

ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 1 – Feb 2, 2023
(Term 1 – Week 2)



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 3 February

- Swimming Yr 3 – 6

Monday 6 February

- Swimming Yr 3 – 6

Wednesday 8 February

- Foundation Rest Day
- Swimming Sports Yr 3 – 6 @ Bendigo East Pool

Thursday 9 February

- P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm in the staffroom

Friday 10 February

- Welcome Mass @ 11.45am

Monday 13 February

- Learning Conversations

Tuesday 14 February

- Learning Conversations

Wednesday 15 February

- Foundation Rest Day
- Learning Conversations
- NAPLAN Testing period begins

Thursday 16 February

- Learning Conversations
- Catholic Swimming Sports @ Bendigo East Pool

Saturday 18 February

- Marong Cup

Tuesday 21 February

- Shrove Tuesday
- Burning of the Palms @ 10.30am

Wednesday 22 February

- Foundation Rest Day
- Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 11.00am

Wednesday 1 March

- Foundation Rest Day

Thursday 2 March

- SCHOOL PHOTOS

Friday 3 March

- SCHOOL PHOTOS

Wednesday 8 March

- Foundation Rest Day

Friday 10 March

- PUPIL FREE DAY – Staff Spirituality Day

Monday 13 March

- Labour Day Public Holiday



Tuckshop 2021 – Term 4

Week 2

Friday 3 Feb

12.30 – 3pm Sally Arundell
Helen Harrington
Verity Nicholson

Week 3

Thurs 9 Feb

12.30 – 3pm Alisha Renton

Friday 10 Feb

12.30 – 3pm Chelsea Mazzarino
Kellie Gibson
Sarah Giffard

Week 4

Thurs 16 Feb

12.30 – 3pm Bec O’Sullivan

Friday 17 Feb

12.30 – 3pm Chantal Bennalack
Nicole Emmerson

Weekend Maintenance

4-5 Feb Fraser (6H), Bennalack (5W),
Rodda (5ZC)

11-12 Feb Pollock (Fdn A), Place (6H),
Raco (6R)

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

St Francis of Assisi



Dear Families,

It was just lovely to see our students, staff and parents returning to school with so much enthusiasm and energy. I look forward to learning more about each child and family member in our school community.

Fr. Andrew (Happy Birthday for last Saturday!) and our staff welcome all new and existing families to St. Francis of the Field’s School family.

We pray that you will find St. Francis of the Fields is a place where “You Live, Learn and Grow in God’s love”.

Prayer:

Lord God,

as we approach the beginning of a new school year,
may we do so with a sense of wonder, anticipation,
exhilaration and an overt love of the work
each of us is called to do.

May our days be both challenging and rewarding.

May we be the role models that our young both need and deserve.

In all we do, may we be people of faith, commitment,
spirit, energy and hope.

Amen



Principal Appointments

One of my goals this year is “To be a visible, positive presence in the school so that I understand the needs of our students, teachers and parents.”

Subsequently, I will be joining classes regularly from 9.00-9.20am to enjoy learning more about each child. I also have many staff team meetings that I will attend that will be focussed on data tracking of academic and behaviour performance.

Consequently, I ask that if parents would like to meet with me please book an appointment with the Administrative staff well in advance.

Welcome

We warmly welcome our new staff.

Welcome to:

- Kimberley Boulton (Year 3 teacher)
- Holly Ryan (Year 6 teacher)
- Tom Schofield (Teacher Aide - Year 3)
- Simone Rodgers (Teacher Aide - Foundation)
- Ange Oldham (Teacher Aide - Year 1)
- Jordan Sharp (Teacher Aide - Year 1)
- Shannon Dillon (PE)
- Peter Sporn (Gardens & Maintenance)



Welcome back to:

- Danielle Coates (PE),
- Cherise Le Brocq-Joppich
- Emma Jensen

We hope you enjoy your time at St. Francis of the Fields.

