good habits for the future.

At St Andrew's, our classroom doors open at 8:50 am. This is the ideal time to be at school. The first half hour of the day is spent on social-emotional learning. The early moments of the day are important for essential announcements, discussions, and introductory activities. When a child arrives late, they may miss key information and feel disconnected from the class, affecting their understanding and engagement throughout the day. Ensuring timely arrival helps them start the day smoothly and stay connected with their learning.

When your child arrives at school on time, they can participate in morning check-ins. These allow teachers to see how each student is doing emotionally and academically. Teachers can address any concerns or questions right away, helping your child feel ready to learn. This early support prevents small issues from becoming bigger problems and shows students that their teachers care about their success.

Developing good morning routines is essential to arriving at school on time. The Raising Children Site is a great source of information and quick tips.

Find out more:



[raisingchildren.net.au](http://raisingchildren.net.au)

FREE

# Get Psych'd

## Practical ways towards wellness

Join us for 4 weeks of wellness

90 minute weekly workshops designed to explore ways that help us look after ourselves and our mental wellbeing.

### SESSION 1:

#### IDENTIFYING STRENGTHS AND VALUES AND BUILDING SELF ESTEEM

Identifying individuals strengths and values, and understanding how they impact our lives and self-esteem. Further developing skills and strategies to improve ones overall self esteem.

### SESSION 2: EMOTIONS

Being able to identify the different emotions that people experience, and develop skills on how to regulate them. This will include conflict resolution and overcoming more difficult emotions.

### SESSION 3:

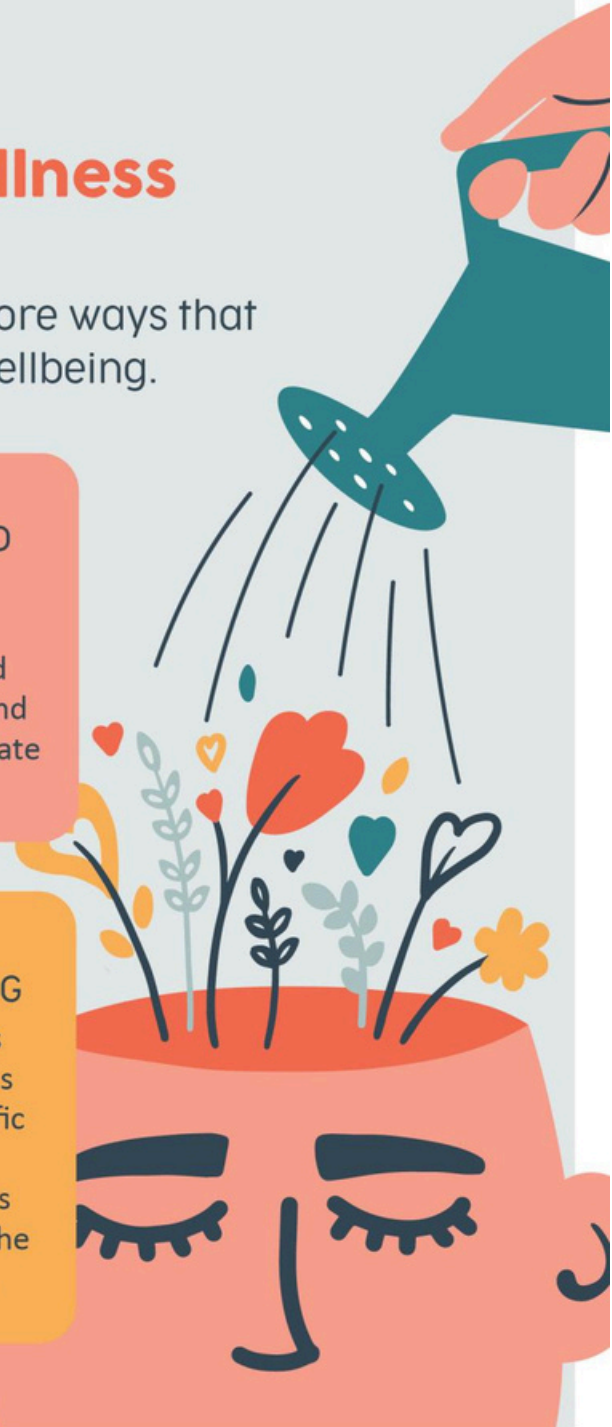
#### RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATION

Identifying different relationships types and communication styles and how these two things relate to one another.

