



St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

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[St Andrew's Catholic Primary School](https://www.standrews.wa.edu.au)

NEWSLETTER NO 2 2025

13 FEBRUARY 2025

*Almighty God,
At the start of another year, we come together to commit
Ourselves to our school community;
to our learning and to each other.
Help us to bring forward all that we have learnt from last year
To make the most of our time in this year's class.
'Give us the strength and purpose,
Lord, to be a good neighbour and
a good Samaritan when others around us need our help.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for **returning the relevant documentation** provided with last week's newsletter. If you have not done so, **it is required tomorrow please**. (I apologise for the length of Newsletter No.1 but it is important to provide this information at the beginning of Term 1).

Even though the weather was quite warm, we held a very enjoyable Open Classroom Afternoon and Welcome Back to school function last Friday afternoon. Speaking to the children, they really enjoyed this event. A special thank you to all of the teachers for placing so much effort into this afternoon, organising information booklets and the P&F for all of their co-ordination and enabling the activities to be free of charge for the children. We certainly do have an amazing Staff and P&F!



Last Thursday we had the distinct privilege of **“badging” our Year 6 Student Ministries** at our Opening Mass. I wish to personally congratulate all of our Year 6 children on their ministries and wish them success in every endeavour.



SCHOOL FEES

We advise that school fees have been sent home. Please remember that an easy option is to establish a **direct debit** so that a small amount comes out each week or fortnight for the whole year. ***If you are unsure if the amount that you are having debited will cover your annual charges, please come in and speak to Mrs Rafferty so that the amount can be adjusted.*** We appreciate your promptness with this.



HEALTH CARE CARDS

Thank you to all of those parents who are on **Health Care Cards** and have filled in their application for School Fee Relief. If you have not done this as yet, please do so by the end of this week as School Fee reminder forms will be sent shortly. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

SWIMMING NOTE YEARS 1 – 5 –THIS YEAR

A separate swimming note will be sent home shortly with the children in Years 1- 5, from Mr Kelly, with details about this event. Parents are reminded that **swimming commences on Monday 24th March** and as such, **the swimming fees needs to be paid prior to your child commencing lessons.**

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



NAPLAN TESTING 2025

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.

On Friday, with your class information packs, the families in Years 3 & 5 received a separate NAPLAN information sheet. Please speak directly to your classroom teacher if you did not receive this.

The online testing process in 2024 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 2025 will commence on Wednesday, 12th March – TERM One.**

PARENT SACRAMENTAL NIGHT 2025 – WEDNESDAY 19th 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, 19th February commencing at 6:00pm in the Parish Church. We look forward to seeing all parents attend this event.

KINDERGARTEN 2026 ENROLMENTS

We are processing applications for children who intend to participate in the St Andrew's 2026 Kindergarten Program. If any parent has not enrolled their child and they are born between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, 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 almost full in Kindergarten. This has caused some distress for families who did not enrol their child early and therefore we were unable to accommodate their request for enrolment. Please avoid disappointment and enrol your child now.

PRE - KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM - 2026

Parents are also encouraged to enrol any student, who is turning 3 in 2026, into the PRE - KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM. Simply complete the same enrolment forms and then we can organise an interview for yourself and your child. Limited places for this year are still available.

Enrolment packages are available from the front office or online on the school's website. If you are unsure or require any assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Champion or Mrs Puca on 6206 4100.



A REMINDER TO ALL STUDENTS

All children who arrive prior to the 'meet and greet' time, should be taken to the Undercover area as this is the supervision point. School bags with your devices in them must be kept with you in the Undercover area each morning until you have been given permission to enter your classroom.

We thank you for your cooperation.



ATTENTION ALL PARENTS – GET CONNECTED TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM TEACHER.

Please ensure that all families are connected to Seesaw and have established the correct contacting protocols between parents and teachers.

ICT AT ST ANDREW'S

We have had a number of significant items that are constantly being updated and worked on:

SCHOOL WEBSITE: This website offers you an abundance of information regarding the school.

SEQTA ENGAGE: This program, as one of its functions, will allow parents to obtain their child's school reports electronically.

