



ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 26th April 2024, Week 2, Term 2 2024

NEWSLETTER



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.



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.

Principal Report

Good afternoon St Peter's Community,

We have had such a wonderful start to Term 2. Last week Fr Tien and the Epping RSL joined our school community to commission our school war memorial garden. This garden space will be a constant reminder of the sacrifice men and women made during all wars.



Sacrament of reconciliation

Congratulations to our Year 3 students that made their first reconciliation on Tuesday night. Thank you to the Year 3 teaching team and our Education and Faith Leader Sara Brundell, for preparing our students and the sacramental celebration.

Winter uniform

Next week is the last week for students to wear their summer school uniform. Starting week 4, 6th May all students are expected to wear their winter school uniform for the remainder of Term 2 and all of Term 3. Thank you for your support.

2025 Prep Enrollments

On Wednesday the 1st of May we will start conversations with our 2025 Prep enrollments. We have been overwhelmed with enrollments for 2025. Please make sure you have completed an enrollment if you have a child starting prep in 2025.

Removal of portables and oval update

Over the term 1 holiday break our school portables were removed making way for our new playground. I continue to work with the project manager and architects around our new playground project. The playground design has been finalized based on student feedback and I continue to work with the project team on the final design plans. It is anticipated the new oval will be stated in Term 3, 2024. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this new space.

To empower students to learn

To build teacher pedagogical practices

To strengthen partnerships with families and the wider community

We welcome you to celebrate

St Peter's Primary School, Epping 90 Years of Education Celebration Mass



**Thursday 27th of June • 11:30 am Mass
32 Wedge Street Epping, 3076**

Past and present families and staff are welcome to celebrate with a Mass at 11:30 am.

From 4:00 - 5:00pm, Learning Spaces will be open for past and present families and staff to visit the new chapter of learning.

Present staff will be on site to meet and greet visitors.

Light refreshments will be provided.



Religious Education

First Reconciliation

Last night our students celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. This is a Sacrament of healing and one of a few Sacraments that believers can participate in multiple times. The Sacrament is an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with God by saying sorry for the poor choices that they have made and being forgiven for these by God. It is an opportunity to reflect on the way we interact with others in our lives and how we can walk in the light of Christ in our every day.

Thank you to the Year 3 teachers for their support in preparing the students for this Sacrament, to the staff that attended and to Fr Tien and visiting priest Fr Joe for being a part of the celebration.



First Eucharist

Last week families of students receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist attended a Family Information session where they engaged in learning about the Sacrament and mass. Information packs were shared to families on this day. If your child is receiving the Sacrament this year and you were unable to attend please contact their classroom teacher or myself for an information pack.



Wellbeing

Resilience Rights and Respectful Relationships

Each level will be engaging in learning in Topic Three: Positive Coping in our Resilience Rights and Respectful Relationships Program. Positive Coping learning activities provide opportunities for students to identify and discuss different types of coping strategies to support them in their emotional regulation. Positive self-talk is a concept shared in this topic of learning. It is discussed in relation to dealing with difficult situations including negative thoughts, emotions and events.



Focus on Attendance

In accordance with the Education and Training Reform Act 2006, schooling is compulsory for children and young people from 6 - 17 years unless an exemption has been granted. Parents/guardians must ensure their child attends school at all times when the school is open for instruction.

St Peter's aims to ensure all students have access to a full and rewarding education. Regular attendance at school provides students with the opportunity to gain maximum benefit from their learning.

Parents/guardians/carers of our school community are expected to meet the requirements of the St Peter's School Attendance Policy and work to the best of their ability to reinforce the importance of regular attendance and the value of learning.

Attendance is:

- Being at school unless an exemption from attendance has been granted
- Being at school on time
- Being at school until dismissal time
-

At St Peter's we believe attendance is important because:

- It ensures achievements in learning and appropriate participation in educational programmes.
- It enables students to reach their full potential and supports success in students learning
- It enables students and families to develop and maintain positive relationships with peers and staff.

School is better when your child is here

Going to school every day is the most important part of your child's education. There are no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness. The best thing you can do is support your child to get to school every day.

A positive attitude towards school, healthy habits and routines, and parental involvement can support your child's regular school attendance and prevent chronic absence patterns.



