

# ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 4  
FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2025

## Principal's Message

From our Principal Mr Michael Gavaghan

Dear parents and carers,

Last Friday, St Andrew's was visited by an external coach from The Knowledge Society to observe our teachers and students during their Literacy lesson. The Knowledge Society is an organisation engaged by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools to support our transition to full implementation of Science of Learning as a theory and approach that underpins our pedagogy. The Science of Learning draws on cognitive science and connects it to practical implications for teaching. You may also have heard it referred to as the MACS Vision for Instruction or Flourishing Learners, an initiative of the Western Region Catholic schools.

The day finished with a feedback session in which the coach, who has been in numerous schools across the country, commended us for our commitment to consistent implementation across the school. Students from Foundation to Grade 6 are learning in the same consistent manner, explicit instruction for the core subjects of Literacy and Numeracy. For those Age newspaper readers, you may have seen a recent article that highlighted Bethany Primary School. The article was titled, "Catholic schools reap the benefits of 'back to basics' overhaul" We'll keep you updated on our progress.

Recently we held student elections for our House Captains. Our House Captains support our School Captains as well as leading student wellbeing initiatives and some sporting events. Congratulations to the following:

Padua - Tymirah Dashwood & Daniel Gawam

Loyola - Ethan Johnny & Nathaniel Odion

Fatima - Mayol Bech & Evie Mezzavilla

Penola - Robert Yeung & Derya Seifeddine

Next week, Catholic students and their families from Year 6 will attend a faith night for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is an important time for each of the candidates and their families as they approach the final sacrament in their initiation journey into the Catholic faith. Please keep them in your prayers.

Finally, a reminder that our term one closure day will be held on Tuesday March 11. Camp Australia will run a pupil free day program on this day. The day is a continuation of our Flourishing Learners Initiative, with a focus on writing.

Regards,



Michael Gavaghan

# School Saving Bonus (SSB)

Last year the Victorian Government announced the SSB as a cost of living assistance for eligible families. For non-government schools, the SSB is a \$400 bonus for students receiving the means-tested Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) in 2025. It is a one-off payment in addition to the CSEF payment of \$154.

- The bonus will be allocated to eligible students once the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) process has been completed for 2025.
- The SSB can be applied to the following programs/expenditure:
  - o Camps, trips, excursions and incursions
  - o Swimming and sporting programs
  - o Outdoor education programs
  - o Graduations
  - o School uniforms, if purchased from an official uniform supplier (tax invoice/receipt must be supplied by parents)
- SSB cannot be applied to tuition charges.
- The school is not required to provide families with the cash equivalent of the bonus.
- The SSB is intended for use in the 2025 school year (if possible) and the funds remain with the school.
- Families can apply the SSB to another child within their family, meaning that the SSB can be shared within a family.
- Unused SSB funds from 2025 can be carried over to 2026 if the school or families are not able to fully spend the bonus in a manner that will benefit the school/family in 2025.
- Schools are not required to return unspent funds if all students from the relevant family have graduated.
- **Please be aware that the SSB will not appear on statements until CSEF eligibility is confirmed.**
- **Any family with a current Health Care Card must make an application for CSEF before receiving the SSB. Application forms for the CSEF are available at the school office. *We encourage all eligible families to finalise their applications before March.***

## **Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) Concessional Fee Policy**

For students with approved MACS Concessional Fee Policy (CFP), the CFP will be applied first (including CSEF of \$154) and then SSB to applicable items as listed earlier. This will be reflected on your school fee statement.

# School Advisory Council (Urgent)

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)

## Upcoming School Closure Days

Date	Camp Australia Program
Tuesday 11 March	Yes
Tuesday 22 April	Yes

## Office Hours

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

# Catholic Identity News

From our Deputy Principal, Mr Glenn Mugavin

## Teaching and learning about Prayer

To begin the learning year, our students are learning to pray together; this is known as communal prayer. Communal prayer is more formal and usually has rituals. We provide opportunities for communal prayer in the classroom, at whole school gatherings and in the church at Mass.

We encourage families to pray together at home. Below is our St Andrew's School prayer which students from Year 1 to Year 6 know already.



### St Andrew's School Prayer

*We show that we are ready to speak with God by the sign of the cross.*

In the name of the Father, And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Thank you God for our Catholic School here  
in Werribee.

Help us to live like Jesus in our work, our  
words and our actions, to the best of our  
ability.

May you bring out the goodness in each of  
us, helping us to love and accept others as  
they are.

We pray that we too will learn a lot  
during our years here at St Andrew's.  
Amen

In the name of the Father, And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

## Connection to St Andrew's Parish community

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday 5 March. The Year 3 to 6 students will be participating in the Parish mass at 9am and the Foundation to Year 2s will have a prayer service in the school after 11am. Families are invited to pray with us in the church or in the school.

## Mini-Vinnies Social Justice action in the wider Catholic community

We acknowledge our Year 6 students who have been selected to be our 2025 St Andrew's Mini-Vinnies Team. These students were presented at last Friday's assembly and received their Mini-Vinnie badge and a certificate. They will be formally commissioned and blessed by our parish at an assembly in the near future.

