



# ***ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL***

**Thursday 30th November, Week 9 , Term 4 2023**

## **NEWSLETTER**



**Congratulation to our Senior STEM Team consisting of Anna, Bella, Emma and Japleen**

### **2023 STEM Achievements:**

**Top 3 finalists in the Melb. Catholic Schools STEM Showcase - Outstanding achievement!**

**Invited to present their app at the National STEM Showcase (invitation only presentation)**

**Invited to present their app at the Kids Conference at Melbourne University (invitation only)**

The team of senior girls developed a Bi Lingula Retire Time App. This app is designed to assist the vulnerable in our community at risk of memory loss. An extraordinary concept that has gained much interest in the STEM world. The school will formally acknowledge the achievement of the team at the senior school farewell assembly on Wednesday 13th December 2pm.

### Acknowledgment of Country

*We acknowledge this land as the Traditional Lands of the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin nation and we pay our respects to all elders past, present and emerging.*

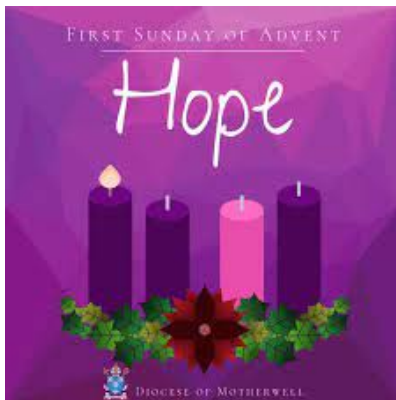
*We will respect the land, animals and waterways, from the roots of the earth to the tops of the trees.*

*Thank you for letting us learn and grow on your mother earth. We understand that if we protect and look after the country, then the country will look after us.*



## Principal Report

Good afternoon St Peter's Community,



### The first Sunday of Advent is Sunday 3rd of December

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

## Year 2024 Staff Planning Day: School Closure Day 11th December

**Year 6 students will attend school between 9 - 1:30 pm to take part in the Big Day Out Celebration on this day.**

If Year 6 students are unable to be picked up at 1.30pm families are asked to make arrangements with TheirCare out of school supervision.

## 7th December Christmas carols and inclement weather



**\*\*Please see the flyer on page 5 for information and plans for inclement weather\*\***

Students wear **full school uniforms** on Thursday 7th December. Students will leave the school at 3.30pm and will return with their families for the carols. Students are encouraged to wear Christmas themed clothes for the carols. **Please note: Teachers will not be supervising students at night. Students are the responsibility of the family during the carols** (unless the carols are inside the classrooms due to inclement weather)

Families are encouraged to escort the students to the bathroom during the carols as there will be no teacher supervision.

## A Special Assembly to Thank our Wonderful Parent Helpers

Next week on Tuesday 5th December from 2pm, we will welcome our invited Parent Helpers to a special school Assembly. These parent helpers have consistently supported our students in their social and academic learning in various ways, throughout the year. We want to thank them and acknowledge them by sharing in an afternoon tea that will be followed by a school assembly.



## All School families are invited to our end of year celebrations

**Wednesday 13th December:** 2pm Senior School Farewell Assembly. 2024 School and House Captains will be announced on this day. This will conclude with the student walking out to the school via a guard of honour to the school oval



**Thursday 14th December** : 10.10am End of Year Mass. All welcome to attend mass

## Update on Wedge Street Works

The works on Wedge Street are coming along as planned and it is hoped that it will be completed on the 15th December. Thank you to our families for their support and understanding during the very difficult year navigating student pick ups and drop offs.



## Tomorrow Friday 1st December is the last day for Frozen Friday this term

## End of Term 4

### School Finishes at 1.30pm Friday 15th December

If you are unable to pick up your child at 1.30pm, families are asked to make arrangements with TheirCare out of school supervision.



## Prep orientation

It was great to see our 2024 Preps come for orientation this term. Our Preps have two more orientation days next year and their first school day will be on Friday 2nd February. We already have a number of 2025 Prep enrolments. If you have a child setting in Prep 2025 please collect an enrolment pack from our school office.

### School Vision

*St Peter's is a faith filled and inclusive community that embraces diversity.  
We aspire to engage and empower all to think critically and act justly, guided by our catholic values,  
on our journey as lifelong learners*

## Lost property

We have a number of lost property items in our cupboard at present. Any unclaimed items will be donated to the uniform shop on Wednesday 13th of December.

## 2024 School Uniform

The start of 2024 concludes the transition period between the old and new school uniform. Please refer to our [Parent Handbook](#) to see images of our school uniform. Please note that black runners are not part of the 2024 school uniform. Thank you for your support and understanding.

## Extended Leave & Students not returning next year

If your child will be away during Term 4 2023 and Term 1 2024, please notify the school office and complete the [Exemption from School](#) form.

