



Newsletter 3rd February, 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to St Anthony's for 2021. A special welcome to our Foundation [Prep] students and to all our new students and their families. It has been a very busy start to the school year.

NEW MULTI PURPOSE CENTRE, TOILET BLOCK, STAGE, PLAYGROUND, BASKETBALL/NETBALL COURT/CRICKET PITCH

This time last year I announced our successful grant to build a new multi purpose centre. I am very pleased to inform you this building, including the new toilet block, is now open. The new netball/basketball court has been completed, with a new cricket pitch on the oval. There is still work to be completed on the outside playground and landscaping. We anticipate these areas to be completed within the next few weeks. My sincere thanks to our staff and students who have been very patient.

I especially thank our two school deputies Jayme Naeff and Bernadette Cameron for their support during this very busy time. My thanks also to our financial officer Michelle O'Gorman who was instrumental in keeping this project ahead of time and on budget. Please take time to look at the pictures attached to this newsletter.

YEAR FOUR CLASSES

As reported late last year our Year Four classes are now in our new building. The huge growth in school enrolments has resulted in us using every available space to cater for families wishing to join our school community.

ST LAWRENCE - NEW PRINCIPAL

I welcome Mr William [Bill] Hill as the new Principal of St Lawrence of Brindisi Primary School [31 Waterway Boulevard].

Mr Hill will work from St Anthony's this year. He will supervise the building of the new school which will open for the start of the 2022 school year.

I warmly welcome Mr Hill to our school community.

CORONAVIRUS

We begin the new school year in a state of 'COVID-19 normal'. We will continue to monitor our students and staff as closely as possible and follow the guidelines from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools [MACS]. We hope and pray we do not have a repeat of 2020.

STUDENT PICK-UP - END OF THE DAY

I understand the end of the day dismissal of students has caused some concern. We are aware of the difficulties and are trying to tailor a process that will work for all our students and families.

Unfortunately, the 'Kiss and Drop' that was a product of COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, cannot be reinstated this year because of concerns of traffic build up on Exford Road and surrounding access roads.

OPEROO

My thanks to our staff for the updates and notices sent to families via 'Operoo' during the January period. Please ensure you check your emails for any new communication from the school.

For the benefit of our new school families the 'Operoo' app is a very flexible mobile app that communicates directly with iPhone and Android devices. School newsletters, school notices and alerts will be communicated directly to parents who have smartphone access through this school mobile app. This app is free to our families.



SCHOOL TIMES

The front entrance gates to the school will remain locked until 8.30am each day. Please note the school offers before and after school care for early arrivals and late pickups. **There are no teachers on duty prior to 8.30am.**

Please note that classes start promptly at 8.50am.

Late comers are asked to report to the school office via the school office entrance.

Final dismissal is at 3.20pm and staff will supervise the school exit points for 20 minutes after dismissal.

Please note that during this time of 'COVID normal' our dismissal time can change depending on recommendations from the State Government and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools [MACS]. Families will be notified of any changes to the end of the day procedures.

Recess Times

10.40am - 11.10am for our Foundation to Year 2 students.

11.10am - 11.40am for our Year 3 to Year 6 students.

Lunch Times

1.20pm - 1.50pm for our Foundation to Year 2 students.

1.50pm - 2.20pm for our Year 3 to Year 6 students.

NEW STAFF

I welcome back existing staff and welcome new staff to our school. We are extremely fortunate to have such wonderful teachers and support staff as we continue to grow as a school community.

NUT ALLERGIES

Please note that a number of our students have nut allergies and, in some cases, students can have a severe reaction called anaphylaxis. I ask that you please be careful when sending students to school with food. Please avoid nut products.

NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter will be published each **Wednesday** afternoon. An electronic version will be emailed to you via 'Operoo'.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Our school calendar for term one is attached. Please note there are two closure days in term one.

Wednesday 31st March and Thursday 1st April - staff conference.

