



ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 21 – Dec 14, 2023

(Term 4 – Week 11)

The Jaara people are the traditional custodians of the land on which we live. They have lived here for thousands of years. We commit to working for Reconciliation and justice for all Aboriginal people and to learning more about the Jaara

“To Live, Learn and Grow in God’s Love”

Reminders

Friday 15 December

☐ COLOUR RUN

☐ Assembly @ 2.45pm –

Yr 6 presenting

Monday 18 December

☐ **LAST DAY OF TERM 4. Students finish at 3.20pm**

Friday 26 January 2024

☐ **Australia Day Public Holiday**

Sunday 28 January

☐ Welcome gathering for new families @ 10am

Monday 29 January

☐ Teachers resume

☐ Uniform Shop open 9am – 3pm

Tuesday 30 January

☐ **First day of Term 1**

☐ Foundation attend 9am - 12.30pm

Wednesday 31 January

☐ Yr 3-6 Swimming

Thursday 1 February

☐ Foundation attend 9am - 12.30pm

☐ Yr 3-6 Swimming

Friday 2 February

☐ All students attend full days

☐ Yr 3-6 Swimming

Monday 5 February

☐ Yr 3-6 Swimming

Thursday 8 February

☐ Yr 3-6 Swimming Sports @ Bendigo East Pool – 9.45am – 1.30pm

Friday 9 February

☐ Welcome Mass @ 9.15am



“True progress quietly and persistently moves along without notice.”

St Francis of Assisi



Dear Families,

It is so hard to believe that 12 months have passed so quickly and this is the final newsletter for the year. Sadly, we will miss people in our lives who are important to us - from the Staff, we farewell *Hilary Bottcher, Alicia Osborne, Graeme Coleman and Tom Schofield*.



Furthermore, I will miss the Year 6 Children and pray that they will enjoy the changes and challenges that will be theirs in the future. Hopefully they will never forget the “family” of St. Francis of the Fields Primary School and how we have been part of their lives for the past 7 years.

We will also miss our parents whose children will be leaving for secondary school. My thanks will remain with each of these parents – those who have worked shoulder to shoulder for the benefit of St. Francis of the Fields Primary School. Thank you!

As educators we are entrusted with supporting the ideals that each family wants for their children. Each family at St. Francis of the Fields Primary School is so varied – each family has been gifted with their own talents and challenges. It is my belief that all parents want one fundamental ideal fulfilled in the education of their children – that their child is loved and nurtured so that they will feel challenged in a positive manner to reach their potential best.

Each one of our teachers of St. Francis of the Fields fulfils this ideal - they love the children in their care – this does not happen in every school - I pray that each child and parent realises how fortunate they have been to have been blessed with such teachers.

From all the staff at St. Francis of the Fields Primary School, we hope you have a very holy, merry and safe Christmas!!



Tuckshop 2023 – Term 4

Week 11

Friday 15 December

12.30 – 2.30pm

Tandy Jackson
Sarah Giffard
Kim Kelly



Prayer

I share with you the following Christmas blessing...

*May Bethlehem's road rise up to meet you
May the Christmas star light your way
And may there be peace in your heart and in your home.
May you be filled with the joy of this Christmas season
May Bethlehem's road rise up to meet you
May the angel choir ring in your ear "Christ is here, Christ is here"
In those who suffer, and have no food,
in those who have no home at all.
in those who cry out for what I take for granted.
May Bethlehem's road rise up to meet you
May the Christmas star light your way
May you seek His face as all wise men still do
In the love of your family and your friends near and far.
Till you find him and see that God is with you
That God is in you.
Amen*



Tuckshop

Due to the early scheduled lunch time for our Colour Run tomorrow, Friday 15 Dec, we ask that all tuckshop orders are placed in CDF Pay by **8.45am** to allow for the tuckshop staff to have all the food prepared and ready by 12.45pm. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

Last day of school for students

Please note that Monday 18 December is the last day of school for St. Francis of the Fields students. Pick up time still remains at 3.20pm on this day.

End of Semester Reports

These will be released on PAM at 4pm tomorrow, Friday 15 Dec.

2024 Start of School

Please note that the students of St. Francis of the Fields Primary School will begin the 2024 school year on Tuesday 30 January.

