



Newsletter 10th February, 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents/Carers,

ASH WEDNESDAY

Next Wednesday, 17th February, is Ash Wednesday. On this special day we receive ashes placed on our forehead which remind us of our mortality and symbolize the spirit of Penance. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent.

LENT

The church has set aside certain times throughout the year to help us remember particular events in the life of Jesus, and to remind us of who we are and what we are called to do. Over the coming year the mystery of Christ is unfolded from his birth through to his Ascension and to Pentecost. Lent is a time of reflection and repentance. It is a time for us to renew our faith commitment to God.

EUCHARIST PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

This will be held next Thursday 18th February in the Hall beginning at 7pm. Information has been sent home to families involved with the Eucharist program this year.

VPASS

The school has an iPad cloud based registration system [VPASS] which improves student security and safety across the school.

VPASS registers and monitors every adult visitor on the school site. With 'COVID normal' conditions we are limited to the number of adults we can have on the property however VPASS provides the school with access to visitor information anytime from anywhere. It also provides vital information relating to evacuations/lockdowns and provides custom identification for different groups e.g. staff, parents, visitors, volunteers, workmen.

The VPASS iPad is located at the School Office. Visitors are required to log into the VPASS system when they arrive and log out of the system when they leave. Visitors will receive a specific coloured lanyard to wear around the school which will identify who they are and that they have successfully signed into the school.

CORONAVIRIS

We will continue to monitor our students and staff as closely as possible and follow the guidelines from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools [MACS].

ENROLMENTS 2022 - ST ANTHONY'S / ST LAWRENCE

OPEN - Tuesday 9th March

CLOSE- Monday 16th August

STUDENT PICK-UP END OF THE DAY

The school will monitor closely the end of the day dismissal of students. We are aware of the difficulties with traffic and we continue to look at ways to improve the way our students exit the school.



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.

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.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

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.

SCHOOL FEES 2021

School Fee payments for 2021 are now due. If you have nominated to pay over the counter via weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments, you should now contact the office to make payment. Alternatively, you can complete a fee payment option form for direct debit/credit card scheduled payments. Fee statements will be forwarded to all families in the coming weeks. Please consider any outstanding balance or credit on your account from 2020. We are happy to help you with this, and if you have any questions about your account, please email accounts@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

Office Administration.



SCHOOL TOURS FOR 2022 ENROLMENTS

St Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School invites all prospective families to tour the school's facilities prior to submitting an enrolment form. These tours will be conducted at the school on the following dates; **Tuesday 23rd February, Thursday 25th February, Monday 1st March and Wednesday 3rd March 2021.** Times vary and tours are limited to 10 adults. Please limit the number of small children attending if possible.

Should you wish to book, please head to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
You can now book in a suitable time using the code hq3zq

For more information, please speak to our friendly reception on 8099 7800.

Damien Schuster
PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Date	Event
Wednesday 10th February		Wednesday 17th February	ASH WEDNESDAY Mass 10.15am Yr3 - Yr6 Paraliturgy 11.45am F - Yr2
Thursday 11th February		Thursday 18th February	Eucharist Parent Information Night
Friday 12th February	Assembly Yr3 - Yr6	Friday 19th February	Stations of the Cross 9.45am Assembly Yr3 - Yr6
Saturday 13th February		Saturday 20th February	Yr 3 Commitment Mass 5.00pm
Sunday 14th February		Sunday 21st February	Yr 4 Commitment Mass 5.00pm
Monday 15th February	Swimming Yr3 - Yr4 Assembly F - Yr2	Monday 22nd February	Swimming Yr4 - Yr5 Assembly F - Yr2
Tuesday 16th February		Tuesday 23rd February	Evacuation Drill



A Dwelling Apart

Here's something curious: the leper and Jesus trade places in the story. At first, it's the leper who's forced into the wild by communal dread of his disease. In the end, it's Jesus who must retreat to the desert to avoid the crush of crowds brought on by publicity.

Biblical desert is a land of many facets. Literally, it's a place where life is challenging and death is near. Theologically, it's the domain of the devil, where temptation roams free. Both physical and spiritual realities of the desert made it a place to avoid when possible. To be sentenced to live there, with lepers and other outlaws, was a lonely and dangerous existence.



Yet Jesus, we know, often chose the desert. The Spirit first drove him there to test himself against the devil. Later, Jesus often returned there to pray and gather strength. Because he tamed the desert at the start of his journey, it was no longer a land of danger for Jesus, but a refuge. In the same way, we can surrender the desert terrain of our lives to the Spirit's authority, and let it be transformed into a sacred place.

***Where are the desert areas in your life?
How can you be transformed?***

Find a place apart where you can sit in stillness or walk in solitude. Bring nothing with you and don't "fill up" the time and space with an agenda. Wait for Jesus to come and join you.

The Commissioning

Go as the young servant of Naaman this day, filled with the truth of the prophet's word that there is healing for the least and the greatest among us. Speak peace, teach kindness, be glad. May God's blessings attend you this and every day. You are not alone. Go in peace. Amen.