SEESAW: All classes from Pre-Kindergarten – Year 6 will be sending home information to parents regarding learning and what is happening in the year level.

SOCIAL MEDIA: The school has both a **FACEBOOK** and **INSTAGRAM** page. Please follow and like us on each platform.



STUDENT ABSENCE DURING SCHOOL TERM

Parents who remove their children, during the normal school term for a vacation, need to inform the classroom teacher and the Principal in writing. St Andrew's Catholic Primary School does not support the withdrawal of children during important term teaching time.

Should there be no alternative, please be aware that ***it is not the responsibility of your child's classroom teacher to prepare and correct work during this time; nor to catch up on work that is missed.*** Thank you for your understanding in this matter and I am personally happy to discuss this further with any parent, if required.



SICK OR FEELING UNWELL

Please remember that ***if your child is sick or even feeling unwell, school is not the place to drop them off.*** Children have been brought to school unwell when they should have been kept home. While I fully understand that this may not be possible in all circumstances, it is essential that sick children are not brought to school. They could make other students unwell and they will not be able to undertake the rigors of school work.



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 2025. If this applies to your child or you would like to find out further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Campbell immediately.



RECONCILIATION PROGRAM - SACRAMENTAL PARENT NIGHT 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 19th February**, ALL-SACRAMENTS Parent Information Night. It will be held in the church.
2. **The weekend, of the 22nd and 23rd 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 11th March** 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. **Tuesday 11th March** – will be the Reconciliation Retreat. It will be held in the School hall during the day. All Year 3 students will attend the Retreat.
5. **Tuesday 25th March** – ***The Sacrament will be celebrated in the Parish church commencing at 6:00pm sharp.***



STUDENT ACTION PLANS FOR ANAPHYLAXIS / ALLERGIC REACTIONS

Any student who requires an action plan for either Anaphylaxis, Allergic Reactions or Asthma will need to complete a new Action Plan form. It should have a current-coloured photo and be completed by your family doctor. Please hand it to the office urgently. Please do not assume that if you have completed one of these forms before that it will suffice. **Each year a new and updated form must be submitted** to the school according to legislation.



SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Loss at any time can be challenging. We recognise that when changes occur in families through separation, divorce, bereavement or other loss experiences, young people may benefit from learning how to make sense of these changes. To support our children and young people, we are offering an evidence-based education program called Seasons for Growth. Seasons for Growth is a small group program (minimum of four students) that supports children and young people to learn change is a part of life, naming and caring for feelings, problem-solving, making good choices and developing support networks. The children will attend the weekly session of 30-40 minutes for eight weeks, concluding with a 'Celebration' session. Each child is given a journal, supplied by the school, to record their experience and learning during the program.



Participation in the program is voluntary and we encourage you to talk to your child about taking the opportunity to join the program. Sr Wendy 'companions' the group and if you would like more information, please contact the school on either Tuesday or Wednesday. The program will commence later this term, or early Term 2, depending on enrolments.

CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGES

It is the parent's responsibility to enrol their child in the Catholic Secondary College of their choice. While we are a local school to Irene McCormack Catholic College, Prendiville Catholic College and Mater Dei Catholic College, **parents still need to send in the application forms by the due date.** (Current Year 5's should have



returned their enrolment forms to the secondary school of choice by NOW!!!) We are very fortunate to have excellent Catholic secondary colleges that our children can attend. **A suggestion to all parents is that when your child is in Year 4, by the middle of that year, you should have submitted your enrolment forms to the secondary school of choice.** Please do not leave it too late. Mr Fontaine is happy to discuss this further with any parent if required.

OPEN AFTERNOON

Thank you to the parents who attended this very important event. A lot of very valuable information was handed out and ***if you were unable to attend, please ensure that you collect the information handout from your child's classroom teacher.*** I sincerely thank all of the staff who worked collaboratively with their partner teacher to ensure that the afternoon was held very early in the new school year.

YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS

If you have any concerns with regards to your child's progress, the school policy is very clear in its pathway. **Your initial meeting must and should be with your child's classroom teacher.** At this meeting it is imperative that you explain the situation clearly and allow the teacher both the right of reply and time to manage and deal with your concern. Please remember that your child's teacher may be unaware of the concern and may require time to research and gather information.