Dates for our 2024 Foundation Students

We were so impressed with our 2024 Foundation students during their transition and orientation days. To replicate the success of Orientation day and to continue the smooth transition to school we will be providing the following opportunities for our 2024 Foundation children:



Sunday 'Welcome Day' - Sunday 28 January, 2024 @ 10.00am

- All new families and children are invited to come to St. Francis of the Fields school to see their classroom (desk, bag locker etc), practise walking to their classroom from your chosen drop off location and enjoy a play on one of our many playgrounds!
- We encourage students to come dressed in their school uniform to get all those 'first' photos taken on this day. This will mean photographs will not need to be taken in the classrooms on their first day of school as the noise of additional people in the classroom can cause some children levels of anxiety.

Monday 29 January, 2024

- Teachers resume
- Uniform Shop will be open from 9am – 3pm

Tuesday 30 January, 2024

- All children (Prep - Year 6) start with Foundation finishing @ 12.30pm
- I ask all parents to practise a hug and kiss goodbye before entering the classroom.
- We encourage all our families to continue the success of orientation day and enable their child to walk into their classroom independently. Please consider the necessity of your family remaining in the classroom on the first morning as we hope to create a calm and welcoming environment.
- We want our students to easily locate their friends, classroom teacher and find an activity to engage with. Please be considerate of the noise and quantity of adults in the classroom, to ensure our classrooms are not overwhelming for any of our students.
- I ask that all family members move to the Community Centre at 9.00am, or earlier, to enjoy a cuppa with Grace, Maree and Tim. School information will be shared at this time.

Wednesday 31 January, 2024

- Foundation students will have a rest day for the first 6 Wednesdays

Thursday 1 February, 2024

- Foundation finishing @ 12.30pm

Friday 2 February 2024

- All students completing full days at school

Friday 9 February - Welcome Mass at 9.15am

- All children are invited to our school Welcome Mass. This is an important occasion for our Foundation and Year 6 children as our Year 6 students will bless our Foundation students (bring some tissues).

Monday 19 - Wednesday 21 February - Learning Conversations (Week 4)

- Parents will have the opportunity to book in for a Learning Conversation in Week 4. This will provide everyone the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and connect. It is a time when parents can help share information about what makes their child special.
- More information will be provided in Week 1 & 2 newsletter, 2024.

2024 School nurse appointment

St. Francis of the Fields has recently appointed Bronwyn Karvonen (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday) and Chelsea Mazzarino (Thursday & Friday) to be our school nurses for 2024 and beyond.

Responsibilities will include:

- Supporting children with medical needs (diabetes, anaphylaxis, asthma, acute needs)
- Ensuring parents have uploaded anaphylactic and asthma management plans onto the school PAM platform.
- Treating students with minor first aid ailments
- Provide ongoing training for staff with first aid

We welcome Bronwyn and Chelsea to our school community and look forward to "growing" this role.



2023 School Closure Days

Please note that our school will be closed on the following days:

- Tuesday 19 December - 2024 Planning Day
- Wednesday 20 December - Last day of the school year for teachers

Pupil Free Days



2024 Dates

Tuesday 30 January All students start school (Foundation finish at 12.30pm)

Wednesday 31 January Foundation rest day

Thursday 1 February Yr. 3-6 Swimming

Foundation finish at 12.30pm

Yr. 3-6 Swimming

Friday 2 February Foundation - full day

Yr. 3-6 Swimming

Christ has no hands but yours.

Tim Moloney
Principal



Pastoral Wellbeing...

A SPECIAL REPORT: Surviving Christmas

School TV



SPECIAL REPORT

Surviving Christmas



Many people see Christmas as a wonderful time of celebration and an opportunity to spend time with family and friends. However, there are some that view it as a time of stress and hardship. This may be due to a combination of things: financial pressures, relationship issues and, quite often, loneliness, making it a very challenging time.

Often the true meaning of Christmas can be lost due to commercial exploitation, but there are a number of things you can do to create a magical Christmas, without the financial burden. Creating or

maintaining traditions can contribute to a sense of comfort and belonging.

Unfortunately for some, there is also an ugly side to Christmas. Support organisations often report an increase in the number of calls from people seeking help due to their inability to cope during this time. If you, or a loved one, is finding that it is all too much, then it is important to reach out to a trusted friend, family member or medical professional.