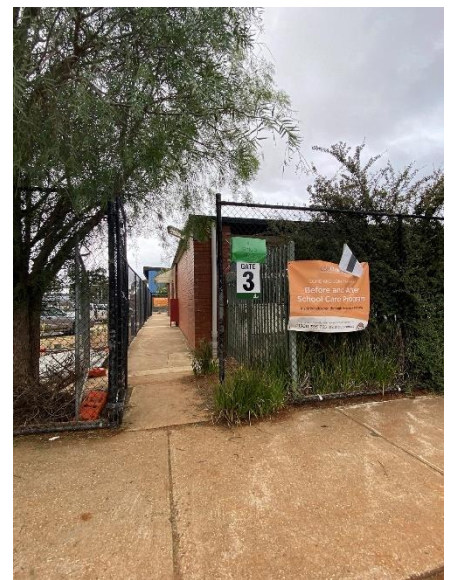
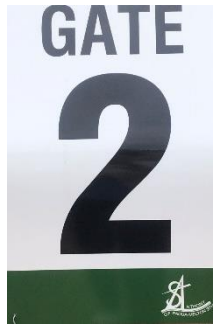
2021 GPBS eNews,



End of Day Arrangements

The safety of our students at St Anthony's is paramount to us. To ensure all children leave the premises safely we have introduced a new end of day procedure. Please familiarise yourself with the arrangements and have a conversation with your children to ensure a smooth transition.

- Families with surnames **A-G** will leave the school via **Gate 1**. **This gate has a red sign.**
- Families with surnames **H-M** will leave the school via **Gate 2**. **This gate has a blue sign.**
- Families with surnames **N-Z** will leave the school via **Gate 3**. **This gate has a green sign.**



We appreciate your patience and understanding during the challenging time of after school pick-up. If you have any questions or concerns in relation to our end of day arrangement please do not hesitate to contact the school on 03 8099 7800 or email office@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au



Meet our Staff

Over the coming year, we will feature some articles introducing different members of our staff. We hope you enjoy getting to know them a little more.



Name: Mr Altieri

Position: Physical Education Teacher

Favourite Colour: Green & Blue because they represent my favourite things in the world – the forest and the ocean.

Hero/Idol: My dad because of his love and dedication to family and friends.

Favourite Hobby: Fishing, kayaking and hiking.

What I love most about St Anthony's: All the staff, parents and students!



Name: Miss Fernandes

Position: Year 3 Classroom Teacher

Favourite Colour: Purple because it is vivid and fun – it makes me happy.

Hero/Idol: Malala Yousafazi because she empowers all girls to reach their full potential.

Favourite Hobby: Reading, travelling and learning about other cultures.

What I love most about St Anthony's: Getting to work in a close knit and supportive community.



Name: Miss Condon

Position: Year 1 Classroom Teacher

Favourite Colour: Orange because it is bright and makes me feel happy.

Hero/Idol: My mum because she looks after everyone and puts everyone else first.

Favourite Hobby: Walking and relaxing.

What I love most about St Anthony's: Everyone is so caring and always looking out for each other.



Name: Cath Maher

Position: Office & Administration

Favourite Colour: Orange because it is such a vibrant and bright colour.

Hero/Idol: Nelson Mandela because he is a symbol of hope and justice for many people around the world.

Favourite Hobby: Reading

What I love most about St Anthony's: All the staff, students and parents that make up our wonderful community.



Numeracy



Mathseeds teaches kids aged 3-9 core math and problem solving skills with fun online math games and activities. All **Foundation, Year One and Year Two students** have access to Mathseeds and can use it at school and at home making learning possible anywhere, anytime. To log in go to www.mathseeds.com and enter your child's username and password (this is the same as Reading Eggs). Please see your child's classroom teacher if you do not have these login details.

Literacy

Books are now available for children to borrow from school for Home Reading. It is important for children to read each night, and for children in Grades 3 - 6 it is an expectation that they record their reading in their school diary. Children may write what pages they have read, the title and even a short summary of the book if they wish. Encourage your child to read aloud to you and ask questions about the books they read. Remember too that all reading is valuable, whether it is a book a magazine or even the newspaper.



EPIC Books is BACK!! Children can access this program again this year, we will be using this program for reading at school and reading at home. To access this site go to www.getepic.com

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.





**We are excited
about coming back
to your school!**

**Teeth On Wheels is returning to
your school next term.**

If you completed a form this year, we will see your child. If you are unsure if you have handed a form in, please click on the link below and complete a new form!

<https://teethonwheels.com.au/consent-forms/consent-eform/>

For any questions or queries, please feel free to contact our team 03 9338 1191

WE ARE A COVID-19 FRIENDLY PRACTICE

TeethOnWheels™
a positive dental experience





Online Safety

Our school will **start the chat** about online safety to celebrate Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 9 February 2021.

Safer Internet Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the safe and positive use of digital technology. It's also a good time to explore the role we can all play in creating a better online community.

This global campaign is celebrated by millions of people in 170 countries across the world.

Help us make every day a Safer Internet Day!

- Join our parent webinar [eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama](#).
- Visit esafety.gov.au/SID for tips to start the chat at school, at home and in your community.



about online safety

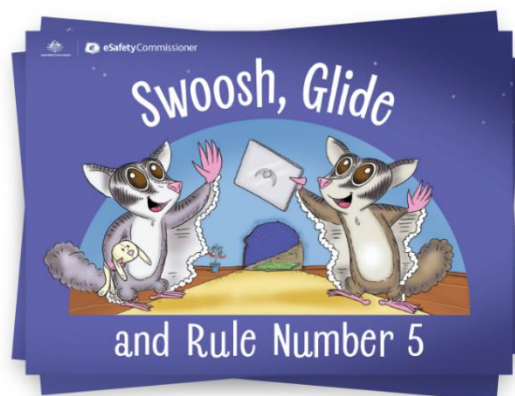


eSafety Commissioner



esafety.gov.au

Read along with



Launching on 9th Feb 2021

esafety.gov.au/early-years



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



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

