



Companions on the Journey

St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 38 2024 28th NOVEMBER 2024



*O Glorious Saint Andrew,
You were the first to recognise and follow the Lamb of God.
With your friend Saint John, you remained with Jesus for that
first day,
for your entire life, and now throughout eternity.
As you led your brother Saint Peter to Christ and many others
after him,
draw us also to Him.
Teach us to lead others to Christ solely out of love
for Him and dedication in His service.
Help us to learn the lesson of the Cross
and to carry our daily crosses without complaint
so that they may carry us to Jesus.*

Dear Parents

Today, at the request of the Parish, we held a Mass to celebrate the Patron Saint of our School and Parish – St. Andrew.

St Andrew, the brother of St Peter and a disciple of St John the Baptist, was among the early followers of Christ. According to tradition, Andrew preached extensively throughout Greece and Asia Minor. He was martyred on a x-shaped cross in Achaia, in Southern Greece.



Our celebrations for the Feast of St. Andrew occurred last Friday with a wonderful incursion by 'Crazy Science' presented by the school's P&F Association. All students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 participated in this highly entertaining incursion which incorporated a mixture of visual magical science demonstrations that were very engaging. It was a wonderful learning experience for the children.



First Sunday of Advent

***In your coming Lord, may our hearts be open,
so that we may be filled with peace.***

***May our minds be open,
so that we may know your will.***

***May our eyes be open,
so that, in others, we might see your light.***

***And may our lives be open, so that you may come to us
and fill us with hope and joy.***

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

The First Sunday of Advent

Be watchful –Stay Awake.

***The 1st Candle is called the Prophet's Candle to remind us of
the Old Testament about the Messiah***

***Lord our God, during this time of Advent, teach me to wait and be patient
with ourselves and those around us. Teach us
to find time for loved ones that we might grow in your love.***

Amen.

We have entered the **Season of Advent** and we should explore the many themes in our own lives. Although you will probably not be directly confronted with the crowds of hungry or suffering people this day, as Jesus was, you doubtlessly do know someone who is in need; spiritually, emotionally or materially. Possibly this week you could spend some time and open your compassionate heart to another?



Father Darek has given me a copy of the Christmas Mass timetable for St Andrew's Church. The Christmas Eve Mass at 6:00pm is a Family Mass and is specifically coordinated for children. Maybe organise some of your child's class friends and attend altogether?



Our Association with Irene McCormack Catholic College (IMCC) is a strong and cooperative one whereby, with the generosity of the college and our school, a discount to the school fees of IMCC are offered to students who attend both IMCC and have a sibling attending St. Andrew's Catholic Primary School.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



A wonderful event was held on Tuesday morning where some Year 5 children narrated and our Kindergarten children presented our annual Christmas celebration. Our School Choir lead the performance of Christmas songs. We were so happy to see so many families attend. A special mention to the staff who coordinated this event and, in particular, we extend our thanks to Mrs Mulholland, Mrs Dennis, Mrs Whitaker, Mrs Puca, Mrs Stropek, Mrs Canzirri and Mrs Connolly. This annual event forms a very important part of our religious celebrations for the school.

PARISH MASS – ST ANDREW'S DAY

All students are invited to attend the **10:00am Mass on Sunday, 1st December** to celebrate St. Andrew's Day with the Parish. Some jobs will be given out on the day. Please try to come along and support this very significant occasion in the life of our parish. Students who attend are to sit with their families and remain under the supervision of parents. Straight after Mass there will be a free sausage sizzle for everyone to enjoy. We look forward to seeing many families.



REPORTING: New Parents to Our Community, Kindergarten and Pre-Primary Parents

'SEQTA Engage' is an app used by the school to allow parents to access student reports digitally. You may have received an email inviting you to download and connect to the 'SEQTA Engage' app. We ask that you please respond to this invitation as soon as possible. Digital reports will be available on SEQTA Engage on the afternoon of Friday, 6th December. Please note that paper reports will not be issued.

Kindy Parents: please be aware that only Pre-Primary students receive formal digital reports. We have invited you to SEQTA Engage to make accessing reports easier next year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Champion in the office.



Mr Redding
Technology and Enrichment

CANTEEN

Please note that as detailed on our school calendar, the canteen's last day of operation for this year will be this Friday, 29th November 2024. Recess and lunch sales will **not** be available in Week 9, the final week of the term.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS – GIVE A GIFT AT CHRISTMAS

A sincere thank you is extended to those very generous families who donated to the St. Vincent de Paul hampers. For further information, please see Mrs Troman who is coordinating the event. The hampers were presented to the community at our Mass today.