2023 St. Francis of the Fields staff:

Parish Priest	-	Fr Andrew Fewings
Principal	-	Tim Moloney
Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing	-	Grace Scalora
Foundation A	-	Andie Muscatello
Foundation M	-	Morgan Maud
Foundation D	-	Donna McNamara
Foundation BW	-	Naomi Burns & Kate Williams
Yr. 1 R	-	Craig Ryan
Yr. 1 M	-	Sam Muscatello
Yr. 1 S	-	Mia Shanahan
Yr. 1 AJ	-	Ange Simpson & Jenna Anderson
Yr. 2 D	-	Felicity Davis
Yr. 2 P	-	Brylie Parker
Yr. 2 S	-	Natalie Shearer
Yr. 2 HL	-	Gab Hudson & Cherise Le Brocq-Joppich
Yr. 3C	-	Luke Crameri
Yr. 3 GB	-	Kate Gundry & Hilary Bottcher
Yr. 3 M	-	Jacob Morrissey
Yr. 3 SB	-	Anna Sier & Kimberley Boulton
Yr. 4 W	-	Renae Westley
Yr. 4 O	-	Alicia Osborne
Yr. 4 FT	-	Donna Freeman & Cam Taylor
Yr. 4 Z	-	Rhys Zera
Yr. 5 D	-	Dave Waters
Yr. 5 K	-	Bernard Kerrins
Yr. 5 ZC	-	Jo Zimmer & Graeme Coleman
Yr. 5 W	-	Ella Wales & Clare Warfe
Yr. 6 W	-	Darby Walsh
Yr. 6 J	-	Josh Hann
Yr. 6 R	-	Holly Ryan
Yr. 6 H	-	Milly Hughes
Administration / Finance	-	Deb McDermott
Administration / Secretary	-	Michelle Janssen
Administration / Secretary	-	Stephanie Wade
Reading Recovery	-	Bernadette Sporn
Music	-	Kiara Cameron
Art & Craft	-	Carmel Fitzgerald
Librarian	-	Sue Johns & Hayley Mills
Technology	-	Cam Taylor
Indonesian	-	Jacqueline Pethybridge
OASIS	-	Matt Butcher
Learning Diversity	-	Linda Cartwright

Catholic Identity	-	Lisa Hitchcock
Curriculum Leader: Numeracy	-	Kate Ellis
Numeracy Intervention	-	Nicole McDermott
Curriculum Leader: Literacy	-	Marg Brohm
Literacy Intervention	-	Lauren Nankervis
Phys Ed Teacher/Coordinator	-	Danielle Coates & Shannon Dillon
O.H & S	-	Kerry Bone
Classroom PPT Release	-	Emma Jensen & Hilary Bottcher
Teacher Aides		
Foundation	-	Katrina Evans, Montana Maud & Simone Rodgers
Year 1	-	Hayley Mills, Jordan Sharp & Ange Oldham
Year 2	-	Belinda Marsh
Year 3	-	Kerry Bone & Tom Schofield
Year 4	-	Annette Exell & Sue Johns
Year 5	-	Kate Zealley
Year 6	-	Jenni Hann
School Counsellor & Medical Officer	-	Maree O'Connor
Tuckshop	-	Fiona Thompson, Donna Stebbins & Deb Schintler
Gardens & Maintenance	-	Shane Owins & Peter Sporn

Opening School Mass



All families are invited to celebrate the beginning of the school year mass on **Friday 10 February at 11.45am**. We will come together as a community in the Basketball stadium (shed). Please remember to leave coffee cups outside.

First Aid

Our staff completed their Level 1 CPR on Friday 24 January. This should ensure our children, staff and parents are supported in case of an emergency.

We learnt from our instructors that small bouncy balls (size of 20 cent pieces) should not be brought to school as they are choking hazards that prove difficult to dislodge. Larger tennis sized bouncy balls are fine to bring to school. Please help to support the safety of our students and school dogs by avoiding bringing these small balls to school - thank you.



Community Defibrillator



The Falcons Football Club has received funding from the Strathfieldsaye Community District Enterprise for a community defibrillator. This has recently been installed outside the toilets closest to the football oval.

I am hopeful that our community will ensure that the defib is respected so that if it is needed it is ready to save a community member's life. Thanks to the Falcon's Committee members for raising these funds.

Uniform

Thank you to all families for ensuring their child/ren are wearing the correct uniform. I have reminded the children that they need to:

Children may wear their sport uniform for every day wear in Term 1.

- Wear the correct school socks (not Globe, Nike, etc). White with sport uniform and navy with general uniform
- Tie their hair back if it is over collar length (avoid nits)
- Wear ALL black shoes – either runners or leather shoes (except on sport days)

Parking

Now that our building works are completed parents and teachers are able to park their cars behind the basketball stadium. Please do not drive past the new building as children and staff members will be moving around these areas.



End of day pick up area

To help with the pick up area at the end of the day could all parents please attach their family name (provided by the school) on their cars sun-visor. This will help our teachers ensure your child/ren are present when your car arrives at the pick up.

Learning Conversations



Parents will have the opportunity to book in for a Learning Conversation in Week 4 - **Monday 13 Feb- Thursday 16 Feb**. The conversations will take a pastoral/wellbeing focus on getting to know your child. This is an opportunity for you to meet and greet your child's classroom teacher and inform them of their strengths, challenges, social capabilities, any medical needs, etc. It is a time to ensure that teachers are aware of any aspect that you think will have an impact on their learning this year.

Information regarding assessments, learning goals or academic achievements will not be shared at this time. This will be the focus of the Learning Conversations held early in Term 2. A gentle reminder that if you have any sensitive or confidential issues to discuss, please feel free to ask your child to wait outside the room briefly or alternatively, organise another time to chat.

The teachers are looking forward to working in partnership with you and your child to enjoy a successful year of learning.

