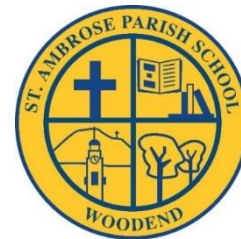


NEWSLETTER NO. 3 TERM 1

FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY, 2023



Our Vision: Centred by **Faith**, In Partnership with **Community**, We Provide Excellence in **Learning**

2023 Term 1 Dates

Sunday 19 February 2023	Reconciliation Commitment Mass 11.00am
Tuesday 21 February 2023	Parent-teacher Conversations
Wednesday 22 February 2023	Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am Prep rest day School Advisory Council Information Session 5.30 pm
Thursday 23 February 2023	Parent-teacher Conversations
Tuesday 28 February 2023	Whole school sports day 9.30-3.30pm Classroom Information Sessions 3.45-4.30 pm
Wednesday 1 March 2023	Prep rest day Year 1/2 Mass 9.30am
Thursday 2 March 2023	Classroom Information Sessions 3.45-4.30 pm Grade 6 Camp Information Session 4.30pm
Friday 3 March 2023	Cobaw Summer Sports – all Grade 5/6 students
Wednesday 8 March 2023	Prep rest day
Thursday 9 March 2023	Reconciliation Preparation Evening with Denise Arnel 6.30pm
Monday 13 March 2023	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 15 March – Monday 27 March 2023	NAPLAN
Wednesday 15 March 2023	Gr 6/Prep Buddies Mass 9.30am
Friday 17 March 2023	Twilight Picnic 5.30 – 7.00 pm
Monday 20 March 2023	Whole School Photo Day
Tuesday 21 March 2023	Colour run/cross country run 11.30-3.30pm
Wednesday 22 March 2023	Sacrament of Reconciliation 12.30pm
Friday 24 March 2023	National Ride2school Day
Monday 27 March – Friday 31 March 2023	Grade 6 Canberra Camp
Wednesday 29 March 2023	End of Term Mass 9.30am
Tuesday 4 April 2023	Sacred Heart College Year 5 transition day End of Term 1 – 3.30pm
Wednesday 5 April 2023	School closure – Literacy PD
Thursday 6 April 2023	School closure – Literacy PD
Friday 7 April 2023	Good Friday
Sunday 9 April 2023	Easter Sunday
Monday 10 April 2023	Easter Monday
Monday 24 April 2023	Term 2 commences
Tuesday 25 April 2023	Anzac Day Public Holiday

Our St Ambrose community acknowledges the traditional owners of this land-their ancestors and is committed to reconciliation with Indigenous Australians and in caring for our planet.

Be Still

“Be still and know that I am God...

Be still and know that I am...

Be still and know...

Be still...

Be...”

(Psalm 46:10)



Dear families, parishioners and friends,

Our student leaders did a splendid job this week initiating our first assembly for the year. Kai our faith leader chose the following beautiful prayer which he shared after Aidan S read our Acknowledgement to Country.

“God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit. Be with us as we begin this new school year. Bless us, our teachers, staff and families. Give us strength and kindness as we grow together in wisdom, knowledge, understanding and peace.”



Given the gusty weather we had our assembly online. There was much to celebrate including recognising the achievements of students who attended Robogals at the end of 2022, our year prep students settling in so well and welcoming our new students. We also recognised many learning achievements which are detailed later in this newsletter.

We are all looking forward to the year prep, one and two students moving into the new classrooms next week. We will also relocate Mrs. Geisler's and my office as well as the administration area and staff room while the renovations are being done in this area. Given we will be busy in the administration area doing this we won't send out a newsletter next week. The **next newsletter will go out on Friday, March 3rd.**

The pictures below show what the new entrance and area will look like. Stage two will be completed by the end of April if all goes to plan.





See left for the plans of the renovated Staffroom and administration area. Note that the office will be located in the room marked as year 2 and you can enter from the external door.

Mrs. Geisler and I will be working from the classroom marked as 3-4. The staff will use the kitchenette in the parish hall as the staff room whilst the works are being completed. These renovations are stage 2 of the project. Stage 3 will involve opening up the library and performing arts areas. All works should be complete by the end of June this year.

Map Indicating where your Child's Class Is

The following floor plan indicates where your child's class will be located following our move from Thursday February 23rd. It also illustrates where you can access Justine and Karen as well as where Mrs. Geisler and I will be. The highlighted areas mark where your children can enter the classroom via the external door. You can also use these doors for your parent teacher conversations and class information sessions.



Parent Teacher Conversations Update

To enable all parents to have their time allocated we ask that you arrive five minutes prior to your appointment time. We will comply with times allocated to be fair to everyone. If you are unable to get to your appointment on time please notify the office. These appointments give our parents the opportunity to speak with their child's teachers about how they are settling into the year, their needs and interests.

