



St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

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Companions on the Journey



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[St Andrew's Catholic Primary School](https://www.facebook.com/standrewscps/)

NEWSLETTER NO 3 2024 15 FEBRUARY 2024

*Jesus, you spent forty days in the hot, dusty desert,
to get ready to do your Father's work.
Help us to get ready for Easter during the forty days of Lent.
Help us to forgive others, to say 'sorry' and to make peace with everybody.
Help us to say 'yes' to others so that we can follow you more closely.
In this time of Lent, give us generous hearts to become better people.
More helpful people. More loving people. Amen.*



Dear Parents,

Yesterday was ASH WEDNESDAY. This day is of special significance to all Christians as it is the start of Lent. The school celebrated Ash Wednesday by having a special Mass.

URSTRONG

Last Friday we celebrated the launch of the URSTRONG whole school friendship program. It was wonderful to see all of the children in the colour 'green', because this is where we want the friend-o-meter to be. Please ensure that you keep up to date with the implementation of the program by talking to your child regularly and also reading the information that is sent home via the newsletter or seesaw. If you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Danielle Wildman, Year 3 Teacher, who is the school coordinator.



PARENT SACRAMENTAL NIGHT 2024 – WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY

To support the families with children who will be participating in any of the sacraments this year, ONE, all-inclusive parent night will be held on Wednesday, 21st February commencing at 6:00pm in the parish church. We look forward to seeing all parents attend this event.

LENT

The church has several seasons and we, as Christians, can use the seasons to focus ourselves on our relationship with God and each other. The season of Lent is traditionally one of Prayer, fasting, sacrifice and self-denial. It is a time when we accept our imperfect nature and allow the Spirit to work more openly in our lives.



Some people give up things while others try to do things that they believe should be a more regular part of our lives. What is important is that we do something! The Church is teaching us that we must be regular participants in the Sacraments.

Perhaps one way of celebrating Lent is for the family to participate more in liturgies and attend Sunday Mass together. Another way maybe to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter. Some families are praying more together, while others are going without lollies, soft drink, and giving the money saved to Project Compassion. May the forty days at the commencement of Lent, being Ash Wednesday, be days of growth for all of us.



During Lent, there are several themes that often come to mind. The themes are Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. In this way, the whole church prepares for Easter.

PRAYER: By our sin we turn away from God; But our prayers will lead us back to Him.

FASTING: Through fasting, our bodies are more aware of the season of Lent. We can now ask God to give us strength.

ALMSGIVING: By giving gifts to others, we are sharing what we have and showing love. God asks us to love our neighbour.

May these themes provide you and your families with some thoughts and reflections during this Lenten season.

***"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return"
or "Ask forgiveness and always love others as Jesus did."***



PROJECT COMPASSION – FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

The eldest child in each family will be given a Project Compassion contribution box. You can encourage your child to use this as a part of their Lenten Journey. Extra boxes are available for families through the Parish. The 2024 theme is “For All Future Generations”. For all families that do not operate with coins / cash, a QR code has been provided.

SWIMMING NOTE YEARS 1 – 5 – STARTS NEXT WEEK

A separate swimming note has been sent home with the children in Years 1-5, from Mr Kelly, with details about this event. Parents are reminded that **swimming commences on Monday, 19th February (NEXT WEEK)** and as such, **the swimming fee needs to be paid prior to your child commencing lessons.**

If you have any questions about the swimming lessons, please contact Mr Kelly, urgently.



KINDY 2025 ENROLMENTS



We are processing applications for children who intend to participate in the St Andrew's 2025 Kindergarten Program. If any parent has not enrolled their child and they are born between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, they need to do so immediately. (We can only enrol children who have the correct enrolment application forms and that we know want to participate in our program.)

Please do not assume that we 'know' that your child is seeking enrolment into the St Andrew's Kindergarten program.

We need to inform the school community that this year we are completely full in Kindergarten, which has caused some distress for families who did not enrol their child and find that we are unable to accommodate their request for enrolment. Please avoid disappointment and enrol your child now. (This is applicable for future years as well).