If your child will not be returning to St Peter's next year, please inform the office and fill in the [Student Transfer Form](#) to enable a smooth transition.

## Semester 2 2023 reports

Semester 2 reports go live on Wednesday 13th December, 4pm. Please email the school office if you require a hard copy of the report [office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au).

## 2024 Learning spaces

Students will spend an hour in their 2024 Learning Space on Wednesday 13th December. Teachers are currently using their professional judgement to create the best learning space for each student.

## Year 6 transition to secondary school

The move from primary to secondary school is a big step for our students. Please click on the link below for some tips on how to support your child

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/school-education/school-choosing-starting-moving/starting-secondary-school>

## Evacuation Drill

The last scheduled evacuation drill had to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. The next evacuation exercise will take place on **Wednesday 6th December at 2.45pm**

We ask that families note this if intending to collect their child early from school on this day. Once the drill commences it will be difficult to locate and bring your child to the office during this time.

Students are notified of the practice evacuation as it starts and are notified when the practice has ended. If you have any concerns in relation to the practice drill, please do contact the school office:

[office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au) or your child's teacher directly.

## Victorian Fisheries Authority-LittleAngler Kits



The Victorian Government is giving Victoria's next generation of recreational fishers the opportunity to get hooked on fishing, with free Little Angler Kits for Year 5 students across Victoria.

The Government wants more students to catch a new hobby - fishing - because it's a healthy and active pastime that gets children into the great outdoors and experiencing nature with friends and family. To make it happen the State Government committed \$1.5m to provide 60,000 Little Angler Kits to Year 5 primary school students.

All Year 5 primary aged students can receive a Little Angler Kit. The kits include a fishing rod, reel with line, tackle box with some hooks, sinkers, swivels and a lure, as well as a [Kids Guide to Fishing](#) – all FREE! They also created a [kid-friendly web hub](#) with lots of useful information and videos. Year 5 students have been selected based on the Victorian Curriculum focus, movement and motor development and safety considerations. The program is entirely voluntary.

Our kits have arrived and are available for collection. All year 5 students must be accompanied by an adult to collect their fishing rod. The kits will not be sent home without parent / carer supervision. School office hours 8.30am - 4pm

**2024 school finishing time 3.20pm**

## Student one to one devices

In the coming week the students will be required to hand back their one to one device. Over the January period all chrome books will be cleaned and wiped of student history. In 2024 Year 2-6 students will be handed a chrome book device for personal use during the year. We are proud to be able to provide our students with this technological advantage. Year Prep - 1 students have access to an iPad bank in learning spaces.

Thank you to the families for their well wishes following my foot surgery and recovery.

I am most appreciative of the wonderful job Daniela Torcaso did managing two roles while I was away.

Kindest regards

Angela Tonkin



### **In the event of rain or inclement weather the plan will be as follows**



Food trucks will still provide food if they agree to come given the weather forecast. (TBC)

Families are asked to bring a picnic rug or chairs and arrange themselves in the Galilee space no later than 5.50pm. Chairs will not be provided.

Students need to be in the classrooms at 5.45pm. Students will be supervised from this time by teachers.

Families and younger siblings are not permitted to stay in the classrooms during the carols.

Students will stay in their learning space with the teacher during the carols.

Teachers will escort the students to the Galilee space and they will perform their carol on the stage. The carols will be streamed live for the students to watch in their learning space.

Students will be collected from the learning space by a family member at the conclusion of the carols.

## **St Peter's School Improvement Framework**

- To empower students to learn
- To build teacher pedagogical practices
- To strengthen partnerships with families and the wider community

### **Library News**



#### **Library Book Returns and Lost Books**

As we approach the end of the school year, you are kindly reminded to look for any misplaced or lost borrowed books that your child may not have returned to our school library. Over the past years, we have invested a considerable amount of money to build books in our beautiful school library. The students are responsible for the books that they borrow and take home.

If any book is not returned by the end of the year, you will be charged a replacement fee so that the school can repurchase the book. Please have a careful look for library books around your home and return them to school as soon as possible if they are not being read. Thank you.



### **Giving thanks can be the greatest gift of all**



Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) is excited to be launching a Christmas campaign in December. The focus of the campaign will be on giving the biggest thanks possible to our amazing teachers.

To make the campaign more special, students have the chance to be part of it. MACS has created an online form at [www.macsbiggestthanks.com](http://www.macsbiggestthanks.com)

where students can write a message of thanks to the teacher who has helped them to flourish, whether by igniting their passion in a certain subject or by inspiring them to believe in

themselves. Not only will the messages of thanks be shared with teachers, but some of the students' messages will appear on billboards around Melbourne and in future communications. We need parent/carer/guardian consent in the online form to give students the chance of having their message used in this way.

The form will be open until Friday 1 December. We look forward to seeing the messages of joy and positivity from students as we celebrate our wonderful teachers this Christmas.