Also, as a staff, we are building resiliency in students where they set fair rules for all to play and solve problems which may arise. Many students, when discussing their day with their parents remember an isolated incident, which had been dealt with, and parents need to just listen, ask them what they did in the situation and support them from home. ***Once the information has been gathered and analysed, our caring and dedicated staff have made excellent decisions as to the wellbeing of the child.***

If, after having several meetings with the teacher, you feel that no resolution has occurred, then parents have the option of booking an appointment with the Assistant Principal.

Finally, after the parent has exhausted these other avenues, Mr Fontaine is the final port of call. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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.

SCHOOL NEWS

Happy Birthday to

Rosario C, Charlie G, Archie R, Kea-Rose R, Lacey P, Zoe L, Krisha P, Arielle S and Cheyelle L

We hope you have a lovely day!



INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

We welcome back Mrs Lynette Kirkham, Ms Rachael Perry and Mr Scott Young as our music tutors.

This is a reminder that if your child is having instrumental lessons in school, the lessons must be paid in advance, prior to the lessons commencing. Lessons missed by students will not be reimbursed and the tutor will NOT be expected to make up lessons. Lessons missed by the tutor will be made up.



**Mrs Mulholland
Music Specialist**

LITERACY AND NUMERACY AT ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

At St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, we have dedicated Literacy and Numeracy Blocks in each class to further develop the child's skills in these areas.

LANGUAGE SPEECH SCREENING ASSESSMENT FOR KINDERGARTEN: All kindergarten students have the option to participate in the Language Screening Assessment in Term 1. This allows for the early identification of individual student needs. Further information can be obtained directly from your child's classroom teachers.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SCREENING ASSESSMENT FOR PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS: All Pre-Primary students have the option to participate in the OT Screening Assessment in Term 1. This allows for the early identification of individual student needs. Further information can be obtained directly from your child's classroom teachers.

OEA: (On Entry Assessment) A computer-based program known as OEA is used predominantly in Pre-Primary and some of the Year 1 classes. OEA is designed to determine the student readiness for learning and to pin-point areas of student's strengths and weaknesses. In this way it facilitates the future planning and learning for students. Mrs Jo Ann Dennis, or your child's classroom teacher can be contacted if you require any further information.

PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) All children in Pre-Primary will be provided with the opportunity to participate in this program. These skills tasks are designed to improve each child's fine and gross motor skills and usually take the form of fun physical education activities.

PLD SPELLING ASSESSMENTS: This screening is conducted with students from Years 1 to 6. The information gathered gives a clearer picture as to where the child is actually at in certain areas of literacy.

RUNNING READING RECORDS / DECODABLE READING ASSESSMENTS / MATHS ASSESSMENTS: All students in Years 1 - 6, may be assessed using these processes. These results enable the teacher to gain an understanding for a starting point to teach your child.

STANDARDISED TESTS: Each class will be completing Standardised tests in a variety of Learning Areas so that data can be gathered. Once the gathered data is analysed, then sound teaching and learning practices can be employed.

MINI LIT SAGE: These very beneficial and valuable programs are being taught at St Andrew's. Our goal is to assist students with their literacy. Staff work with students in small groups throughout the school. Please speak to Mrs Dennis if you require any further information.

TEACHER PROGRAMMING: The staff at St Andrew's School meet regularly after school hours in 'Professional Learning Communities' (PLC) as Junior / Senior clusters or a whole group to plan, monitor and assess learning journey's using the results from the data and other testing (e.g. NAPLAN).

All grade teachers program collaboratively so that both classes cover the same content and concepts at approximately the same time. In this way, both grade teachers can share ideas, thoughts and skills to enhance the learning environment and journey for the children. Differentiation of the curriculum is a part of the St Andrew's School philosophy.

ENRICHMENT: Enrichment is a program that is offered at the school catering for children who have been identified for enrichment activities. Please speak directly to Mr Redding if you require any further information.