The School Interviews Online bookings **will open on Monday 6 Feb at 12noon and close on Friday 10 Feb @ 4pm**. Please see further details in today's newsletter regarding booking Learning Conversations.

Swimming Program

Thanks to the excellent organization of Danielle Coates, our PE coordinator, we have commenced the swimming program for our Year 3-6 children. Our children will complete their swimming program with the St. Francis School Swimming Sports at Bendigo East Pool on Wednesday 8 February from 9.30am. All parents are most welcome to attend.



By commencing our program in such an organized manner we are able to give our children the benefit of competing at our school swimming championships prior to the Catholic (February 16), Division (March 1), and Regional (March 14) Swimming Sports Championships. Well done Danielle!!

Calendar

Please click on this link to access the Term 1 calendar so that all students, parents and teachers can coordinate upcoming events. [Term 1 Calendar](#)

Parents & Friends Meeting

All parents are most welcome to attend the Parents & Friends meeting on Thursday 9 February from 7.30 - 9.00pm in the staffroom.

Our P & F are a wonderful support to our school community as they devise social and fundraising opportunities for our school community.

Please come along and help support our school community - all welcome!



Forms to be returned to school via PAM (Parent Access Module)

- Photo Permission Form
- Swimming Sports Permission
- Updated Asthma Plan (for those students who need one)
- Anaphylaxis plan (for those students who need a plan)



Last week, all parents would have received an email to reset their passwords for PAM. We need everyone to have completed this by Friday 10 Feb and logged back in to PAM. Please make sure to check your junk email folder. If you are experiencing problems with this, please contact the office and we will assist you.

In PAM, you are able to complete Parent Notified Absences (PNA), view school assessment reports, complete student medical details, approve school excursions, access the school newsletter etc.

Marong Cup - Saturday 18 February from 11.00am

A reminder that the Marong Cup will be held on Saturday 18 February.

This is the first fundraiser of the school year – we normally receive approximately \$5,000 donation from the Marong Cup Committee in return for coordinating the School Relay race on the day.



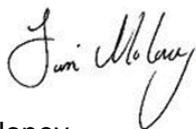
The aim of the relay race is to be the fastest school team of six people to carry 200ml of water in a plastic cup over 200m. We need 2 teachers, 2 parents and 2 Year 4/5/6 children to run with the cup. The biggest challenge being that we cannot spill too much water and still be the fastest!!

We do need one or two people to help coordinate this relay on the day. If you can help please contact Tim Moloney ASAP - your help would be very much appreciated as I am unavailable to attend the Marong Cup this year as I will be celebrating my son's wedding on this day.

We are also hopeful that another parent may wish to be the St. Francis representative for the Marong Cup Committee. There should only be 6 meetings for the year and you would need to communicate with the school to help prepare for the annual Marong Cup.

If you can help with either role please contact Tim Moloney on 5439 3191 in the next week.

Christ has no hands but yours.



Tim Moloney
Principal



Jamilla and Luna - Dogs Connect

At St Francis, we have two dogs as part of our wellbeing team. **Jamilla** (4yrs) and **Luna** (1 yr). Our school has achieved accreditation with the Dogs Connect program.

For our students, both Jamilla and Luna can help with emotional regulation, social connection and communication. They can help engage students in many curriculum areas by supporting children in feeling less self-conscious than they may feel around teachers and peers.



Jamilla



Luna

Pastoral Wellbeing



This year our Pastoral Wellbeing Team consists of 4 members.

Mrs Maree O'Connor - School Chaplain

moconnor@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Home & School Liaison Programs – Grief, Family Support, Separation, School Issues.
- Seasons for Growth facilitator.
- Vital connection between home and school.
- Assisting with transition for new families to St. Francis of the Fields

Mrs Linda Cartwright - Learning Support

lcartwright@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Coordinates Special Education for our school.
- Program Support Group Meetings (PSG's – once a term),
- Supports students and teachers with Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs) for individual children.
- Provide support to teachers & families for students at need/risk in mainstream classroom.

Ms Grace Scalora - Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing

gscalora@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



- Coordinates whole school program – Positive Behaviours Intervention Support (**PBIS**) Program which includes our 4 school expectations, (Be your Best, Be Safe, Respect for All, Respect for Environment).
- Oversees wellbeing programs across school – supports parents, students and teachers.
- Coordinates the Engagement of Volunteers.
- Implementing Policies and developing Social Emotional Programs/Learning.



Mr Tim Moloney - Principal and member of the team.

tmoloney@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

- Supports all students, staff and families to be successful in the school setting.

What are our school beliefs about student wellbeing?

As a school we are responsible for catering for student's academic, social and emotional needs. We teach our students about safe and responsible behaviour to ensure they have the skills to self manage in the wider world. Our aim is for our students to leave at the end of Grade 6 being both independent and likeable.