In this Special Report, parents and caregivers will be presented with a number of ideas on how to achieve a stress-free Christmas and where to seek help should you need it.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback. If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

https://sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/surviving-christmas-au

Regards,

Grace Scalora

Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing



Colour Run

Tomorrow, Friday 15th December at 1.40pm our P & F Committee will hold our school Colour Run. We will have an earlier lunch time at 12.45pm. Students are asked to wear a white shirt and/or old clothing. We know from last year that the students will have a great time on this day. We thank our P & F Committee for their work in preparing and organising this great fundraiser for our school. Our target of \$25000 was well exceeded and we reached \$28000. This money will go towards new outdoor basketball/netball facilities behind our shed. We invite all parents to attend this day and be part of the fun.

Here are the details for our Colour Run:

- **Children will need to come to school out of uniform.**
- Children are encouraged to wear an old or cheap light-coloured t-shirt, old shoes and shorts for the event. They can come to school dressed in these clothes.
- Your child may like to bring a change of clothes for after their run.
- **A towel is a must!!!** We recommend you have a towel ready for the car also, to save your seats.
- Each child will be given a pair of sunglasses and a headband to wear for the run.
- Parents are invited to come and watch the children run with their year levels, and we will have a designated viewing area for parents.
- ******Important:** Due to the early scheduled lunch time, Friday 15 Dec, we ask that all tuckshop orders are placed in CDF Pay by 8.45am to allow for the tuckshop staff to have all the food prepared and ready by 12.45pm.

The schedule for the Run is as follows:

Year 5: 1.40pm

Year 4: 1.50pm

Year 3: 2.00pm

Year 2: 2.10pm

Year 1: 2.20pm

Year 6: 2.30pm

Foundation & Year 6 buddies: 2.40pm



Following the run, the class who raised the most money will be sliming Mr Moloney!

Farewell and Congratulations Yr 6's

On Wednesday night we farewelled our Class of 2023 – Yr 6's. We wish them all the best for their future endeavours and thank them for being such a wonderful part of the St Francis Community.



We would like to congratulate our Yr 6 Award winners:

St Therese's Parish Kennington Award

- Arianna Gibson
- Jed Willis
- William De Jong
- Amelia Johnson

St Francis of the Fields School Award

- Lulu Johnson
- Sienna Raco

Strathfieldsaye Lions Club – Leadership Scholarship

- Archie Bennett
- Annie Rowe
- Archer Horan
- Amelia Burns

AWG Psychology – Social Justice Award

- Adley Booker
- Willow Dickson

St Francis Music Award

- Emma Gleeson

St Francis Indonesian Award

- Flynn Stevens

St Francis Visual Arts Award

- Ella Schubert

St Francis Sustainability Award

- Isabella Carroll

SSV Academic and Sporting Achievement Medal

- Sienna Raco

Sportspower Bendigo Sport Leadership Award

- Etta Place

We also thank and farewell the following families who are leaving the St Francis Community at the end of 2023:

Angove
Bone
Boorn
Cairns
Carroll
Chilver
Colville
De Petro
Dyer
Farrell
Feiss

Fookes
Freeman
Frigerio
Fuzzard
Gibson
Gordon
Hird
Hodson
Hogan
Houghton
Houlahan

Johnson
Martin
McDonnell
Mitchell
Neunhoffer
Norman
O'Brien
O'Kane
Raco
Renton
Schubert

Skinner
Skipper
Spence
Stamm
Turner
Twitt
Tyrrell
Ward
Ward
Webster
Whitty



Student of the Week

Every week we publish the list of our Student of the Week Award winners on our school website.

Please click on this link to view last week's winners: [Student of the Week](#)



Year Level - Unit Newsletters

Click on these links to view the Term 4 Unit newsletters.

Foundation - [Foundation Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 1 - [Year 1 Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 2 - [Year 2 Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 3 - [Year 3 Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 4 - [Year 4 Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 5 - [Year 5 Unit Newsletter](#)

Year 6 - [Year 6 Unit Newsletter](#)



RE News.....

Grade 6 Graduation & Thanksgiving Masses

This week, we have had two wonderful celebrations as a school community for our Grade 6 Graduates and to give thanks to God for our year. Thank you to Fr Andrew; our students and staff who read, had roles, were altar servers and helped make our celebrations so special; the Grade 6 teachers for all of their work preparing the children so beautifully; Mrs Cameron for her work preparing the Grade 6s and the choir; to the Grade 6s and the choir for sharing their amazing talents with us all; to all of our students for making our Masses such joyful celebrations with their vibrant singing and participation; and to our generous families for joining us to celebrate our students and school community.