CHRISTMAS/THANKSGIVING MASS

Today we celebrated our **annual St Andrew's Feast Day / Christmas / Thanksgiving Mass**, which was a very beautiful celebration. This Mass was dedicated to the Patron saint of our School, St Andrew as well as all of the staff that are leaving the St. Andrew's School Community. A sincere thank you to everyone involved.

GRADUATION EXCURSION

All of our **Year 6 students** are eagerly looking forward to their **Graduation Outing** and celebration. This event will be held tomorrow at **Perth Outback Splash**.

FREE DRESS DAY - Wednesday 4th DECEMBER 2024

The children will be able to wear free dress on Wednesday, 4th December for a gold coin donation to Catholic Christmas Charities – St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. The theme is Holidays/Christmas. Children are not allowed to wear thongs or non-supportive shoes. Thank you for your support.

The Year 6 Spiritual Ministry.



EXISTING FAMILIES NOT RETURNING IN 2025

We never like to lose people from our school community but fully understand that this occurs from time to time and for a variety of reasons. Should your child not be returning to St. Andrew's in 2025, could you please place this in writing, urgently. In your letter, please detail your child's class, their full name, the departure date, where they will be going to school in 2025 and a change of address if applicable. We appreciate your support.

LIBRARY LOANS

All students need to return their library books immediately so that a stocktake can be undertaken. To all parents and children, I appreciate your support in the Library this year and look forward to this continuing in 2025.

***Kind regards
Mrs Baldock***

MUSIC NEWS

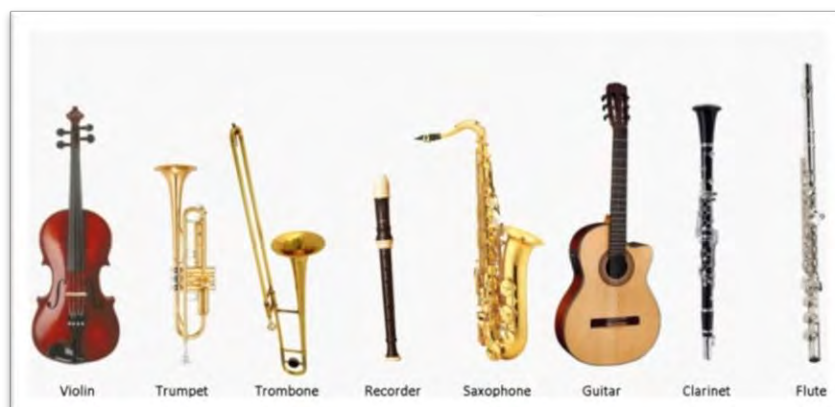
REMINDER: INSTRUMENTAL TUITION & RECORDERS

All children in Years 2-5 have been provided with a Music Tuition Note. If you would like your child to have instrumental lessons in 2025, please return the application form to school as soon as possible. [This includes the children wishing to re-enrol.] I will be forwarding the completed forms to the tutors and they will be in touch with you, by email during the holidays. Thank you to those of you who have already returned their forms. There are distinct qualifications as to participation in the instrumental program and these requirements are listed on the enrolment and re-enrolment note.

Recorder is taught to students in Years 3, 4 and 5 and every child in these year groups is required to have a recorder. Learning to read music is part of the Western Australian Curriculum. Recorders appear on each child's booklists and should be retained and used year after year. There is no need to purchase a new recorder each year.

Children who participate in the school's Music tuition program will be given priority when joining the School Band, the School's Music Gala and external Musical events.

***Mrs Clare Mulholland
Music Specialist & Instrumental Program Co-ordinator***



2025 CLASS ORIENTATIONS

Next Tuesday, 3rd December will be a morning filled with both excitement and some trepidation. The children, in all year groups, will be introduced to their new classes for 2025. It is important for all parents to be proactive and focus on the positive. A new year brings both new challenges, as well as growth, development and a level of maturity for the student. It is by the positive words that you speak with your child that could 'make or break' next year for them. So, I encourage you to consider this and set the scene for a great 2025. We are so blessed at St. Andrew's to have such a talented and giving staff, that no matter which class your child has been placed into, they are destined for greatness. I must admit that I am also looking forward to 2025 as well.



Parents should not attend their child's transition program for their child's sake. We thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

EXITING THE KISS AND RIDE



Both the City of Wanneroo and the school have completed a lot of site works with regards to the exiting at the school's Kiss and Ride. The exit has been modified so that it is a **LEFT TURN ONLY** and Main Roads WA has erected a sign showing this. Please observe all of the road rules as the safety of our students is paramount in any decision that is made. We appreciate your co-operation in this initiative.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check the lost property in the undercover area. Any items left at the end of the year will be donated to the uniform shop.