Adapted from material © State of New South Wales (Department of Education), 2023

1. Establish positive habits to promote attendance

- Set good bedtime and morning routines to make the process of getting to school smoother for everyone. Try to prepare as much as possible the night before, e.g. school uniform, school bag packed.
- Ensure your child gets enough sleep and exercise to support their physical and mental health.
- Talk positively about the importance of school attendance with your child. Explain that it is an important part of growing up, a legal obligation and that you expect them to attend every day.
- Show an interest in your child's school and become involved where possible. Keep notes, newsletters, etc. in a place where they are visible reminders of school news for the whole family. Talk about school activities in a positive manner.
- Discuss any changes to usual routines in advance with your child, such as alternative drop-off and pick-up arrangements, to ensure clarity and minimise anxiety.

2. Changes in your child's attitude towards school

We all have those days when it is just too hard to get up and feel motivated to go to work or school, but if this occurs regularly, it may be a sign that your child needs support. Early intervention is vital to address physical, emotional or social reasons for school avoidance before it progresses to chronic absence problems and on to school refusal.

Signs of school avoidance to look out for

- feeling sick before school, e.g. waking up with a headache, stomach-ache or sore throat
- tearfulness, clinginess and dawdling before school – struggling to get out of bed, leave the house or get out of the car
- complaints about attending school and reluctance to talk about school
- missing classes and being late for class.

What is happening at school?

Early signs of school avoidance may be identified at school through observations and insights by your child's teachers. Work in partnership with the school to support your child's attendance and wellbeing.

Further Resources

[Anxiety about going to school](#) – Victorian Government

[Attendance and missing school](#) – Victorian Government

[How can I get my teenager to school?](#) – Victorian Government

[Early Signs of School Avoidance/Refusal](#) – Travancore School

[Tips for Promoting School Attendance](#) – Travancore School

[Understanding School Avoidance and School Refusal](#) – Travancore School

[School refusal: children and teenagers](#) – Raising Children Network

[Understanding school refusal](#) – Headspace

[School refusal](#) – Be You

[Everything you need to know about school refusal](#) – ReachOut

3. What can you do when you see the signs?

- Work with your child to understand what is happening and so that they feel supported and empowered. Listen with compassion but be consistent in expectations.
- Speak with your child's teacher(s) about your concerns.
- Consider taking your child to the GP to rule out or address any physical or emotional health problems.
- Request and attend school meetings with your child and their teacher to develop strategies to support increased attendance.



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

Second Hand Uniform Shop Now Open

Thank you to our parent volunteer Tanielle who will be coordinating the second hand uniform sales this term. The shop will be open every Thursday from 2:30 - 3:20 pm and every Friday from 8:30 - 9:00 am

There is a high demand for all uniform items. We welcome any uniform donations to be dropped off at our school office anytime.

We have been advised there is a wait time for the size 6 blouse which is worn under the tunic if ordering via Academy Uniforms. Our second hand uniform shop does have plenty of blouses in stock or in the interim as an alternative, students may wear the polo top under the tunic if their size 6 blouse is on backorder.

School Bell Times

Please note our school bell times below. We encourage all families to arrange appointments outside of school where possible. If appointments are made within school hours, please let the office know in advance. Once students are playing outside it is difficult to call them to the office for a prompt departure.

SCHOOL BELL TIMES 2024	
06:30 am - 08:30 am	Their Care Before School Program Enrol at https://theircare.com.au/ click on 'Book Now' Their Care Support: 1300 072 410
8:30 am - 8:50 am	Gates open and supervised on Coulstock Street and Wedge Street
08:50 am - 08:55 am	Music - All teachers in classes and students enter and prepare for the school day - unpack and welcome.
08:55 am - 09:05 am	Prayer and attendance roll
09:05 am - 11:00 am	Learning time (brain food break at 10:00 am)
11:00 am- 11:05 am	Supervised eating outside
11:05 am - 11:35 am	Recess
11:35 am - 1:35 pm	Learning time
1:35 pm - 1:45 pm	Supervised eating of lunch outside (weather permitting)
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	Lunch play time
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Learning time
3:15 pm - 3:20 pm	Office tubs & pack up
3:20 pm	Student dismissal.
3:20 pm - 3:35 pm	Gates open and supervised
3:20 pm - 6:00 pm	Their Care After School Care Program



ASTHMA AUSTRALIA

Ensure your child is Asthma ready this winter
Advice from Asthma Australia

As the temperature cools down, the number of [triggers for people with asthma](#) can increase.