### SESSION 4:

#### WELLNESS PLANNING

Developing a Wellness Action Plan that focuses on achieving your specific wellness needs by incorporating strategies developed throughout the Get Psych'd program.



Email: [getpsychd@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:getpsychd@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Please scan qr code or visit our website for dates and locations  
[www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/get-psychd](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/get-psychd)



wyndhamcity  
**Youth**  
Services



# Get Psych'd

FREE

## Practical ways towards wellness

Join us for 4 weeks of wellness

90 minute weekly workshops designed to explore ways that help us look after ourselves and our mental wellbeing.

4 - 6PM MONDAYS

10 FEBRUARY

17 FEBRUARY

24 FEBRUARY

3 MARCH

HOPPERS CROSSING  
YOUTH SERVICES  
86 DERRIMUT RD,  
HOPPERS CROSSING  
ACTIVITY ROOM

12-17  
YEARS



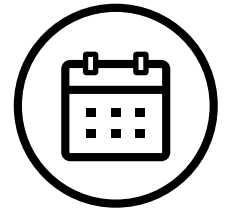
[www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/services/youth-services/  
programs/get-psychd](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/services/youth-services/programs/get-psychd)

getpsychd@wyndham.vic.gov.au  
ph: 8734 1355



wyndhamcity  
**Youth**  
Services

# 2025 TERM DATES



<b>TERM 1</b>	Wed 29th Jan	Foundation Students commence*	8:50am to 1:00pm
	Thurs 30th Jan	Year 1-6 Students Commence	8:50am to 3:15pm
	Thurs 30th Jan	Foundation Early Finish	8:50am to 1:00pm
	Fri 31st Jan	Foundation Early Finish	8:50am to 1:00pm
	Fri 4th Apr	Term 1 Concludes	3:15pm
<b>TERM 2</b>	Tues 22nd Apr	Students Commence	8:50am-3:15pm
	Fri 4th Jul	Term 2 Concludes	1:00pm
<b>TERM 3</b>	Mon 21st Jul	Students Commence	8:50am-3:15pm
	Fri 19th Sept	Term 3 Concludes	1:00pm
<b>TERM 4</b>	Mon 6th Oct	Students Commence	8:50am-3:15pm
	Fri 16th Dec	Term 4 Concludes	1:00pm

\*During February, Foundation students attend school Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday. There is no school Wednesday.

Week beginning Feb 3	Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
Week beginning Feb 10	Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
Week beginning Feb 17	Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
Week beginning Feb 24	Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
Week beginning Mar 3	Full Week Attendance

# School Communication

## St Andrew's Werribee



Used for:

- Medical Information**
- Reporting Absences**
- Excursion/Camp Permissions**
- Sick Bay Communication**
- Newsletters**
- SMS alerts and Notices**
- Notify School of School Absences**
- Learning Diversity: Personalised Learning Plans and Meeting Minutes**

*You will have access to Operoo the day after your child begins at St Andrews. You will receive a log in email from Operoo.*

*Please download the app.*



An app: For parents and teachers to communicate regarding school events or brief queries. Your child's teacher will give you the Remind invite code once your child commences school. Report absences through Operoo only.

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## School Reports

Directly emailed twice a year.

June & December

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## School Website

[www.sawerribee.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sawerribee.catholic.edu.au)

- Policies**
- Curriculum**
- New and Events**
- Student Wellbeing**
- Enrolment Information**



School Interviews to be used when requested for Three -Way Conversations- this is through a web address supplied.