HANDS ON: Mr Redding runs a program specifically designed for upper primary students (Year 6) to develop higher order thinking skills through hands on activities and manipulation. This also includes the use of drones as an educational experience, as well as other robotics and coding. (Enrichment children do not usually participate in this program.)

INTENSIVE SMALL GROUP SUPPORT PROGRAMS: Mrs Dennis coordinates the Teachers Assistants to conduct small group intensive support programs to assist children in their learning journeys.

INDIGENOUS SUPPORT SESSIONS: Mrs Parata, if available, organises support groups for both Indigenous and non-indigenous students, throughout the school, to work on self-esteem skills as well as academic achievement.

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING: Sr Wendy and Mrs Wildman conduct several different programs throughout the school year with a focus on, but not exclusive to, the children's emotional wellbeing.

URSTRONG PROGRAM: St Andrew's School will continue with the implementation of this program with a focus on positive student friendships in 2025. Mrs Wildman is the co-ordinator and you can contact her if you require any further information.

AUSSIE OPTIMISM: The Year 3 students, later in the year are involved in an Aussie Optimism Course. Details will be sent home by your child's classroom teachers and they work in collaboration with Sr Wendy.

LITERACY PRO: (Lexile Reading) This program is an individual based reading / comprehension program for children usually in Year 3 and above. The children work on literature at their own specific level and then complete tasks to ascertain comprehension. Mrs Baldock is the coordinator should you require any further information.

STREAM CLUB: (science, technology, religion, engineering, the arts, mathematics) This club is offered to students in Years 2 - 6. It provides an opportunity for students to use 3D construction material as well as creatively problem solving. Mr Redding is the coordinator should you require any further information.

CHESS CLUB: This club is offered to students usually from Years 2 - 6 who enjoy the challenges and strategies of playing friends in chess. Mr Redding is the coordinator should you require any further information.

CODING CLUB: This club is offered to students typically from Years 2 - 6 who enjoy the challenges of coding. Mr Redding is the coordinator should you require any further information.

PHYSICAL LITERACY: Our school promotes healthy lifestyles and mindfulness. We ensure that children are not placidly seated through the school but actively engaged during the day. Please speak directly with Mr Kelly should you require any more information.

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTING CLUBS / RUN CLUB: In first semester, Mr Kelly conducts a series of after school sporting programs that provides an opportunity for children to participate, in a number of different sporting activities. The offering of after school sports programs are dependent upon the availability of specialist staff and sportspersons that are prepared to offer the program to our students. (This is a funded position.) Throughout the year Mr Kelly, supported with other staff members, offers run club for the children to participate in.

RESOURCES: We have already purchased a considerable number of up-to-date resources, in every class, to support our programs.

LUNCH TIME CLUBS – Woolworths and Coles clubs will commence later in the year after our children have had a chance to settle into the new school year and classroom routines.

I hope that this information has assisted you. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

These programs and assessments are designed to again determine the student's areas of strength and support. The results enable the teachers and support staff to begin teaching your child at an appropriate level. The results of these assessments are analysed and interpreted, and the findings and recommendations are given to St Andrew's School staff for further consideration and implementation.



SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNTS AND SWIMMING LESSONS

School Fee accounts were sent home last week. Please ensure that you check your account carefully, so that you understand all of the items listed. If not, then please come into the office and we will happily explain it to you.

Please note the following:

- Swimming Lesson Levies do appear on the school fee accounts.
- Swimming lessons need to be paid before the lessons commence.
- Swimming is for students in Years 1 -5 only.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Listed below are some payment scenarios, because this year and in future years, swimming lessons will take place very early in the school year (March).