The last day of term will be Tuesday 30th March at 3.20pm.

Friday 2nd April is Good Friday.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Schuster'.

Damien Schuster
PRINCIPAL

Looking for Jesus

One of Jesus' first acts in Mark's gospel is to liberate a man from a demon, as we heard last week. Next, Jesus tames a fever; and by nightfall, everyone is after him. Is this a surprise? Not to anyone who's ever suffered. If there's a miracle cure for our pain, we'd all like to have a piece of it. Jesus, for his part, doesn't seem to mind. He gets down to business and sends those diseases and demons packing.

The next day, Jesus moves on to the next town, and the same thing happens. The world is full of opportunities to encounter Jesus. The early success of Jesus' ministry owes itself to the rampant misery in the world and our desperate desire for an answer or a cure. For those who'd given up the hope of happiness, the coming of Jesus was a new shot at life.

For believers today, the news is just as exciting. Jesus is ready to reach into our lives and liberate us from the demons that enslave us. Jesus is the only real healer, making even death itself a king without subjects. Though our misery runs deep and happiness becomes a memory, Jesus can restore our peace. No wonder so many are still after him.



When do you go looking for Jesus.

Alleviate some misery in the "ash heap" nearest you. Kindness, sympathy, companionship, or a of forgiveness can go a long way to make happiness live again.

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.
May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

2021 GPBS eNews,



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Date	Event
Wednesday 3rd February		Wednesday 10th February	
Thursday 4th February		Thursday 11th February	
Friday 5th February	Yr3 - Yr6 School Mass 10.15am F - Yr2 Paraliturgy	Friday 12th February	Assembly Yr3 - Yr6
Saturday 6th February		Saturday 13th February	
Sunday 7th February		Sunday 14th February	
Monday 8th February	Assembly F - Yr2	Monday 15th February	Swimming Yr3 - Yr4 Assembly F - Yr2
Tuesday 9th February	Swimming Trials	Tuesday 16th February	

News from Our Foundation Classrooms

The Foundation team would like to welcome all students and families on their learning journey at St Anthony's Primary School for 2021.

It has been a positive start to the year with students beginning to settle into their classrooms, getting to know each other and making some new friends. Over the next few weeks we will be focusing on setting classroom routines and expectations; reflecting and participating in prayer; learning about Growth Mindset and how it helps us to be powerful learners; and understanding our emotions through the Zones of Regulation.

A reminder to parents to please label your child's jumper, hat and drink bottle.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming parent teacher meetings.

Yours in partnership,

The Foundation Team

Miss. Corver, Mrs. Grosz, Mrs. Harris, Ms. Porritt, Ms. Topcuoglu



FOUNDATION STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAYS IN FEBRUARY UNLESS THEY HAVE A HALF HOUR MEETING BOOKED IN WITH THEIR TEACHER.

FOUNDATION STUDENTS WILL ATTEND ALL DAYS FROM THE WEEK STARTING MONDAY MARCH 1st.



Numeracy

Week 2 - Welcome

Welcome to 2021, a new year to develop and grow together in Mathematics!

This year you students will be guided and nurtured by their classroom teachers and school mathematics leaders Kate Horley (F-2) and Simone Clarke (3-6). Each week we will provide you with some useful mathematics tips and important information through the school newsletter. To kickstart the year, this first article focuses on how to support math learning and encourage your child(ren) to love mathematics.

You are also their math teacher

We all know that reading with a child helps literacy skills, and that playing sports in the backyard teaches the value of teamwork and being physically active. But where are the life lessons for mathematics?

The truth is that we all use mathematics many times each day, but often don't realize it. From trips to the grocery store to swinging in a hammock, math is part of our daily lives.

Don't underestimate your own math skills. You can help your child learn math!

Be a math role model

Children learn by imitating the people around them. Imitating a parent's positive attitude about education helps children develop healthy academic skills.