Our team meets fortnightly. The purpose of our meetings is to provide ongoing support for our students, parents and teachers. Our aim is to make sure that all our students are successful in every part of their school life.

Over the coming weeks, information about our goals for Pastoral Wellbeing will be communicated with our school community. We hope that this gives all our families a clear understanding of what our goals and hopes are for the 2023 school year. .

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns.

Grace Scalora
Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing



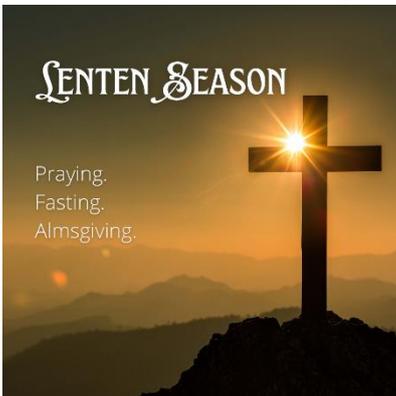
RE News.....

Welcome Mass - Friday 10 February @ 11:45 am

We will celebrate our new school year and welcome all of our community, on Friday 10 February at 11:45 am, at our Welcome Mass. All students will attend and we invite our families to join us for Mass and a cuppa afterwards in the community centre.



Lent - Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday



On Ash Wednesday 22 February, the liturgical season of Lent begins. We begin our Lenten journey by marking ourselves with ash. Traditionally, this ash is produced from burning the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. At St Francis of the Fields, we will burn the palms on Shrove Tuesday. The forty-day Season of Lent concludes on Holy Thursday evening with the Celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

This is a time to pray, fast and for almsgiving - serving others by going without something and contributing to others or sharing yourself with others in your family, community or globally. Lent is not about getting it perfectly right or focussing solely on self-improvement. It is a time to get in touch with our hope for new life. For the five weeks of Lent, we walk closely with Jesus towards the freedom of Easter. Through prayer, we come closer to God so that we are better able to be a source of love and compassion and to live justly as Jesus teaches us. Fasting joins us in solidarity with people experiencing poverty who often have no choice but to go without basic human needs. Sharing what we have, or 'almsgiving', is a sign of our commitment to justice and our thanks for all that God has given us.

On Shrove Tuesday 21 February, we will have our Burning of the Palms at 10:30am, make our Lenten Promises and have pancakes as is the Shrove Tuesday tradition. A Liturgy of the Word and distribution of Ashes will be held on Ash Wednesday, 22 February at 11am. We invite our families to join us for both of our liturgies.

Project Compassion

We will participate in Caritas's Lenten fundraising and awareness raising campaign. Each year Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in schools, parishes and the community to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project Compassion is **For All Future Generations**. It reminds us that what we do today can have an impact *For All Future Generations*. This message invites us to step up for those who do not have the essential resources they need for their survival and those whose needs at this time are far beyond ours. By putting compassion into action, we can make a difference today, *For All Future Generations*.

- **Caritas Ks** - Friday 17 March will be our Caritas Ks Fundraiser.



Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI)

During Term 1, we will be asking students from Year 5, families and staff to complete the ECSI survey. This is an important survey for our school, as it reveals the community's perspective of our current Catholic Identity and our ideal Catholic Identity. The responses to the survey will help us to understand how our Catholic identity is expressed. The research report containing our school's collected data will contribute to a reliable picture of our school's Catholic identity, which we will use to inform our school improvement for the next four years.

International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking - Wed 8 February



Pope Francis has designated the 8th of February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking following a request from Talitha Kum, the worldwide Network of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking. "Journeying in dignity" is the theme of the 2023 International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking.



Who is Josephine Bakhita?

Josephine Bakhita was born in Southern Sudan in 1869, and during her life experienced kidnapping and slavery in both Sudan and Italy. After gaining her freedom Josephine Bakhita dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. She eventually became a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000.

Learn more about Josephine Bakhita [here](#).

God of hope and peace,

Touch our hearts and energize our ongoing efforts in abolishing human trafficking, a heinous crime against humanity so that every victim is freed and every survivor's life renewed.

You blessed St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan with compassion for others.

May her prayers comfort and strengthen the women, men, and children who are in search of freedom. We pray that all people believe in the inherent dignity of every human person, and for an end to human trafficking through education, advocacy, and empowerment of survivors of human trafficking.

We ask for a transformation of heart for those who inflict pain, anguish and grief on our vulnerable sisters and brothers. Give us generosity to stand in solidarity with others so that together we heal the hearts and lives of all Your people.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Get the slavery out of Easter chocolate

This Easter, educate yourself about what's really going into the chocolate you buy for family and friends.

[Be Slavery Free](#) has produced a chocolate scorecard after surveying the world's biggest chocolate companies to find out about their supply chains. Click [here](#) to download the scorecard via their website and find out which chocolate brands are rising to the challenge and which ones continue to ignore consumer demand for chocolate that's produced free of child labour.



Ask the question – Who is making my clothes?