- 1 I pay my whole school fees for the year **UPFRONT** and therefore my swimming lessons will be covered.
- 2 I am paying my school fees by **DIRECT DEBIT**, *which has been in place since last year and over the Christmas holidays*. There are therefore enough funds in my direct debit account to cover the swimming levies. If there are insufficient funds, I will need to pay the swimming levy.
- 3 I am paying my school fees by **DIRECT DEBIT** *but have started this payment method this year*. I will need to therefore pay the swimming levy before lessons commence.
- 4 I have a **direct debit** in place but sometimes there are insufficient funds and it **BOUNCES**. Therefore, you will need to pay for swimming lessons, for each child, prior to the commencement of the lessons.
- 5 I **pay my school fees TERM BY TERM** Please ensure that you pay your Term 1 Fees before the swimming lessons commence to ensure that the lessons are covered.
- 6 All swimming lessons, for each child in your family, need to be paid prior to the lessons commencing for your child to participate. (A separate note was sent home last week.)
- 7 My child has a medical condition / certificate and will **NOT BE SWIMMING**. Please either come into the office or send an email stating this, so that your school fee account can be adjusted.

admin@standrews.wa.edu.au

If you are uncertain or would like any clarification, then please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Thank you for your cooperation. It is truly appreciated.

P&F NEWS

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

NEXT MEETING

Please join us at our next meeting.

WELCOME BACK FUNCTION

The P&F were delighted to hold the Welcome Back event last Friday. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with other parents and for new families to get better acquainted with the school. Special thanks to our carnival treats and food, Ice cream, and our entertainment - Cuddly Animal Farm and Rosie O's face painting, mini golf and dunk tank. We'd love to hear your feedback on the event to assist us with future planning.



PARISH NEWS

St Andrew's
Catholic Church
Clarkson



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

clarkson.perthcatholic.org.au

ST ANDREW'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
TERM 1, PLANNER 2025 – PARENTS (10 week term)

SAT/SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8/9 FEB Week 2					14 FEBRUARY KINDY WHITE ½ day 8:30 -11:30
15/16 FEB Week 3	17 FEBRUARY KINDY BLUE FULL DAY 8:30 - 2:30	18 FEBRUARY BOTH KINDY CLASSES FULL DAY 8:30 -2:30 FROM NOW ON Staff Meeting	19 FEBRUARY ALL SACRAMENTS Parent Information Evening 6.00pm Church	20 FEBRUARY	21 FEBRUARY MERIT ASSEMBLY
22/23 FEB Week 4 Reconciliation Commitment Masses at Church all weekend masses	24 FEBRUARY	25 FEBRUARY Staff Meeting	26 FEBRUARY Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Camp Sorrento	27 FEBRUARY Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Camp Sorrento	28 FEBRUARY Year 6 Camp @ Ern Halliday Camp Sorrento
1/2 MARCH Week 5	3 MARCH LABOR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	4 MARCH PUPIL FREE DAY RE DAY	5 MARCH Ash Wednesday Mass (6W) 9:00am (Liturgy: PP)	6 MARCH	7 MARCH MERIT ASSEMBLY
8/9 MAR Week 6	10 MARCH	11 MARCH Extreme Lightning Carnival Year 6 Year 3 Reconciliation Retreat Reconciliation Workshop Hall 6.00pm Staff Meeting	12 MARCH NAPLAN Commences	13 MARCH NAPLAN	14 MARCH NAPLAN
15/16 MAR Week 7	17 MARCH NAPLAN Finance Meeting	18 MARCH NAPLAN Advisory Council Meeting Staff Meeting	19 MARCH NAPLAN	20 MARCH NAPLAN	21 MARCH NAPLAN

22/23 MAR Week 8	24 MARCH NAPLAN (Catch up day) Swimming Lesson Commence Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	25 MARCH Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED Staff Meeting 6:00pm. Sacrament of Reconciliation Church	26 MARCH Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	27 MARCH Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	28 MARCH Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED
29/30 MAR Week 9	31 MARCH Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	1 APRIL Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED Staff meeting	2 APRIL Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	3 APRIL Swimming Lesson Years 1 – 5 (Last lesson) Locavora Food Ordering CLOSED	4 APRIL URSTRONG Assembly
5/6 APRIL Week 10	7 APRIL	8 APRIL Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Reconciliation 11:00am Church	9 APRIL	10 APRIL	11 APRIL <i>Free Dress Gold Coin donation “When I grow up, I want to be”</i> BURSARY – Irene McCormack Due to Mr Fontaine <i>Easter Assembly EB Visit after assembly</i> <i>2pm Last Supper / Religious Play Host: Year 5B</i> SCHOOL FINISHES LAST DAY OF TERM