What a privilege to be a part of such a wonderfully life-giving and vibrant community! We are all truly blessed.



Advent 2023

This Sunday we will begin the third week of Advent. The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, coming from the Latin words, "everyone rejoice!," which are the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass this Sunday. Advent will end early this year due to Christmas Eve being on the fourth Sunday of Advent. There is a message to the third Sunday of not being discouraged or afraid, even amidst uncertainty and challenges, including the struggles and conflict that is being experienced by so many in our world. May we be Christ's people of hope, peace, joy and love.

On the First Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis in his homily explained the affection-filled expectation of our waiting during Advent when we prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus at Christmas. "Let us cultivate His expectation without being distracted by so many useless things...and without complaining all the time, but keeping our hearts alert, that is, eager for Him, awake and ready, impatient to meet Him".

The Holy Father then invited the faithful to plan to use Advent to share with their brothers and sisters in need, giving listening, time, concrete help.

Pope Francis, 3 December 2023

CHRISTMAS

The Feast of Christmas is a time remember and celebrate many things. At this time of year, we come together with family and friends, give gifts and reach out to others who are in need of support. We strive to create a sense of belonging and family and good will for all. However, around our world we see poverty, despair, suffering, loneliness and pain. It is challenging to align these with our celebration.

At Christmas, we also experience a feeling of hope that the world can be a better place, a hope that we can rise up through our troubles to live again. We know that when a baby is born, new life springs forth - with this baby there is a hope for all that will come from this new life!

All are invited to attend the Christmas Masses to celebrate the coming of Christ - please see the times included in the newsletter. Please note the 6pm Mass at St Francis of the Fields, which includes the Christmas Pageant. This will be a wonderful celebration to gather as a family and faith community and we hope to see you there.



God of love, hope, peace and joy.

We remain eternally grateful for the gift of Jesus into our world.

We give thanks for the hope, peace, joy and love we experience through His presence.

*We pray that our eyes be opened to the ways in which Jesus continues to be active in our lives,
blessing us each and every day and leading us in a life of service and love.*

Amen.

Advent Reconciliation

Last week, students from Years 3-6 participated in an Advent Reconciliation Liturgy with Fr Andrew. This was Fr Andrew's last Reconciliation Liturgy and we thank him for being so generous always ensuring our students have this opportunity during Lent and Advent.



Earthcare Team



The Earthcare Team has worked on their action plan to reduce the amount of rubbish on our school grounds and to support biodiversity. They have run the Keep our School Beautiful Competition and promoted Nude Food to our school.

We have great news that there has been a significant reduction in rubbish in our school grounds. **In some categories of rubbish the goal to reduce rubbish by 75% has been exceeded.** Well done to all of our students, teachers and the Earthcare Team for their amazing efforts in achieving this.

The winner of the Term 4 Keep our School Beautiful Class Party is – 1 R! Congratulations to 1 R for their commitment to keeping our school beautiful.

3GB, had a wonderful time enjoying their term 3 success. The Earthcare Team made sure the party food provided did not have any individually wrapped items to ensure it was a sustainable party with as little waste as possible.

The Earthcare Team are always wanting new members and would love more of our families to join us. Please contact Mrs Hitchcock if you are interested.



Prayer for Peace in the Middle East - Aid to the Church in Need

Aid to the Church in Need, an international Catholic foundation dedicated to the spiritual and pastoral support of suffering and persecuted Christians, has shared a prayer for peace in the Middle East. This Christmas we pray the message of hope, joy and peace can be experienced by all people throughout the world.

Lord Jesus Christ,

*The Holy Land is once again struck by violence, hatred, and death.
Lord, look with mercy upon the land that was your earthly home.*

*Receive the deceased into your presence.
Comfort those who mourn, are wounded, or forced to flee.
Be close to all who are full of fear and despair.*

*You are our peace and the light of the nations,
put an end to the spiral of terror and suffering
in the Holy Land and in the whole Middle East!*

*Let peace and justice flourish at the holy sites.
You are our refuge. Let the people be safe in your Love.*

Have mercy on us and on our time.

Amen.