**WE HAVE HAD TWO MESSAGES OF THANKS SELECTED FOR THE CAMPAIGN. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO INCLUDE YOUR MESSAGE - SHARE WITH MELBOURNE HOW YOUR TEACHER HAS HELPED YOU FLOURISH**





## Grade 6 Graduation

We look forward to celebrating this exciting event with our Year 6 students and families.



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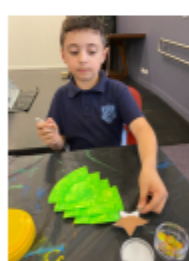
# Key Dates Term 4 2023

DECEMBER	TERM 4 2023
WEEK 9	Wednesday 29th November: Prep Mass, 9:15am, St Peter's Church, All Welcome
WEEK 10 DECEMBER 	Monday 4th: Prep excursion to CERES Environmental Education Centre  Tuesday 5th: Parent Helper afternoon tea - 2:00 pm Whole school assembly - 2:30pm  Wednesday 6th: St Monica's transition day for Grade 6 students  Thursday 7th: Christmas Carols & food trucks from 4pm  Friday 8th: Athletics Day (Prep - Yr 2 onsite @ St Peter's, Yrs 3 - 6 @ St Monica's College) No assembly today Frozen Friday
WEEK 11 	<b>Monday 11th SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY (Staff facilitated planning day)</b> Monday 11th: Grade 6 students Big Day Out  Wednesday 13th: <b>Last day at school for Year 6 students.</b> <b>Year 6 Graduation Mass 7:00 - 8:00 pm</b> 2024 Class Orientation years prep - 5 and new students joining St Peter's in 2024 Student Reports available via nforma platform from 4pm Assembly 2pm. Families welcome Thursday 14th: Whole School End of Year Mass 10:00 - 11:00 am Kaboom Incursion 11:30am - 1:30pm <b>Friday 15th: Last Day Term 4, 1:30pm finish</b>

JANUARY 2024	TERM 1
WEEK 1	<p>Monday 29th: Staff First Aid Training - No students onsite</p> <p>Tuesday 30th: Staff onsite (Student Wellbeing Professional Learning - No students onsite)</p> <p>Wednesday 31st: Student Testing in small groups (Years 1 - 6) Prep Orientation 9 am - 12 pm / 1 pm - 3:20 pm</p> <p>Thursday 1st Feb: Student Testing in small groups (Years 1 - 6) Prep Orientation 9 am - 12 pm / 1 pm - 3:20 pm</p> <p>Friday 2nd Feb: Student Testing in small groups (Years 1 - 6) All Preps 9 am - 1:30 pm</p> <p><b>**STUDENT TESTING DAYS</b> - families will be advised by the end of term of their child's testing day - siblings will attend on the same day - students will attend for one day only, either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday**</p>
WEEK 2 FEBRUARY	<p>Monday 5th: ALL students onsite 08:50 - 3:20 pm</p> <p>Wednesday 7th: 9:30am Prep 2025 Tour</p> <p>Friday 9th: Mass for Years 1 - 6 (no preps) 9:15am</p>

## Key Dates 2024

Children are very excited to start making Christmas theme crafts and art work this week. Children made Santa mask, paper plate christmas tree, hama bead ornaments, stitch reindeer pouch.



### How to book:

- Create an account through [www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au).
- Manage casual and regular bookings & cancellations on your account.
- Provide CRN Centrelink details, any medical conditions & contact details.
- Bookings or changes made within 48 hours will occur a small fee

### Important Note:

On 15th December After school care starts at 1:30Pm - 6pm.

Service Contact number: 0491911121

Service email address:

[stpetersepping@theircare.com.au](mailto:stpetersepping@theircare.com.au)

Head office contact: 1300 072 410

## Procedure for Reporting an Absence

Thank you to the families that are using the [notices@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:notices@stprepp.catholic.edu.au) email account or the 'Report an Absence' link on our website, to notify the school of an absence.

It is not always possible for teachers to access emails before they mark the morning roll or they may also be absent. By sending an email to the notices email address, the office staff can make sure the roll is updated. Please send an email for each day your child is absent, or specify a date range for their absence. A reason for the absence must be noted.

The exemption from school form is to be completed for students that are absent for more than 10 school days. The form is also available from the school office.

## Updating your personal and contact information & changes to student medical conditions

Do we have your most up to date contact details? If not, please contact the school on [office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au) so we can update our records. This includes parent/carers' name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details.



Please ensure any changes to student medical conditions are communicated directly to the office in person or via email. This will help to ensure that appropriate measures are put in place to manage your child's medical condition.

## Feedback

We are always looking for ways to improve our school community - please email our principal Mrs Angela Tonkin if you have suggestions or feedback you would like to share. you

[atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au) All emails will be acknowledged.



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