Chances are that children and adults, working in sweatshops for little money and often in appalling and hazardous conditions, make some of the clothes you wear or clothes you might want to buy this summer. Baptist World Aid has produced the *Australian Fashion Report*. It's a report card on the fashion industry, and it rates your favourite brands on workers' safety, wages and other conditions. Download [the guide](#) and Speak Out to brands you are pleased or disappointed by.

For more information please visit: [ACRATH's Website](#)

TODAY, and every day, we ask you to reflect on and act against human trafficking.

Source: ACRATH - *Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans*.

National Apology Anniversary

On Monday 13 February, we mark the anniversary of the National Apology. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, on behalf of the Federal Government, publicly apologised to the Stolen Generations. The Stolen Generations are the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities by successive colonial and Australian governments.

It was a significant milestone for the healing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who suffered as a result of past government policies of forced child removal and assimilation. It is important that, as a nation, we commemorate and acknowledge the wrongs of the past, while reflecting on the work that still needs to be done to address the impacts of unresolved trauma.



Creator Spirit of all,

Empower us to honour the history of this Great South Land, to remember the story of those who have gone before us.

May you comfort all those whose history on this land is a story of hurt and pain.

May your wisdom and guidance be with all who work towards a future of unity, reconciliation and peace within this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit.

We ask this prayer in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, Amen.

Our Lady of Lanka Feast Day

will be celebrated on **Monday 6 February**, at **St Therese's with Mass at 9.15am** (Sri Lankan Independence Day falls on Saturday 4 Feb). All Sri Lankans and our Parish communities and schools are invited to the Mass on Monday.

Archbishop Jean Marie Masson O.M.I. (died 1947) introduced this special feast. He was loved and respected by all Sri Lankans, irrespective of their religion. His initiative brought about a great love and devotion to "Our Lady of Lanka", as she is affectionately known. We hope to see many of you at Mass to celebrate this day together.

Lisa Hitchcock

Catholic Identity Leader



PE News.....

Swimming in 2023

Hoping you have all had a great holiday and enjoyed the warm weather with your families.



Remaining Year 3-6 swimming lesson dates:

Monday 6 February

**Please see PAM note for your child's specific swim lesson time.*

Year 3-6 School swimming sports: Wednesday 8 Feb

Permission forms are to be completed on PAM - ASAP.

The children will be invited to swim freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and invitational butterfly. They can choose between the distances of 25m kickboard, 25m and 50m. Events will be discussed and finalised during the swimming lessons in 2023.



The day begins at 9.30am 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. We would love to have as many parents and supporters there as possible.

Some other important dates to be mindful of in 2023

Swimming

- **Catholic Swimming Sports (Year 3-6's):** Thursday 16 February

Please note, year 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.*

- **Divisional Swimming Championships:** Wednesday 1 March
- **Regional Swimming Championships (Swan Hill):** Tuesday 14 March
- **State Swimming Championships (Melbourne):** Friday 28 April

Cross Country

- **Whole School Cross Country:** Friday 28 April
- **Division Cross Country (Year 3-6's):** Wednesday 3 May
- **Regional Cross Country (St Arnaud):** Tuesday 6 June
- **State Cross Country (Melbourne):** Thursday 4 July

Athletics

- **School Athletics Sports (3-6's):** Monday 24 July
- **Catholic Athletics Championships (Year 3-6's):** Wednesday 9 August
Please note, year 3's are **ONLY eligible for 4 events- Shot put, Long jump, 100m & hurdles.*
- **Divisional Athletics Championships:** Monday 11 September
- **School Athletic Sports (Foundation- Year 2) on the oval 9.15-11am:** Friday 3 November
- **State Athletics Championships:** Wednesday 1 November

PE at lunchtime

Twice a week in term 1 we will be offering PE during lunchtime. The focus will be minor games for the first half of the term and in the second half of the term our attention will turn to cross country preparation. This will take place on a Monday and Wednesday right after eating time for the first half of lunch.

Danielle Coates & Shannon Dillon
PE Coordinators



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents,

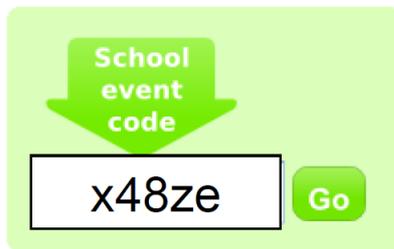
Learning Conversations will be held in Week 4 of Term 1 –
Monday 13 February – Thursday 16 February, 2023

Interviews are strictly 15 minutes and spaces are limited. If you require more time with a particular teacher, please arrange a separate meeting.

You can now book either a face-to-face or video conference interview time that suits **YOU BEST**.

Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS OPEN Monday 6 February at 12:00pm.
BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday 10 February at 4.00pm.