Lisa Hitchcock
Catholic Identity Leader

Performing Arts News....

Carols at St John of God Hospital



On Wednesday 6th December, the choir went to St John of God hospital to sing some carols to the people in the hospital. We sang many songs including Jingle Bells, Go tell it on the Mountain, We wish you a Merry Christmas, Don't Give up on Me, Whisper, Silent Night, Santa Claus is coming to Town and Rockin around the Christmas Tree. Mila's favourite song was Silent Night and Paige's favourite song was Rockin around the Christmas Tree. Gemma Short, Mila Johnson, Makayla and Mackenzie Jackson, Emma Gleeson, Oscar Hargreaves, Chelsea Cummins, Shantelle Byrne, Macy Drew, Hayley McKee, Isla Hogan and Ellen Frigerio. We both enjoyed the singing and seeing the people so happy.

Mila Johnson and Paige De Jong 40

Rock Band Braidies Gig

On December 7th 2023 Green Eggs and Ham, the Funky Pigs and the Pickle Heads went to Braidie's Tavern to perform songs. Each band performed 6-10 songs. There were a number of competitions. The first one was a dance off and the winners got a chocolate. The second activity was a sing along. At the bottom of the stage were 3 microphones to use to sing Christmas carols. Some of the parents and teachers were invited up onto the stage to play or sing for one. Sam and Min gave out awards at the end of the concert. Thanks to Min, Sam and Sean helping with the highly eventful night.

Jack Riley, Arie Dean, Zara Grieve, Hamish, Ellah Skipper, Alex Connolly 5K



Summer in the Park

On Sunday the 10th of December all the school rock bands from St. Francis of the Fields met up at Rosalind Park at 1:30 to perform our last gig of the year.

First up there was a high school band that were amazing and inspiring. They had a guitarist a bass player a drummer and of course, a singer. Then another school rock band played. They had a lot of different people that went on and off for each song. As we listened to them play we prepared to hop on stage. It was so fun being around all of our band mates and I'm glad I had time to get to know people from the other bands in our school.

Now it was time for the funky pigs to hop on stage. They played their original band song, bacon. This song gets stuck in everyone's head and is super fun to sing along too. Next was green eggs and ham. I was not nervous at all, I was just excited. I have learnt a lot from being on stage this year. There is no need to be nervous unless it's your first time. It's all about having fun. As I walked up the stairs onto stage I plugged in my guitar and tightened my strap. I turned my guitar up extra loud because it was only Alex, I and Sam who were playing guitar because Arie was singing. Our band played our original band song, Why is life so complicated? I was so confident being right up the front of the stage and enjoyed it a lot!

After we finished it was time for The Pickle Heads to perform. They played Rolling in the deep with Emma being their lead singer. She was amazing. They got to play an extra song because there was time. They played Undone by weezer. That one is a funny song!

As we left the high school rock band played again. They were very loud! I had a great time and I mainly enjoyed being around my band mates and doing what I love in front of all the parents and people watching. I am very much looking forward to next year's gigs! Thanks to Min, Sam and Sean for organizing. And the organizers of Summer in the Parks.

Eva Bath 5D



Lunch Time Concerts

This term we have had lunch time concerts every Thursday at lunch. Thank you to all the students who have performed! It has been so inspiring to watch you all get up in front of everyone and sing or perform on instruments. We have some incredibly talented musicians in our community! Thank you also to all the students who have watched performances each week. You have been an incredible encouragement to those performing.





Grade 6 Graduation

Thank you Grade 6 for a wonderful year of laughter, learning and music making! Congratulations on all your achievements this year, and a special congratulations on a beautiful performance last night! You are going to be so missed at St Francis. Good luck next year! Mrs C ☺



2023 Wrapped

Congratulations to all the students who have performed at different events throughout this year! Our school community has so many talented and highly skilled musicians in our midst. Thank you to the families and teachers who have attended events, and a huge thank you to Liesbeth, Hayley, Kate, Helen, Sam, Min and Sean for all the time and effort that has gone into lessons, performances and gigs this year. We cannot wait for more next year!



Merry Christmas! From Mrs C and Trumpet ☺

Important Dates

Choir try outs	Thursday of Week 1 and 2	Grade 4-6
Welcome Mass	Friday 9 February 2024	Choir item
Project Compassion	Tuesday 13 February 2024	Choir excursion

Performing Arts news

If you know of any events or student achievements we can share in the newsletter, please share with Mrs C by emailing kcameron@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

Kiara Cameron
Music Teacher

PE News.....