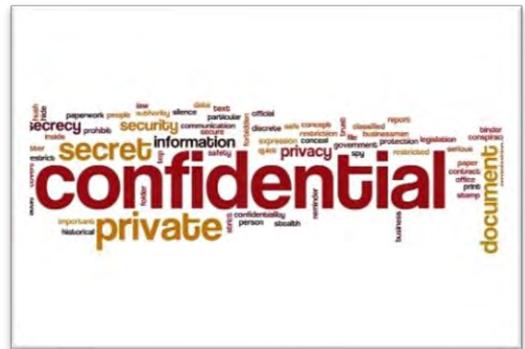
KISS AND RIDE – SLOW DOWN AND BE CONSIDERATE – PLEASE DON'T LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE



Whilst I understand that nearly all of our parents are using this service effectively and considerately, I did observe **some parents travelling far too fast in this area.** Please, for the sake of the safety of our children, take your time, keep your wits about you and be considerate of all.

CONFIDENTIALITY IN THE CLASSROOM

As a staff, we are very appreciative of the support and assistance that a number of parents offer the teachers and children within the classrooms. This can take place through directed programs such as reading assistance, Kindy/Pre-Primary duties or even helping in the Library/Canteen. With this being the case, it is essential that confidentiality is maintained on individual student's progress and development. Please ensure that, if you are kind enough to help, you are extremely confidential about all of the students that you work with. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



NAPLAN TESTING 2024

ACARA's NAPLAN online public demonstration site is now available for access by parents and students. The landing page for the website, <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>, provides links to a number of resources (FAQs, user guide and technical requirements) that will continue to be updated.

The online testing process in 2023 at St Andrews School was very smooth, thanks to diligence in preparation and sound technological structures and networks in our school. Further information will be provided to parents in the lead up to NAPLAN testing this year. **NAPLAN in 2024 is commencing on Wednesday, 13th March – TERM One.**

CHILDREN IN OTHER GRADES WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Parents of children who attend our school in Years 3 - 6 and have missed receiving one, or several sacraments during their Primary School education, can join in the Sacramental programs for 2024. If this applies to your child or you would like to find out further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Young immediately.



RECONCILIATION PROGRAM - SACRAMENTAL PARENT NIGHTS AND MASSES

Both Mrs. Young and Mrs. Wildman have sent home a letter with all of the details with regards to the Sacrament of Penance (First Reconciliation).

1. **Wednesday 21st February**, ALL-SACRAMENTS Parent Information Night in the Parish Church.
2. **The weekend, of the 24th and 25th February are the commitment masses** for the children wanting to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They are held during the normal parish masses and times and all families need to attend.
3. On **Tuesday 27th February** A parent /child workshop for those children intending to receive reconciliation for the first time will be ***held in the St Andrew's School Hall. The workshop will commence at 6:00pm sharp.***
4. **Thursday 7th March** – will be the Reconciliation Retreat. It will be held in the School hall.
5. **Thursday 7th March** – ***The Sacrament will be celebrated in the Parish church commencing at 6:00pm sharp.***

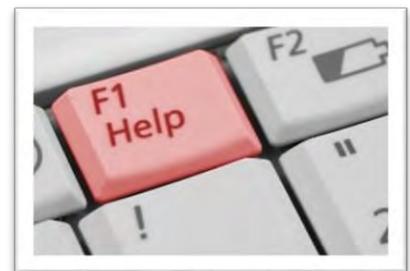


RECONCILIATION

ICT PARENT ASSISTANCE

Each year, as is mentioned at the BYOD Parent Information Session, we offer all parents the opportunity for some assistance or support with regards to ICT. Both Mr Redding and I would like to volunteer this service to any parent in the school that requires it. Some suggestions for support may include:

- Setting up an iPad
- Apps for the school iPad site
- General help with tablets
- How can I help my child with their iPad when they know more than me!
- Security and safety on devices.



If you require any further information or require support, please see Mr Redding directly.

YEAR 6 MINISTRIES STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING

I very much enjoyed our recent student council meeting with our current Year 6 students. They have so many interesting and varied ideas to contribute to the development of St Andrew's School. I will take the ideas to both the School Advisory Council, P&F and Staff and endeavour to implement some of these throughout the year. Some of the ideas included continuing to maintain and expand the Year 6 school recycling.



LUNCH TIME CLUBS – COLES BUILDERS' CLUB

This week we will commence the Coles Builders' lunch time club. This club will be held every Monday at lunch time in the Library with Mr Fontaine. The children are welcome to bring in their cards and will be able to trade them with other students. This is always a popular club and we look forward to welcoming the children on Monday.