Our 2025 Mini-Vinnies team is:

Nyakiir Akech, Emma Carvalho, Katrina Reardon, Sophia Resta, Olivia Stark, Serah Bawkkheng, Emma Bino, Cora Eberly, Logan Medina, Aliza Prince, Amelia Pyatt, Holly Robinson, Abraam Soliman and Indi Veal

They are all excited and ready to "turn concern into action" so to restore the dignity of those in need.

# PE News

From our PE Teacher, Ms Sally Taylor

## North Melbourne Footballers visit St Andrew's

During lunchtime on Monday 10th February, Nick Larkey, River Stevens, Kallan Dawson and Josh Goater were participating in a kick to kick session with our Year 3-6 students on the oval. This 30 minute session was initiated by the North Melbourne football club giving back to the schools that support them during the year through clinics and the Huddle.

North Melbourne Football Club has also generously given our students an opportunity to join the Roo Squad. This gives the children a free 4 game membership. An information flyer with a QR code can be found below.



## AFL

### Wyndham and Surrounds Term 1 Auskick and Superkick Program

- Starts Monday 17 February
- &%% for 6 weeks - this will then be given back to you as credit to use at a local Auskick Centre in 2025.
- 5pm - 6pm at Hogans Road Reserve, Hoppers Crossing.
- Auskick registration click [here](#).
- Superkick registration click [here](#).
- All participants receive a footy as part of being part of the program!

## Basketball

If your child is interested in participating in the Aussie Hoops program or the domestic development academy at Eagle Stadium see flyers below for details.

### Wyndham All Abilities Disability Supported Basketball Program

For anyone over the age of 5 with disability.

- Disability support coaches - with experience in various disabilities.
- Players are placed into teams of similar abilities and ages, beginners always welcome.
- Players are supported in learning the skills and playing games of basketball whilst building social skills.
- Therapists are very welcome to attend to support their clients too.
- Cost is \$110 per player per school term.
- Held at Eagle Stadium, 35 Ballan Road, Werribee, courts 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Every Tuesday during school terms - different session times depending on age.
- Any questions please email [inclusion@wyndhambasketball.com](mailto:inclusion@wyndhambasketball.com)
- To register for a free come and try please follow this [link](#).



# PE News continued

From our PE Teacher, Ms Sally Taylor

## Seeking Parent Helpers

This year we are seeking your assistance and expertise with our extra curricular sporting activities.

If you would like to volunteer to help out at one or all of our sports events or if you have a passion or coaching experience in these listed sports please contact Ms Taylor.

We are seeking your help with Soccer, Volleyball, T-Ball, Netball, Basketball, Athletics or Cross Country.

You will need to be available for a volunteer induction session, have a Working With Children Check and sign our Code of Conduct.

Thanks in advance, I'm looking forward to speaking with you.

The Subway logo is displayed in a stylized font. The word "SUBWAY" is written in a bold, sans-serif typeface. The letters "S", "U", and "B" are yellow, while "W", "A", and "Y" are green. A green arrow points to the right from the top of the letter "Y".

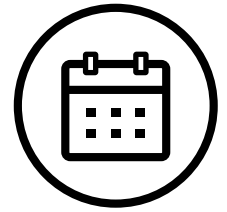
***NOW AVAILABLE EVERY FRIDAY!***

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)

# 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	1:00pm
<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.*

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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**



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.



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





*hit the*  
**HOOOPS**

**BASKETBALL SKILLS FOR  
CHILDREN AGED 5 - 10**



 [wyndhambasketball.com](http://wyndhambasketball.com)

**SCAN ME**











# JOIN THE TITANS



## AUSKICK

Learn AFL Skills and techniques through fun and games through our 10 session program that runs Thursday nights from 6pm -7pm.

Designed for boys & girls aged 5 - 12 years (as at 31/12/25)

Session will run on Friday Nights from:

1st May 2025 - 25 Jul 2025



## JUNIOR TEAMS

COME & TRY OUT DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY FOR FREE

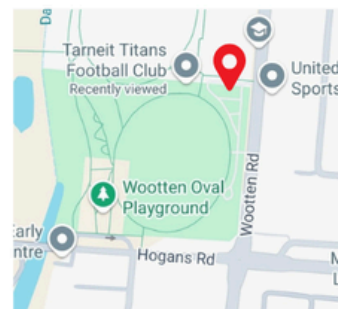
AGE GROUP	TRAINING DAYS	TIME	REGISTER HERE
UNDER 9'S	THURSDAYS	5:00pm - 6:00pm	
UNDER 10'S	THURSDAYS	5:00pm - 6:00pm	
UNDER 12'S	TUES/THURS	5:00pm - 6:00pm	
UNDER 14'S	TUES/THURS	5:00pm - 6:00pm	
UNDER 16'S	TUES/THURS	5:00pm - 6:00pm	
UNDER 18.5'S	TUES/THURS	6:00pm - 7:30pm	

**REGISTER**

**Registrations are now open.**

Head over to the website, or scan the QR code to register today

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/507a54>



**UNITED. ACCOUNTABLE. DRIVEN.**