Victorian Aquathlon Championships

On Sunday the 3rd of December I went to Shepparton for the Victorian Aquathlon Championships. We had to swim 200 metres in Lake Victoria and run two kilometres. The water was cold, murky and full of long grass. We had to swim around two giant beach balls and back to the start. Then we quickly ran out of the water into the transition area to



put our shoes on and take our swimming cap and goggles off. There were markers to time the transition and I managed to do this in 29 seconds. We went up a ramp and started the run around the lake. To finish the race we ran through a big inflatable arch. I came 7th in the girls 11-12 year race and was the youngest athlete in the group.

This was my first aquathlon and it was fun to do. I would like to give it another go next year.

Milanke Haabroek



Looking Ahead...

SWIMMING IN 2024

The Year 3-6 children will begin their swimming lessons on the first Wednesday back at school in 2024. A permission note will go out to parents via PAM with more details.

Year 3-6 Swimming Lesson dates

Wednesday 31 January
Thursday 1 February
Friday 2 February
Monday 5 February



The children will be invited to swim freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and invitational butterfly for those students that swim competitively. They can choose between the distances of 25m kickboard, 25m and 50m. Events will be discussed and finalised during the swimming lessons in 2024.

The day begins at 9.45am and will conclude at approximately 1.30pm. This will take place at Bendigo East Pool. Coffee Storm will be at the pool for your convenience.



- **Swimming**

**Please note, Yr 3's are ONLY eligible for 3 individual events- 50m freestyle, breaststroke & backstroke. They may be used in relays, should they have the fastest time. Please contact me with any questions around this.*

Regional Swimming Championships (Swan Hill): **Tuesday 12 March**

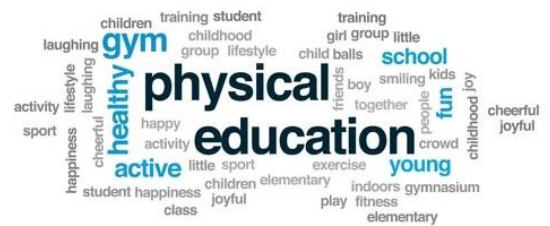
State Swimming Championships (Melbourne): **Friday 19 April**

Whole School Cross Country: **Thursday 18 April**

Division Cross Country (Yr 3-6's): **Wednesday 1 May**

Regional Cross Country (St Arnaud): **Tuesday 28 May**

State Cross Country (Melbourne): Thursday 18 July



School Athletics Sports (Yr3-6's): **Friday 26 July**

Catholic Athletics Championships (Year 3-6's): **Wednesday 21 August**

**Please note, year 3's are ONLY eligible for 4 events- Shot put, Long jump, 100m & hurdles.*

Divisional Athletics Championship: **Monday 16 September**

Regional Athletics Championship: **Monday 14 October**

School Athletic Sports (Fdn- Yr 2) on the oval 9.15-11am: **Friday 1 November**

State Athletics Championships: **Wednesday 6 November**

Each assembly week, we present a tuckshop award. The criteria for receiving these awards is very straightforward. Students demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship, effort and attitude will be the prime candidates for these awards.

- Isabel Baker, Will Mangan & Billie Prowse

**We apologise that you won't have these presented at assembly. As the last assembly of the year was cancelled due to the change in date of the colour run.*

Parents, if you have news that should be shared in the newsletter, please let me know by emailing dcoates@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au or sending it directly through to newsletter@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

Danielle Coates & Shannon Dillon
PE Coordinators

The YMCA operates an After-School Care Program at St Francis of the Fields Primary School. The program operates every school day for children aged 5-12 years. The YMCA also provides care on days of school closure.

Families can contact the service on 0459 988 313 or visit 'My Family Lounge' where you can register your child in advance for any bookings. any questions please contact stfrancis@ymca.org.au.





Community News....

Bendigo **Ford**  Go Further



MARONG CUP DAY 2024
SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY

SUPPORTING BENDIGO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

KIDS RIDES AND ACTIVITIES

Packages available • Umbrella Packages \$320 • Mini Marquees \$110pp
General Admission \$15 • Kids 16 & Under Free minimum 10 people




BENDIGO JOCKEY CLUB
Phone 03 5448 4209 country.racing.com/bendigo    

MARONG 20 CUP DAY 24

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY

CONTACTS

President

Tom Maher 0408 910 497

Marong Racing Club Inc.