Classroom Information Session Update

These sessions allow forty five minutes for the teacher to speak with you about how the classroom is run, curriculum and expectations. You will also have an opportunity to ask questions during these meetings.

Drop Off and Pick Up Points

Children can leave their bags outside their classroom doors when they arrive in the mornings from Monday onwards. Years 3-4O, 3-4L, 1-2R, 1-2RL and our Prep class can now enter the school in the mornings from Urquhart Street if they wish. The front of the school will remain fenced off until the second stage of the works are complete.

Reconciliation Commitment Mass this Sunday

You are all welcome to attend mass on any weekend. This Sunday some of our students are pledging their commitment to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You are welcome to come along and support them.

Sandpit Upgrade



The children are pictured creating "Pickle Mountain"! It is lovely to watch the children enjoying these fresh play areas.

If you have some sand toys that your children have outgrown, we would love to make use of them in our new sandpit. They can be dropped at your child's classroom.

CRT Staff

We are fortunate to have a number of capable CRT (Casual Relief Teachers) staff who can continue with our programs when class teachers are engaged in professional development or if they are unwell. Our CRT staff say that they very much enjoy working at our school and they have come to know our children.



Covid Safe Guide, Free RAT Kits & Masks Available PICK up from the OFFICE

We continue to adhere to Covid safe protocols. We have had two reported cases these past two weeks. The recommendations are to isolate for five days if you have a positive test result. We still have RAT kits available from the office.



Auslan at St. Ambrose



This year is the first year Auslan is being offered at St Ambrose as the Language other than English (LOTE). The students in grades 1-4 began with their first session last week where they looked at how they can be responsive to, and supportive of Hard of Hearing and Deaf people. The students also learned their first few signs and practised asking and answering the question "How are you?" Over the term, they will continue to build their vocabulary base and practise appropriate signs to engage with their

classmates and their teachers. As we, as a school, are very new to Auslan, the focus for Term 1 will be on introducing the students to vocabulary that they can use in everyday life, such as items within the classroom and around our school, colours, numbers and greetings. As the students develop more confidence in engaging with others using these signs, we will begin exploring other areas of interest. The students have shown a keen interest in learning Auslan so far. The Prep and the grade 5/6 students will begin learning Auslan in Term 2.

Most weeks, a new video will be uploaded as an announcement to Seesaw introducing you to some of the signs the students will cover in class that week. You may like to use these to support your child to practise at home or to instigate conversation about what they have been learning at school. If your child's class is not yet set up on Seesaw, this will be happening over the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

Something to leave you with: Did you know that Auslan is not an acronym? It is actually a portmanteau, or a word made by blending other words. It comes from the three words: **A**ustralian **S**ign **L**anguage. This means you don't need to write it in capital letters (unless you are yelling it).

Please reach out if you have any questions. My email address is kate.old@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Parent as Helper Training Sessions

It is always a joy to welcome our families into the school and to have the opportunity to work together. This week we completed a further two training courses for those needing to do their parent helper update training and for those training for the first time. If you have missed the training sessions and would like to do them can you please contact the office. All parent helpers are required to do the training every three years to comply with child safe standards.

Family School Fee Statements

This week school fee statements were emailed out to all families. If you haven't received it, could you please check your spam folder as we have heard from families that some have ended up in spam. Also, check both parent's email addresses.

Direct debit forms are due back next week and a reminder that a new direct debit form is due each year.

Music lessons have Resumed this Year!



This year's first edition of the newsletter contains the details about private music lessons at St. Ambrose.



School Advisory Committee (SAC) Expressions of Interest – Save the Date! 22-02-23 5.30 pm

We are calling for expressions of interest from families at the school and from the wider community for additional members for the SAC for 2023. Training will be provided by MACS for anyone that submits an expression of interest. Following the training session, all those that attended will be asked to formally nominate for the SAC if they wish to. All those elected on the SAC need to have completed this training session.

Anyone interested in joining the SAC this year can send an expression of interest via email to me directly - bronwyn.phillips@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au.

Garden Club is on Tuesdays this year

Meagan Stewart is kindly continuing to run our garden club this year. If you would like to support Meagan and our students in the garden (2.00 - 2.40pm) please respond to the Operoo or contact the office. Volunteers will need to have a current Working with Children Check and have completed the Parent Helper Course in the last 3 years. Volunteers will need to sign in at the office.

Student Birthdays



17 February	Nick G
20 February	Everly B
24 February	Alice C
	Sidney M
25 February	Bruno B
	Sebastian M
27 February	Sonny B
	Nicholas M
	Rex R

From Erin Brass



⚡ DON'T ⚡

TRY TO FIX THE PROBLEM FOR THEM.

- ♦ "You need to stay away from them for a while."
- ♦ "I'm going to call their parents right now!"

FORCE YOUR CHILD TO STAY WITH OR CHANGE FRIENDS.