CONGRATULATIONS



We extend a huge congratulations to the following students who participated in the Ridgewood Regional Athletics Championships and achieved the following outstanding results:

Ivy W	1 st 100m, 1 st long jump, 2 nd hurdles, 3 rd high jump
Gabriel M	1 st discus, 2 nd high jump
Ruby M	1 st high jump, 3 rd discus
Taj F	2 nd 1500m

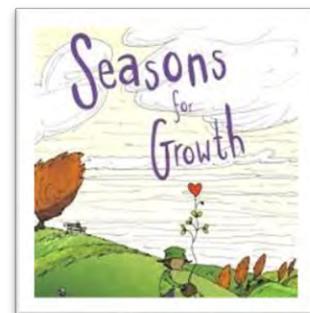
These are outstanding achievements and they should be very proud of these results.

We also congratulate Benji H for his selection in the Sun City Charter baseball team which will compete in the coming State Championships. This is an outstanding achievement and he should be very proud.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Seasons for Growth. What is it? Seasons for Growth supports connection with others going through similar circumstances, fostering emotional literacy and resilience as a pathway to improved social and emotional wellbeing. If your child has or is experiencing any of the following, the Seasons for Growth program may assist them:

- change and loss
- friendship changes
- family separation
- loss or death of someone they care about
- loss of a pet
- relocation and forced migration
- living away in out of home care
- physical or mental illness
- impacts of war, terrorism, or pandemics.



Specifically, the program provides a safe learning environment for children and young people to:

- Acknowledge their experiences and recognise they are 'not the only one'
- Understand that their feelings and other behavioural reactions are normal
- Develop skills for coping, positive choices, goal setting and decision making
- Build a peer support network and a felt sense of belonging and connection

- Help restore self-confidence, self-esteem and self-respect.
(source Season for Growth website)

St Andrew's Catholic Primary School has participated in this successful programme for many years. You are invited to consider this opportunity for your child for 2024 commencing in Term Two. Sr Wendy will 'companion' a small group of students during school hours. All that is shared in the group is confidential. Please speak to your child's teacher or collect a permission form from the Administration office. Contact Sr Wendy on either Tuesday or Wednesday at the school if you wish to seek more information about the programme.

**May God Bless You All,
Sam Fontaine
Principal**

VISION STATEMENT

Saint Andrew's School offers an education that acknowledges, respects and nurtures the uniqueness of each child.

Within a framework of Catholic values and teamwork, the students will be challenged and supported to recognise their gifts and to develop their potential as they learn and contribute to their community.

We endeavour to provide a quality Catholic education which is Christ centred, child focused.



**Happy Birthday to Taj F, Kea-Rose R,
Lacey P, Zoe L, Krisha P, Cheyelle L and
Patrick S**

We hope you have a wonderful day!



WHAT IS LITERACY PRO (Lexile Reading / Lexile Score)?

Literacy Pro is a physical book and computer-based program to assist your child in comprehension from about late Year 2/3 onwards. (Our school generously receives each year, the whole yearly range of new Lexile books, through our P&F. The books are located in the school library, and all children have an opportunity to borrow the books during library time, on a weekly basis.)

Your child receives a Lexile reader measure from an assessment administered at school. A Lexile reader measure can range from below 0L for early readers to above 1000L for advanced readers. Readers who score below 0L receive a BR for Beginning Reader. If you don't know your child's Lexile reader measure, ask their teacher or your child. Your child also receives a unique log on credential for this program. Parents are very welcome to look through the information presented by using their child's log-in details. If any child has forgotten their log in credentials, then please contact your child's classroom teacher and they can assist you with this information. The website is very informative and contains a lot of information that families can use.

More than 100 million books, articles and websites have received Lexile text measures. Materials receive Lexile text measures based on factors like their vocabulary and complexity. For example, the first Harry Potter book measures 880L, so it has a Lexile text measure of 880L. Using the Lexile reader measure and the Lexile text measure together is what makes Lexile measures different from any other reading score. You can use your child's Lexile measure to engage them in reading materials that accelerate their skills, or, for advanced readers, find materials that offer more challenge but are also age appropriate.

Reading Comprehension Sweet Spot:

Students and parents should look for reading materials with a reading comprehension "sweet spot" of 100L below to 50L above their reported Lexile score. Reading materials in this range will provide an ideal level of challenge while maintaining comprehension.

What happens:

Once your child finishes reading a book, they are guided to complete an on-line quiz which gauges their comprehension of the material read. Usually, the comprehension consists of 10 multi choice questions. The computer-based quiz reports the score back to the child and the teacher obtains a printout on a regular basis. (Even the local library and the book club books are Lexiled to assist both parents and children in selecting appropriate reading material.)