- Talk out loud as you do everyday tasks. Talking out loud allows children to hear how you think and helps them develop important skills for "thinking things out" and solving problems.
- Do informal math together. On rainy days, family evenings and holiday time, play math games such as Uno, Monopoly, Snakes and Ladders, Rummy-O, Phase 10, Dominoes or Connect Four. Show your child that math is fun!
- Parents worry about the amount of time that children spend on the computer and the quality of online content, but many educational web-based games, such as Math Playground, <https://www.education.com/games/math/> and Mathfrog, encourage mathematical skills.
- Watch educational television programs like Numberblocks on ABC or Monster Math Squad on Netflix.
- Grocery stores are a great source of math lessons. For example, you can talk aloud about how to weigh fruit on a scale or how to estimate the total cost of groceries as you fill your cart.

Literacy

Reading is an important skill that children first learn at home and it is nurtured in school. Below are some ideas about how to engage a child to read daily. As we know practice makes perfect!

Tips to increasing literacy at home:

1. Read Daily (10-15 minutes)

- Point out words
- Look at the pictures
- Identify the sight words in the story
- Practice sounding out letters and blending them together

2. Visit the local library

- Teach them how to select books they might enjoy
- Allow your child to choose the books they are interested in

3. Make reading interactive

- Act out the story
- Make up different characters or even the ending

4. Use Technology-

Use the "Reading Eggs" app (the classroom teacher will send home their login)

5. Sing, draw and tell stories-

Communication allows a child to develop their oral language skills.



St Anthony's school acknowledges the traditional custodians who have cared for the lands and waters for thousands of years. We pay our respects to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, their Elders past and present, who maintain strong spiritual connections and traditions to this land. We commit ourselves to the on-going work of reconciliation and justice for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.





Online Safety Webinars for Parents & Carers

As part of our commitment to online safety for our community, St Anthony's Primary School will be sharing many initiatives and resources from the eSafety Commissioner's website.

The demand for the eSafety Commissioner's parent and carers webinars prompted them to develop the 2021 series to support school communities. These live webinars explore the latest research and they are a great way to learn how you can help your child develop the skills to be safer online.

This Safer Internet Day 2021 webinar will look at how parents and carers can support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships and what to do if things go wrong.

Term 1

Topic: eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama

Dates

Safer Internet Day

- 9 February 7:30pm – 8:30pm
- 10 February 12:30pm – 1:30pm
- 10 February 7:30pm – 8:30pm
- 15 February 12:30pm – 1:30pm

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

- 22 March 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Find out more about eSafety's webinars for parents and carers

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

Register for eSafety's parent guide to cyberbullying and online drama

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2898435107213971215>



Driving and Parking Safely

To all our families, welcome back to 2021. As a growing school, the beginning and end of the school day are busy times for pedestrians and drivers. It is important that we are always putting the safety of our students first.

Drop-off and pick-up rules exist to keep children, parents and carers safe and to minimise speed and traffic jams around schools. Drop-off and pick-up zones allow you to quickly set down and pick up your children, creating a safe environment while keeping traffic moving. To help us do this we have put together a list of points to remember at these busy times.

- Never double park - it is illegal and puts children at risk. The council will issue fines for double parking
- Never call out to them from across the road - it is very dangerous
- Always take extra care in 40km school zones
- Follow all parking signs - these help keep your child as safe as possible
- Park responsibly even if it means you have to walk further to the school gate
- Never do a U-turn or a three point turn outside the school as it puts children at risk of harm
- Model safe and considerate pedestrian and driver behaviours to your child
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways
- Remember to please be patient and try to remain calm at all times

Please make sure you communicate with your children so that they know which gate you will be collecting them from at the end of the day. This will help us to dismiss all students quickly and safely.



If you have any questions or concerns in relation to parking please do not hesitate to contact the school on 03 8099 7800.