PO Box 2705

Bendigo DC 3554

Email tom@maherrealestate.com.au

KIDS ENTERTAINMENT

Kids Ride passes only \$15
if purchased on the day
If prebooked at school \$10



BOOK YOUR 2024 PACKAGES NOW!

ADMISSION PRICES

Adults	\$15
Concession <small>(aged Pension and TPI only)</small>	\$10
Cross over to Members Reserve	\$10
Children (16 years and under)	FREE

TRACKSIDE UMBRELLAS

Fenced off enclosures on the lawns are set aside for package patrons.

• Market umbrella	\$320 (10 people)
• Table	<small>*Price does not include alcohol</small>
• Chairs	<small>*Price does not include admission</small>

'SILKS' DINING PACKAGES

Silks dining room is located within the Members Reserve. Set high above the track, this is a spectacular location to view the course in air-conditioned comfort.

• Admission to 'Members Reserve'	\$99 per person
• Reserved seat for the day	\$89 per person members
• Free drink on arrival	
• Two course hot luncheon	
• Air-conditioned comfort	
• Racebook	
• Private TAB facilities	
• Cash bar	

ULTIMATE MARQUEES

• Mini Marquee	\$110 per person
• Large table	<small>*Minimum 10 people</small>
• 10 chairs	
• Anti pasto platter and sandwiches	
• Admission to the course	

TERRACE AND DECK PACKAGES

The ultimate area to enjoy the races at the Bendigo Track!

• Marquee	\$700 (20 people)
• Large market umbrella	
• 2 garden tables	
• 20 chairs	
• 1 large wine barrel	
• 6 tolux bar stools	
• Racebook for each guest	

Beverage packages can be pre-ordered or drinks purchased at the cash bar.

For all Package Bookings contact the office at the Bendigo Jockey Club

03 5448 4209

visit our website www.bendigojockeyclub.com.au
or email us on info@bendigojockeyclub.com.au

★ ELF ACADEMY ★

CLASS IN SESSION: 16-23 DECEMBER 2023



**DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT REALLY TAKES
TO BE ONE OF SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS?**

Central Deborah Gold Mine will transform into a Christmas wonderland from 16-23 December.

Through a series of craft activities, games and challenges, gain your Certificate IV in Elf Training and be elf-icially inducted into Santa's renowned team!






**BOOK YOUR
TICKETS NOW!**


5443 8322 | central-deborah.com |   







THURS
21
DEC


O'SULLIVAN'S TRANSPORT
**ELMORE
PACING CUP**
AT LORD'S RACEWAY, JUNORTOWN



- FREE ENTRY
- CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES
- CHILDRENS BIKE RAFFLE
- FACE PAINTING
- PONY TROTS - MEET & GREET
- LIVE MUSIC
- POP-UP MARKET STALLS
- LUCKY PATRON PRIZES

MORE INFORMATION: WWW.THETROTS.COM.AU
OR CALL 0421596612





SBFC JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLINIC

THE PROGRAMS CATER FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, WITH SENIOR SOUTH BENDIGO FNC FOOTBALL STARS INVOLVED!!







**JOIN THE FUN AND DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS WITH THE
FAMILY CLUB OVER 2 MASSIVE DAYS!**



> MONDAY 15TH JANUARY
> TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY



HARRY TROTT OVAL KENNINGTON



8.30AM - 4.30PM DAILY



ONLY \$75 EACH DAY (PAYMENT MUST BE MADE TO SECURE YOUR SPOT)
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE - GET IN QUICK!!
REGISTER ONLINE AT:
[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/231413052856855](https://form.jotform.com/231413052856855)

CHRISTMAS TOY AND FOOD DRIVE

4th - 20th of DECEMBER

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO BRING JOY TO LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

All donations will be passed onto Bendigo Foodshare and Anglicare Victoria - Bendigo

Gurri Wanyarra
WELLBEING CENTRE

Foodshare
HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

Anglicare
Victoria

Festive fun in Hargreaves Mall!