Home Book Club.

This year, home book club will take the form of a newspaper. Contained in each edition are a number of books, which also include lexile scores, so that your child can read appropriate literature.

If you require any further information, please see your child's classroom teacher, Mr Fontaine or Mrs Baldock in the school library.

URSTRONG NEWS



FRIENDSHIP NINJA

This week our children have been learning about a 'Friendship Ninja'. A Friendship Ninja is someone who surrounds themselves with friends in the healthy zone of the Friend-o-Meter. They are kind and friendly to everyone. A Friendship Ninja understands the 4 Friendship Facts and puts out their Friendship Fires® when they ignite. A Friendship Ninja stands up for themselves and their friends. They make new friends and understand that friendships change, and that's okay. Above all else, a Friendship Ninja is someone you want to be friends with because they are true to who they are.

This lesson also introduced the term 'Inner Ninja'. This teaches the children that in order to create healthy friendships, they need to first look inward and treat themselves like a best friend.



**ST ANDREW'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
TERM 1, PLANNER 2024 – Parent (9 week term)**

SAT/SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10/11 FEB Week 3					16 FEBRUARY MERIT ASSEMBLY
17/18 FEB Week 4	19 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Commence Years 1 – 5	20 FEBRUARY Staff Prayer Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5 Playgroup 8:30-10:30 Hall Staff Meeting	21 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5 ALL SACRAMENTS Parent Information Evening 6.00pm Church	22 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5	23 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5
24/25 FEB Week 5 Reconciliation Commitment Masses at Church all weekend masses	26 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5	27 FEBRUARY Staff Prayer Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5 Playgroup 8:30-10:30 Hall Staff Meeting Reconciliation Workshop SACPS Hall 6.00pm	28 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5 8:45am Pre-Primary Parent Session (optional)	29 FEBRUARY Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 5 Last Lesson	1 MARCH MERIT ASSEMBLY
2/3 MAR Week 6	4 MARCH LABOR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	5 MARCH PUPIL FREE DAY <i>Staff Professional Development Day</i>	6 MARCH	7 MARCH Year 3 Reconciliation Retreat Extreme Lightning Carnival Year 6 (Kingsway Res) 6:00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation St Andrew's Church	8 MARCH URSTRONG Assembly
9/10 MAR Week 7	11 MARCH	12 MARCH Staff Prayer Playgroup 8:30-10:30 Hall Staff meeting	13 MARCH NAPLAN Commences Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Camp Sorrento	14 MARCH NAPLAN Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Campsite Sorrento	15 MARCH NAPLAN Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Campsite Sorrento Saint Patrick's Day Classroom Prayer
16/17 MAR Week 8	18 MARCH NAPLAN	19 MARCH Staff Prayer NAPLAN Playgroup 8:30-10:30 Hall Staff Meeting	20 MARCH NAPLAN	21 MARCH NAPLAN Years 4, 5 & 6 Reconciliation 11:00am Church URSTRONG online workshop (Parent/child) 6pm-7:15pm	22 MARCH NAPLAN

<p>23/24 MAR</p> <p>Week 9</p>	<p>25 MARCH</p> <p>NAPLAN Last Day</p>	<p>26 MARCH</p> <p>Staff Prayer</p> <p>Playgroup 8:30-10:30 Hall</p> <p>Staff meeting</p>	<p>27 MARCH</p>	<p>28 MARCH</p> <p>Free Dress Gold Coin donation (Project Compassion) "When I grow up, I want to be"</p> <p>BURSARY – Irene McCormack Secondary College Due to Mr Fontaine</p> <p><i>Easter Assembly EB Visit after assembly (Sam)</i></p> <p>1:30pm Last Supper / Religious Play Host: Year 5B</p> <p>SCHOOL FINISHES LAST DAY OF TERM</p>	<p>29 MARCH</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>
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P&F NEWS

Please join the P&F St Andrew's Facebook
standrewsparentsandfriends@gmail.com

CALLING ALL BUSINESS OWNERS

The P&F holds several raffles throughout the year and is always keen to showcase and promote local businesses; especially those run by parents or friends of the St Andrew's school community. So, if that's you, or someone you know, get in touch with us via our Facebook page. We happily accept any and all donations including vouchers, gift baskets and single items that best display your business. Our first raffle of the year is held just before Easter so get thinking !!

PARISH NEWS



For all Mass times and parish information, please follow the following link.

clarkson.perthcatholic.org.au