**2021 - TERM ONE
JANUARY – FEBRUARY**

**2022 Enrolments [St Anthony's/ St Lawrence]
OPEN - Tuesday 9th March CLOSE- Monday 16th August.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JANUARY-24	25	26 Aust' Day	27 Staff Mass Staff Planning	28 Testing	29 Testing	30
31	FEBRUARY -1 Students Return	2	3 NO CLASSES FOR FOUNDATION STUDENTS	4	5 Yr3-Yr6 School Mass- F-Yr2 Para'	6
7	8	9 Swimming Trials	10 NO CLASSES FOR FOUNDATION STUDENTS	11	12	13
14	15 Swimming Yr3-Yr4	16	17 ASH WEDNESDAY Mass-Yr3-Yr6 Para' -F-2 NO FOUNDATION	18 Eucharist- Par' Info' 7pm.	19 Stations of the Cross	20 Yr 3 Commitment Mass 5.00pm
21 Yr 4 Commitment Mass 5.00pm	22 Swimming Yr4-Yr5	23 School Tours	24 NO CLASSES FOR FOUNDATION STUDENTS	25 Reconciliation- Lent School Tours	26 Stations of the Cross	27
28						

MARCH - APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 School Tours	2	3 School Tours	4	5 Stations of the Cross	6
7	8 Labour Day	9 2022 Enrolments Open St Anthony's/ St Lawrence	10	11	12 Stations of the Cross	13
14 Catholic Education Week	15	16	17 St Patrick's Mass	18 Confirmation Parent Information 7pm.	Stations of the Cross	20 Yr5 Confirmation Commitment Mass 5.00pm
21 Yr6 Confirmation Commitment Mass 5.00pm	22 School Photos	23	24	25	26 Stations of the Cross	27
28	29 School Photos	30 Athletics. End of Term - 3.20pm	31 Staff Conference/planning	APRIL 1 Staff -	2 Good Friday	3 Easter Saturday



Eucharist
Information Night for
Year 3 Parents only
Thursday 18th February 2021
7.00pm
School Hall
Facilitated by Father Fabian

You will be required to fill out the attendance sheet.
It is necessary for all families to attend.



Eucharist

Year 3 Commitment Mass

Saturday 20th

February 2021 at

5.00pm

St Anthony's

Church



You will be required to fill out the attendance sheet. It is necessary for all families to attend.

You will also be asked to select the Mass time that you would prefer for your child to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

Saturday the 24th April 2021

St Anthony of Padua Church

at 9.30am or 11.30am



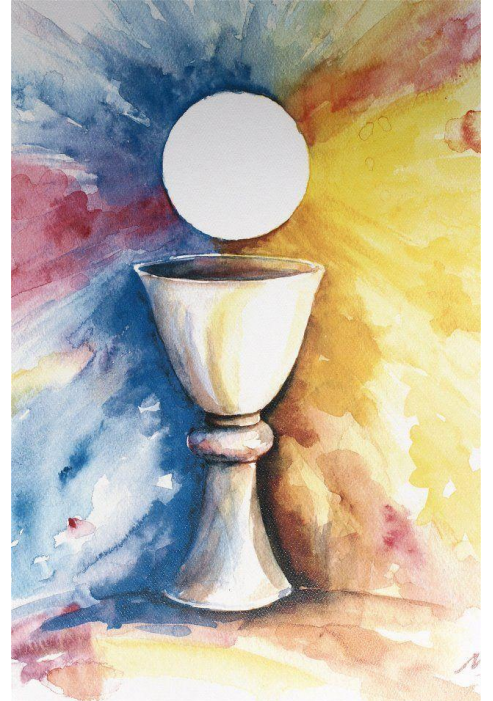
Eucharist

Year 4 Commitment Mass

Sunday 21st

**February 2021 at
5.00pm**

**St Anthony's
Church**



You will be required to fill out the attendance sheet. It is necessary for all families to attend.

You will also be asked to select the Mass time that you would prefer for your child to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

Saturday the 24th April 2021

St Anthony of Padua Church

at 1:00pm or 3:00pm