Enter THIS school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. **DO NOT DELETE** the email you receive. Keep it somewhere safe. If you have booked a Video-conference interview, you will need to refer to the email for the meeting link.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

REMEMBER TO ADD YOUR APPOINTMENTS TO YOUR CALENDAR - reminders will not be sent home.

For parents who don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones please contact your child's teacher to arrange a suitable time.

Parents can change their booking any time, prior to the closing time, by revisiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their time after the closing date should contact their child's teacher directly.

Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP) 2023



Education
and Training

Dear Parents,

The Conveyance Allowance is a form of financial assistance from the Victorian State Government to assist families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school.

The allowance is available to parents who are required to –

- drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to school (if there is no school bus)
- or drive their child more than 4.8 kilometres to meet the nearest school bus to the school
- the child must attend their closest government or non-government school (Catholic)
- the allowance is based on kilometres travelled and not based on any financial eligibility

Distance is calculated by the shortest practical route from home to the school or from home to meet the nearest school bus to the school. Distance can be calculated by using Bing Maps.

Forms required to be completed by a parent are available to download from our website

<http://www.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au/downloads/forms> or can be picked up at the office.

1. Conveyance Allowance Application 2023 (one per family which includes all children at St Francis of the Fields)
 2. Conveyance Allowance Authority to Pay Form 2023 (one per parent claiming)
- **Parents who received the Conveyance Allowance in 2022 do not need to complete a new form in 2023 unless their children enrolled at St Francis of the Fields in 2022 have changed (ie Yr 6 student left at the end of 2022 or a Prep child commenced in 2023).**
 - **If your family circumstances have changed a new form needs to be completed in 2023.**
 - **If you have recently changed address, please advise the office if you are no longer eligible.**

If you are unsure of the bus stops of the free country buses to St Francis of the Fields, this information is also available on our website <http://www.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au/downloads/bus>

Further information can be found at

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/transport/Pages/conveyance.aspx>

If you are unsure if you may be eligible, or require help in completing your Application, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or email me at swade@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

With thanks,

Stephanie Wade (Administration)

November 2022

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.



Weekend Maintenance Forms



Families have been emailed information regarding our Weekend Maintenance program. If you have not yet had a chance to complete the online form, please click on this link and complete it by Monday 6 Feb. Families can opt to pay the \$70 fee or participate in the program.

A roster will be sent to families and also made available on the school website next week. Each week the roster of families for the coming weeks will be published in the school newsletter and bulletin. [Weekend Maintenance Program 2023](#)

Marong Cup

The Marong Cup will be held on **Saturday 18 February**. Admission tickets and Kids entertainment area wristbands are available to purchase from the school general office.

Admission tickets are \$15 if purchased from school (normally \$25). Tickets provide access to the racecourse and to the Members enclosure. Concession tickets are not available for purchase from the school but are available at the gate. Volunteers do not need to purchase an admission ticket

Wristbands for the Kids Entertainment Area are \$10 if purchased from school and \$15 if purchased at the gate. You do not have to purchase an adult ticket to purchase wristbands. All Foundation children are eligible to a FREE wristband providing they are supervised on the day.

Kids Entertainment Area includes the following rides:

Laser tag
Meltdown
Disney Cars giant slide
Rock wall
Cha cha
Kahuna giant water slide
Shark Escape water slide
Pig train
Swinging chairs



4 hours of rides from 12.00 – 4.00pm

Parents: bring bathers/towels for kids using the water slides

Year Level - Unit Newsletters



Over the coming days, classroom teachers will be emailing their first unit newsletter for Term 1. These will have a new look for some and include more detail than usual about the learning that will be taking place this term.

These changes are in line with the feedback from our reporting review that was conducted in 2022. We know that you will find them all to be very informative and we thank the teachers for the time that has been spent collating this information.

From our next school newsletter, we are hoping to include direct links to these unit newsletters for your ongoing reference. This will be a great way to keep our parent community informed with what is going on in each unit.



46 Blucher Street Strathfieldsaye 3551 - Box 404
principal@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au
phone. 5439 3191
fax. 5439 3192
www.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



2023 INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENTS

The Instrumental program is open to all children from Grades Foundation (Prep) to 6. The children are collected from their classrooms for their lessons during school hours on a rotational basis. Lessons are held in the 4 Instrumental Rooms in the Music Centre.

In 2023 we offer tuition in the following Instruments: Piano, guitar, bass guitar, drums, recorder, violin and vocal.

As part of the program, we hold an annual Instrumental Concert where the children are able to perform an item that they have learnt during the year. It is a wonderful day/night that showcases their talent and hard work.

Each teacher requires term payments paid on time, please. Individual teachers will let parents know of their preferred method of payment.

Enrolment involves **parents contacting the Instrumental Teacher of their choice directly**. These details are listed below.