MERRIWA DENTIST

Parents, please note that when your child leaves St. Andrew's to go to high school, they are still entitled to go to the Merriwa Dentist. Should you have any concerns, please call them on 9305 1272.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE FINAL WEEK OF SCHOOL



- **Tuesday 3rd December: 2025 Class Orientation Session** (K-6) from approximately 8:45am – 9:30am. The children will be directed to their new classes and will meet with their new class for 2025. An exciting time for all! We ask that **parents do not attend this event** for the children's sake so as not to cause unnecessary anxiety. Creation of new class groupings each year, by staff and leadership, is one onerous task that obviously will never please everyone. Please be advised that your child has been placed into a class in which their current teacher feels that they would best continue to develop and grow. We thank you for your support.

The children have told me that they will be very excited to come home and share the good news with you rather than have parents attend and affect the transition. Moving to a new class is always accompanied by some excitement and potential anticipation. To continue to ensure that your child has a successful start to 2025, we encourage you to **FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE!** Talk about the orientation and the good aspects of St Andrew's School, classmates and their new teacher. Your supportive, kind and encouraging words could make all the difference. We thank you for understanding and for being so supportive.

- **Tuesday 3rd December:** Kindergarten will have their St Andrew's Graduation & Christmas celebrations. A separate note was sent home with all of the details. Please see your child's classroom teacher if you require any more information.
- **Tuesday 3rd December - Kindergarten last day for 2024 (finish at 11:30am).**
- **Wednesday 4th December:** If Year 6 children are bringing in items to sign, please be aware that they are not permitted to sign their school uniforms. They are welcome to ***sign their graduation shirts*** or sports top **under the supervision of teachers**. No other parts of the uniform should be signed. They can only get their Year 6 peers to sign their shirt as well as teachers. Siblings and other students throughout the school should not be signing the Year 6 shirt.

- **Wednesday 4th December:** All children will be able to wear *Free Dress for a gold coin* donation to Catholic Christmas Charities. The theme will be holidays/Christmas.
- **Thursday 5th December:**
 - ❖ Year 6 **Graduation Mass:** This *Mass will commence at 9:00am* sharp, in the church. The children are expected to **wear full Summer School Uniform.**
 - ❖ **Year 6 Awards:** ALL of these will be presented at a ceremony, to be held in the Hall at the conclusion of the Graduation Mass.
 - ❖ **End of Year Reports:** Reports will be available on Friday, 6th December via SEQTA engage. (*Parents of children in Year 6 should download a hard copy of their child's report immediately as well as all other reports.*)
- **Final Newsletter and Term 1 Planner for 2025 is uploaded to our website on 6th December.** The staff and I have placed a considerable amount of time into the preparation of the 2025 school year.
- **Friday 6th December:** We commence our day with our final Assembly for 2024. This Assembly will conclude with the singing of several Christmas Carols lead by the School Choir.
- **Friday 6th December:** All End of Year Reports are available, after school, via SEQTA Engage. ***It is strongly encouraged that all parents download a hard copy of their child's school reports.***



God Bless,

**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.

SCHOOL NEWS



Happy Birthday to

**Luka N, Ruby L, Amelia D, Ruben P, Ryder S,
Arav K, Zavier H, Ivy W, Eva G, Morgan S and
Marley R**

We hope you have a wonderful day!

P&F NEWS

P&F FACEBOOK PAGE

Don't forget to check out the P&F Facebook page to keep up to date with things going on at school or to get in touch with us.



PARISH NEWS



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

clarkson.perthcatholic.org.au

ST ANDREW'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
TERM 4 2024 – PARENTS (9 week student term +1)

SAT/SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
					29 NOVEMBER Year 6 Graduation Outing Last Day Canteen Open
30 Nov / 1 Dec Week 9 St Andrew's Parish Feast Day – Sunday Mass 10:00am FREE Sausage sizzle after Mass	2 DECEMBER Canteen Closed	3 DECEMBER Staff Prayer 2025 Class Orientation Kindy – Year 6 8:45am-9:30am Class Lists on display & Children to participate in transition session Kindy Christmas Party 10am-11:30am KINDY LAST DAY Early finish after party Staff Meeting	4 DECEMBER Canteen Closed Free Dress Day Theme – Holidays Gold coin donation to Catholic charities	5 DECEMBER Year 6 Graduation Mass 9.00am Church followed by Award Presentation School choir to lead singing Whole school attending	6 DECEMBER Staff Casual Friday Canteen Closed Final Assembly 8:40am School choir to lead singing 3 carols only Last day of Term 4 for students Reports available on SEQTA (Please download a hard copy for your records)
7/8 DEC Week 10	9 DECEMBER STAFF	10 DECEMBER STAFF	11 DECEMBER STAFF	12 DECEMBER STAFF	13 DECEMBER STAFF