Hargreaves Mall will be a hive of activity over the school holidays with an exciting range of FREE entertainment and activities for families to enjoy, kicking off with plenty of festive fun.

December 2023

8 Music in the Mall featuring a local artist 11am to 2pm	9 Moonlight Market 2pm to 6pm	15 Music in the Mall featuring a local artist 11am to 2pm
16 Music in the Mall with a local artist 11am to 2pm	18 Christmas Colouring and Live Art Demo with Sarah The Painter 11am to 2pm	19 Movie in the Mall on the big screen: The Year Without A Santa Claus 2pm
20 Christmas Elves in the Mall 11am to 2pm The mischievous Christmas Elves from Connected Circus will bring Christmas cheer.	21 Movie in the Mall on the big screen: The Polar Express 2pm	22 Music in the Mall featuring a local artist 11am to 2pm
23 Movie in the Mall on the big screen: The Grinch 2pm Enjoy a Christmas movie on the big screen and hear live music by The Tippy Trio 5pm to 8pm.	23 Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, and Pals: A Reindeer Show 10:30am to 12:30pm Children of all ages will love the interactive musical activities.	23 Music in the Mall featuring local artists 12noon to 3pm

January 2024

Activities in the Mall continue in the New Year to save the world!

Thursday January 4 - Saturday January 6
Bush Music in the Mall with The Tippy Trio
11am to 2pm

January 10
Circus fun and face painting with Connected Circus
11am to 2pm

January 12
Safe Archery with The Zone
11am to 3pm

January 17
Circus fun and face painting with Connected Circus
11am to 2pm

January 19
Slot Car Racing with The Zone
11am to 3pm

January 20
Roller Disco with the Dragon City Roller Derby
5pm to 8pm

January 24
Circus fun and face painting with Connected Circus
11am to 2pm

January 25
Zorb Balls with The Zone
11am to 3pm

January 27
International LEGO Day
10am to 3pm
Pop up addition and beads with Bendigo LEGO User Groups.

Moonlight Market
2pm to 6pm

To keep up to date with Hargreaves Mall activities, visit:
www.bendigoregion.com.au/explore-bendigo/whatson/hive-of-activity-in-hargreaves-mall

KELLY SPORTS

Website: www.kellysports.com.au/bendigo
Contact: Beau Cross
Email: beau@kellysports.com.au
Phone: 0428 326 924
Facebook: Kelly Sports Bendigo
Address: 379 Eaglehawk Rd, Eaglehawk, 3556

SHOP 'N' DROP PRE XMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST LIBORIUS PS STADIUM - 379 EAGLEHAWK RD

Mon 18th Dec	Tue 19th Dec	Wed 20th Dec	Thu 21st Dec	Fri 22nd Dec
DYNAMIC DODGEBALL Dodge, duck, dip, dive and....DODGE! Our holiday Dodgeball Tournament is back. Stretch up & come along for our Day 1 fun! Today is going to be an absolute BLAST!!	BASKETBALL BONANZA Each of our little superstars will get the chance to show off their basketball skills in our basketball tournament, activities and challenge games. The kids will also participate in loads of fun games & lunchtime basketball activities.	WATER SPORTS Water bomb wars, sponge races and crazy water games. Today will be a truck load of fun! The kids are also welcome to bring along their own water guns! Today will also include many other sports-crazy activities!	INFLATABLE SPORTS A truckload of fun is awaiting each of our little legends today! With oversized inflatable games such as Giant Inflatable Soccer, Inflatable Volleyball, inflatable challenge games & more, this is one you won't want to miss!	CHRISTMAS GAMES Join in the festive fun with our Crazy Christmas Games. This time, with a touch of Christmas & festive cheer, Team games, Santa sack races, prizes and who knows, maybe Santa Claus himself will pop in for a visit.

Full Day: \$52
8:30am - 5:00pm

KS Session: \$60
8am - 5:30pm

Half Day: \$35
8:30am - 12:30pm OR 1pm - 5pm

***FULL WEEK DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE**

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

FOR THE LOVE OF SPORTS 25 YEARS

PLEASE NOTE: THE THEME LISTED IS THE MAIN ACTIVITY FOR THE DAY. EACH DAY WILL ALSO INCLUDE OTHER SPORTS & GAMES THE KIDS WILL LOVE. OUR FULL DAILY SCHEDULE & ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE BOOKING WEBSITE