2023 TEACHERS' CONTACT DETAILS

Helen Jordan

PIANO

helenjordan@optusnet.com.au

Min Miles

GUITAR, VOCAL

minmiles@bigpond.com

Hayley Trounson

VOCAL

hayley.trounson@hotmail.com

Liesbeth van Emmerik

RECORDER, FLUTE (Year 4 upwards for flute tuition)

liesbethhc@gmail.com

Kate van Emmerik

VIOLIN

kateviolin2@gmail.com

Sam Miles Forbes

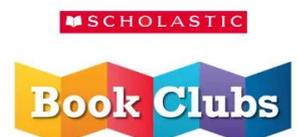
GUITAR, BASS, DRUMS

sammilesforbes@gmail.com



Scholastic Book Club

The Issue #1 catalogues will be sent home with children tomorrow. Orders are due by **Wednesday 15 Feb**. Please complete orders using the LOOP ordering system. We will not be accepting any cash payments at school.





The Pickle Heads

Rock Band 2023 Auditions.



We are looking for grade 5 and 6 drummers, bass players, guitarists, pianists, singers, trumpet players, all musicians welcome. **What have you got to bring to the band?**

The cost is \$150.00 per term payable at the start of each term and a T-shirt will need to be purchased at the start at a cost of \$30.

Auditions will be held **Next Thursday Feb 9th.**

Have something ready to play or sing. No stressing, it's fun, not scary.

E-mail your interest for an audition time to minmiles@bigpond.com with the following info..

NAME: GRADE: INSTRUMENT: PARENTS NAME: PHONE:

I will e-mail you back with an audition time. Auditions held in the band room.

*Please **do not** audition if you are not committed to practising and turning up every week.*

Rock band is heaps of fun and there is so much to learn from being in a band.

Any questions at all call Min 0408442937

Uniform Shop

To assist the Uniform Shop staff, when ordering uniform online, **please add your child's name and class in the 'Any Notes' section** when you are selecting items. This cannot be done at the payment stage of the order.

Orders will be processed on Monday's, Wednesday's & Friday's.

Opening hours –
Monday 8.30 - 9.30am
Wednesday 2.30 – 3.30pm
Friday 8.30 – 9.30am



YMCA – After School Care

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 sfrancis@ymca.org.au.



Tuckshop News....

Orders for tuckshop are to be made via CDF PAY. Please click on this link to access instruction for setting up a new account: [St Francis Tuckshop Information](#). Existing parents are asked to make sure they have update their child's class on their reusable lunch bags.

Reusable lunch bags are available for purchase in CDF Pay. When you place your child's order, their bag will be supplied with their prepared lunch inside.

Please message Fiona Thompson if you would like to be put on the roster - 0400 072 311.



Community News....

City of Greater Bendigo



We have now drafted the Road Safety Action Plan 2023 – 2027 and it is open for feedback until 5pm Friday February 24, 2023.

The new City of Greater Bendigo Road Safety Action Plan will support the vision of ensuring safe travel for the Greater Bendigo community and its visitors. It identifies priorities (approximately 50 Actions) that work towards zero fatalities and a decrease in all crash injuries by focusing on four key safety principles.

The draft will be exhibited on Let's Talk Greater Bendigo for a month for final consultation and public feedback. A report will then be assembled for the April Council Meeting for consideration for the *Road Safety Action Plan 2023 – 2027* to be adopted.

URL link to the Survey: <https://letstalkgreaterbendigo.com.au/road-safety-action-plan>

Bendigo **Ford**  Go Further



MARONG CUP DAY 2023

SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY




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

MARONG RACING CLUB

SUPPORTING BENDIGO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

KIDS RIDES AND ACTIVITIES
Packages available • Umbrella Packages \$300 • Mini Marquees \$450
General Admission \$15 • Kids 16 & Under Free




MARONG 20 CUP DAY 23

SATURDAY 18 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 2023 PACKAGES NOW!

ADMISSION PRICES

Adults	\$15
Concession (aged Pension and TPI only)	\$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	\$300 (10 people)
• Table	*Price does not include alcohol
• Chairs	

Additions

Food (880 with salad)	\$20pp
Admission to course	\$15 adults

'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. There is also an outside balcony with the same elevated perspective to watch the races.

• Admission to 'Members Reserve'	\$75 per person
• Reserved seat for the day	
• Two course hot luncheon	
• Afternoon tea	
• Air-conditioned comfort	
• Racebook	
• Private TAB facilities	
• Cash bar	

MARQUEES

Mini Marquee (3m x 3m)	\$450 based on 10 people
Private Marquee Package (3m x 6m)	\$900 based on 20 people

• Tables
• Chairs

Additions

Food (880 with salad)	\$20pp
Admission to Course	\$15 adults

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 country.racing.com/bendigo or email us on info@bendigo.countryracing.com.au

St Francis Falcons Junior Football Club

The Bendigo Junior Football League season starts in April and we welcome registrations for returning and new players to join the Falcons.



