



ST PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

WWW.STPATS.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

FEBRUARY 16, 2024



Dear Families

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2024. We have enjoyed a very positive return to the school year, and the students have transitioned well into new classes and spaces. We welcomed 5 new students to our Junior class this year and it has been wonderful getting to know them and their families. Welcome to Zachary, Atticus, Alex, Beau and Junior; we look forward to being on a learning journey with each of you.

It was lovely to see so many families at our Welcome Night. Next week we begin our PPL meetings which is an opportunity to work in partnership with you to gain a deeper understanding about your child and establish goals to enhance their learning and wellbeing.

This year we have welcomed some new people to our team. Hannah is a new teacher in the Junior Unit working alongside Georgie, and Beth joins them as an Education Support Officer. Emma has joined our administration team working in the front office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday alongside Deb who will be there on Thursday and Fridays. We are blessed to have Hannah, Beth and Emma join us this year.

From the Principal

We had a beautiful Ash Wednesday liturgy this week to begin the season of Lent. The students will be engaged in meaningful activities throughout Lent as we prepare for Easter.

We are excited that our excursion program has resumed this week as we value every opportunity for our students to access the community and for them to be immersed in new learning experiences. Look out on Seesaw for updates.

As we settle in to a new year we are focussed on implementing a rich curriculum that reflects the unique skills and abilities of every student. I look forward to working with you all throughout 2024, my door is open so please come and see me anytime.

Kind regards

Cathy



This week marked the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday, a meaningful day in the Catholic calendar. It provided a time for us to pause, reflect, and renew our commitment to our faith.

You may have noticed some of us wearing ashes on our foreheads. These ashes symbolise our desire for God's forgiveness and grace. They remind us of the importance of repentance and turning our hearts back to God.

During Lent, we're encouraged to pray more, fast, and give to those in need. It's a time to grow closer to God and to others in our community.

For our students, Ash Wednesday is a chance to learn about the significance of this day and how they can participate in the Lenten season. Through various activities, we guide them in building an understanding of the importance of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Let's embrace this season together as a school community. Let's support each other on our Lenten journey, encouraging one another to grow in faith and love.

May this Ash Wednesday be a time of blessing and renewal for us all.





Ash Wednesday
14 February





This week, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Please give generously to Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to assist communities around the world through income generation, water and sanitation, food security, education and disaster risk reduction programs.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and online by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.





Ash Wednesday Prayer

God who walks with us,
Be our guide this Lent.
Sustain us in our
fasting, inspire us in our
praying, lead us in our
giving.
May we support the
work of Caritas
Australia,
Walking shoulder to
shoulder
With our sisters and
brothers around the
world
Until all live a life in
fullness.
We pray this in the
name of Christ
Amen

direct collect

Stop throwing money away!

Start recycling for good.

Direct Collect is a bin collection service providing St Patrick's Special School with a dedicated bin for 10¢ refundable bottles, cans and containers. If you would like to contribute refundable bottles and cans, please place them in the blue bin at the front of the school office.



HeartKids

February 14 is Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day. A staff morning tea was held for Sweetheart Day to raise awareness and fundraise for Heart Kids. Thank you everyone for your support.



Bus Phone Numbers



Red Bus:
0407 606 950

Green Bus:
0417 821 292

Rainbow Bus:
0406 829 513

2024 STUDENT TERM DATES

TERM 1
Tuesday 30/1 - Friday 12/4

TERM 2
Tuesday 30/4 - Friday 5/7

TERM 3
Tuesday 23/7 - Friday 27/9

TERM 4
Tuesday 15/10 - Thurs 12/12

The Southern Cross
Part of your Catholic family since 1867

Living Catholic

For the latest CESA Covid-19 updates:

<https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/alerts> and

<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicEducationSA/>

CLUB SLICK JUNIOR



Key Dates 2024

February 16
March 15
April 19
May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
Halloween
November 15
December 20
Christmas

Club Slick Junior is for children aged 6 to 17 years.

It's designed for attendees to express their individuality through dancing and singing while having fun and developing friendships.

Parents and carers have the opportunity to meet others, create connections and share information.

Featuring: red carpet arrival, dancing, singing, having fun on the stage, door raffle, and an afternoon tea.

This event is free to attend, however bookings required via oranaonline.com.au.

Bookings available from the first Monday of the Month.

Burnside Ballroom
401 Greenhill Road, Tasmore
4:30pm - 6:00pm

Want to know more?
Contact our team on 8375 2000
or intake@orana.asn.au



Carer Gateway Community Forum

- an online space where carers can find connection and support from other carers, 24/7

What is the Community Forum?

The Community Forum is part of Carer Gateway, delivering services to unpaid carers across Australia. The Forum is a safe, anonymous, online space for carers 18 years and over to connect, ask questions, and support one another.

The Forum is available online 24/7 and it's easy to join in. Carers just like you have already posted about their caring journeys, sharing helpful advice about caring for a loved one, and supports they've found useful. The Forum also provides a safe social space to chat about shared interests – for example, recipes and hobbies, self-care tips, and more!



Australian Government



Regal Theatre Accessibility Workshop

Wednesday 28 February 2024

5 pm - 6.30 pm

City of Burnside Civic Centre
and online via live stream



We want to hear from people living with disabilities, their families and supporters with lived experience on how we can make the Regal Theatre accessible to everyone. Our ultimate goal is to create an enjoyable experience for everyone and your input is invaluable. Disability project officers with lived experiences and advocates for disability inclusion from various backgrounds will facilitate the workshop.

Workshop attendees will receive tickets to a movie session of their choosing at the Regal Theatre to thank them for their time.

Accessibility at the Workshop:

- Live Captions on live stream.
- Room and information accessibility guide/map will be provided.
- A note-taker or support person is available.
- Please make contact at least one business day before the workshop if you would like us to provide you with plain text documents for the presentation.
- There will be both electronic versions and hard copies of all materials.
- You will be able to find a complete list of accessibility options and advise us of any other accessibility requirements at registration.

If there are any barriers to attendance, please get in touch and we can see how we can support.

For more information or if you cannot make this time but would like to take part or contribute to future work in access and inclusion, please contact the City of Burnside via the contact details listed below.



More information and to register:

Talitha McDougall, Strategic Projects Officer
8366 4200 or tmcdougall@burnside.sa.gov.au



SCAN ME