People with asthma can react to [cold air](#) and become susceptible to [viruses and flu](#), which can bring on [asthma symptoms](#).

We understand the management of your asthma can be challenging and sometimes complicated. We also know winter can be a difficult, tiring, and frustrating season for people with asthma. But having good asthma control means fewer asthma flare-ups, doctor visits, time off work, and hospitalisations.

As we head into winter it's a good time to ensure your child's asthma action plan is up to date.

Please ensure the school has a copy of your child's latest Asthma Action Plan and Asthma medication.




LAST CHANCE

To complete your form

Complete your E-form today and a Teeth on Wheels team member will contact you if your child is eligible for FREE DENTAL CARE!

CLICK OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO COMPLETE YOUR FORM



 TeethOnWheelsAustralia
  #teethonwheels
 Phone: (03) 9338 1191
 Email: info@teethonwheels.com.au



TeethOnWheels
a positive dental experience

Discrimination, racism and bullying are not tolerated at St Peter's.

TERM 2

Thursday, 25th April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Friday, 26th April	School Closure Day
Monday 29th April	Teeth on Wheels student dental van onsite
Wednesday, 1st May	Prep 2025 Family Conversations (new families)
Thursday, 2nd May	Teeth on Wheels student dental van onsite Prep 2025 Family Conversations Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday, 3rd May	Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY Winter Interschool Sports Round 2, 9 - 11am
Monday 6th May	Prep 2025 Family Conversations (new families)
Tuesday 7th May	Prep 2025 Family Conversations (new families)
Thursday, 9th May	Prep 2025 Family Conversations Mothers Day Stall open for students Melbourne Victory Football in Schools Introduction - Yr 4 students Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday, 10th May	Assembly, 2:40pm Families welcome to attend Prep 2025 Family Conversations Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY Grade 6 students attending government schools in 2025 - applications due today
Sunday, 12th May	Mothers Day
Monday, 13th May	Year 5/6 Excursion to Scienceworks
Thursday, 16th May	Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday, 17th May	Prep 2025 First Round Offers sent out to families Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY
Wednesday 22nd May	LDSSA Cross Country @ Parade College 9am - 2:30pm Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday 24th May	Assembly 2:40pm, Families welcome to attend Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY
Saturday, 25th May	1st Eucharist (Year 4) 10:00 am

Monday, 27th May	Staff Professional Learning - SCHOOL CLOSURE
Thursday 30th May	Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday 31st May	Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY
Monday, 10th June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Thursday 7th June	Second Hand Uniform Shop 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday, 7th June	Assembly 2:40pm , Families welcome to attend Second Hand Uniform Shop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY
Tuesday, 11th June	Evacuation Drill, 2:40pm
Thursday, 13th June	Second Hand Uniform 2:30 - 3:20pm CASH ONLY
Friday 14th June	Second Hand Uniform Shop hop 8:30 - 9:00 am CASH ONLY
Saturday, 15th June	Confirmation (Year 6) 9:30 am St Peter's Church
Wednesday, 19th June	Wacky Wednesday (Gold Coin Donation)
Friday, 23rd June	Assembly, 2:40 pm. Families welcome to attend
Thursday, 27th June	St Peter's 90th Birthday Celebration - Mass (time TBC) Open classrooms for past family members and staff from 3 - 4pm
Friday, 28th June	End of Term 2 1:30 pm finish Feast Day St Peter's Mass, 10:15am

Procedure for Reporting an Absence

Thank you to the families that are using the 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 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. Thank you

atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au All emails will be acknowledged.



St Peter's Catholic Parish Newsletter

Our Parish Newsletter can be accessed here:  28th April 5th Sun Easter pdf.pdf

A MESSAGE FROM PARISH OFFICE

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the school families that have commenced their voluntary contribution for 2024. We invite active participation of all our school families. Please note the Parish banking details for Direct Deposit.

INTERNET BANKING:

ACCOUNT NAME: EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH

BSB: 083 347 A/C NO. 65880 7871 REF: School, Your eldest child & family name

If you would like to receive a copy of your statement via email or are experiencing difficulty please contact the Parish office on 9401 6300 or epping@cam.org.au.