To play in the age groups listed below, players year of birth must fall within the following:

- Under 9 Mixed—Born in 2014, 2015 or prior to 30/4/2016
- Under 10 Mixed— Born in 2013 or 2014
- Under 12 Girls— Born in 2011, 2012 or 2013
- Under 12 Mixed— Born in 2011, 2012 or 2013

The fees for 2023 season will remain the same as last few seasons and includes all registration fee, insurance, jumper, awards etc.

- U9 Mixed, U10 Mixed & U12 Girls - \$135
- U12 Mixed (Grades 4, 5, 6) - \$150

To register, please follow the prompts at the online link:
www.playhq.com/afl/register/f62605

For more information please contact Adam Place on 0419 518 980 or adamdplace@gmail.com or Hayden McDonnell on 0428 392 976 or hayden-jmcdonnell32@gmail.com



Products for sale will include
gemstones
fossils
minerals
jewellery



**Saturday 25th &
Sunday 26th February
2023**



Opening Times:
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 10am - 4pm

Venue:
Bendigo Exhibition Centre
Bendigo Showgrounds
Holmes Road
North Bendigo, Victoria

About the Event:

The Expo hosts over 20 top quality stallholders selling gemstones, rocks, minerals, gold & silver, jewellery, lapidary supplies and jewellery making tools.

Club members will showcase works and activities offered at the club throughout the year. The event is family friendly, refreshments available from the BBQ and canteen and includes interactive activities such as gem sifting.

Activities:

- Showcase displays
- Over 20 quality stalls
- Gems, Fossils & Jewellery
- Gem sifting
- Demonstrations
- BBQ & Refreshments

Raffle Prizes

Exquisite hand crafted jewellery pieces.

Enquiries: Bendigogemclubinc@gmail.com
www.bendigogemclub.tidyhq.com

BendigoGemClub

**ST. FRANCIS
NETBALL CLUB**

2023 Season

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Head to the Facebook page
St Francis Netball News
for the registration link.
Registrations close Friday 10th February

KELLY SPORTS SIZZLING
SUMMER SPORTS!
LEARN NEW SPORTS IN TERM 1

FOR THE LOVE OF SPORTS
25 YEARS

Have heaps of fun with your friends while playing a range of dynamic and active sports throughout term 1.

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

INFORMATION
FOR PARENTS

MULTI-SPORT
PROGRAMME

Programmes run weekly on one day a week for one hour.

This term we will focus on the following sports:

- ✓ Soccer
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Tennis
- ✓ Golf
- ✓ Cricket
- ✓ AFL
- ✓ Netball
- ✓ Athletics

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

For Prep – Grade 6 students.

\$128 FOR AN 8 WEEK PROGRAM

Sign up anytime and only pay for the weeks remaining in the term. \$16 per weekly 60 minute session.

School: St Francis of the Fields Primary School

Day: Friday's

Start Date: 10th February

End Date: 31st March

Time: 3:40pm - 4:40pm

BOOK EARLY & SAVE

Book before February 6th and receive 1 free lesson!

Website: kellysports.com.au/bendigo

Contact: Beau Cross

Email: beau@kellysports.com.au

Phone: 0428 326 924

Facebook: Kelly Sports Bendigo



KELLY SPORTS
BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU



COME & TRY DAY

Saturday - February 11th
11am - 2pm
Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve

Fun games & activities for the kids to play!
BBQ
Register on the day to play in 2023!

 www.epsomfc.com.au

 Epsom FC - Soccer in Bendigo



GIANT Tennis
COACHING PROGRAMS

HOT SHOTS 3-12YRS
JUNIORS & ADULTS
GROUPS & PRIVATE LESSONS
HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
CARDIO TENNIS
SQUADS
MATCH PLAY



CARDIO TENNIS 9.30-10.30AM MONDAY-FRIDAY | \$15/SESSION
Come & Try a Cardio workout with a Tennis twist!

REGISTER NOW FOR TERM 1 COACHING AT YOUR CLOSEST GIANT TENNIS VENUE:

- AXEDALE TENNIS CLUB
- BENDIGO REGIONAL TENNIS CENTRE
- MAIDEN GULLY TENNIS CLUB
- SOUTH BENDIGO TENNIS CLUB

gianttennis.com.au



1st Strathfieldsaye Scout Group

Joey Scouts will be starting in Strathfieldsaye in 2023

Joey Scouts are girls and boys aged 5-7. They enjoy adventure, imagination, and being outdoors during their weekly one-hour meeting, and occasional sleepovers and camps.

We have a **COME & TRY DAY** on **Sunday 12th February** between 2 & 4pm at 838 Strathfieldsaye Rd, Strathfieldsaye. Come along and learn all about it. Stay for the whole time or just call in to meet us. **The intended meeting time going forward is 5.30 - 6.30 pm each Monday of the term starting Feb 20th.**

Enquiries:
Margaret Keech OAM
Group Leader 1st Strathfieldsaye
margkeech@outlook.com