- ♦ "You are not allowed to play with them anymore!"
- ♦ "You have been friends since 1st grade. You need to keep your friendship."

ASSUME YOUR CHILD IS ALWAYS THE VICTIM.

- ♦ "You're always getting picked on."
- ♦ "You poor thing. You can't stand up for yourself because you're smaller."

MINIMIZE HURTFUL COMMENTS.

- ♦ "I'm sure you two will be fine by tomorrow. You always make up."
- ♦ "Let it go. I'm sure they didn't mean it."

BAD TALK THE FRIEND

- ♦ "I never liked you being friends with them!"
- ♦ "They have anger management issues they need to work out."

⚡ DO ⚡

LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD WITHOUT JUDGMENT AND GIVE YOUR FULL ATTENTION.

- ♦ "What happened?"
- ♦ "What do you think the problem is?"

ASK OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SITUATION.

- ♦ "How did you feel when they said that?"
- ♦ "What bothered you the most about that situation?"

SHOW EMPATHY.

- ♦ "That must have felt really hurtful when they called you that."
- ♦ "It must have been very hard to stay in class after that happened."

ASK WHAT KIND OF HELP THEY NEED FROM YOU.

- ♦ "How can I support you right now?"
- ♦ "What do you need?"
- ♦ "I'm always here if you need my help."

BRAINSTORM TOGETHER.

- ♦ "What are some options that you would be comfortable trying to deal with this?"
- ♦ "How do you think they would react if you tried doing that?"

Talk regularly about friendships. Use audio stories, books, social media, and your personal experiences as conversation starters to point out what good and healthy friendships do and do not look like.

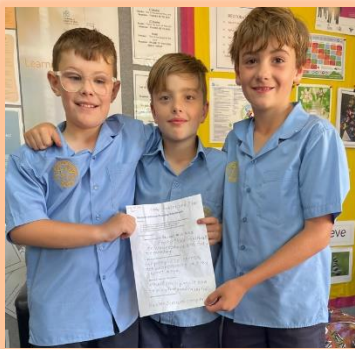


Student Initiatives

Eire, Jessica, Scarlett & Ruby are pictured holding their posters advertising dance and singing club to begin next week. They invited those interested to try a session this week and they are looking forward to working with those interested. Their enthusiasm is contagious!



Kai is planning for an Aboriginal Cultural day. We are exploring options and will keep you updated.



Hunter, Cooper and Jim will begin Footy clinics for years prep to year 3 on Mondays at recess (meet at the far goal posts if keen) and Basketball on Wednesdays at recess. (Meet on the basketball courts if you are keen.)

Ryder is pictured showing the progress he has made with the rainbow design for our 100 PBL ticket recipients.



Cobaw Tennis

On Monday, Emmy, Ethan, Alexandra & Cooper represented our school in Cobaw tennis at Kyneton Tennis Club. The students all played really well and Emmy won the girls competition so progresses to division level at Bendigo!



On Monday the 13th four grade six students Emmy Y, Alexandra M, Cooper B and Ethan W went to Cobaw tennis in Kyneton. We were put into different draws, meaning that we versed different people. Cooper, Ethan and Emmy played 4 matches but Alexandra played 5 matches. The Matches were first to 4 games in total. Ethan won 4 points/games, Cooper won 8, Alexandra won 14 and Emmy won 15 points taking her to the finals. During the semi finals it was 3-3 sudden death deuce and fortunately Emmy ended up winning and continued to the grand finals. It ended 4-0 Emmy's way. After the points were added up we found out that Emmy had made it to the next stage in Bendigo! She will be playing on Wednesday the 22nd. So overall it was an amazing day filled with lots of good challengers!

Written by Emmy Y, Alexandra M, Cooper B and Ethan W.

ST AMBROSE SCHOOL WELCOME PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE

St Ambrose Parish School Oval

5.30 – 7.00 pm March 17th

Wear something green to celebrate St.
Patrick's day!



BYO Picnic & Rug.

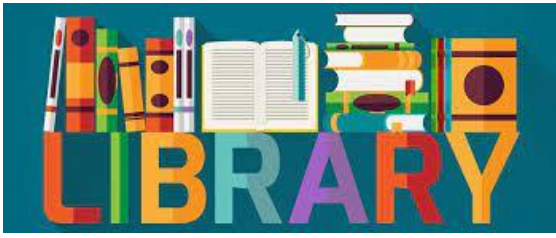
No Alcohol Permitted.



*Happy
St. Patrick's Day!*



Library News



Congratulations to the year 5 students who applied for and have been successfully appointed as **FOSALs**, (*Friends of the St. Ambrose Library*).

They assist in the library and classrooms, help to review books, help to tidy the library books and junior readers in the hallway and assist our library leaders, Mia T and Nicolas M. These wonderful, responsible volunteers met today at lunch time in the library to gather and discuss how the FOSALs can promote and assist our school and library. They have some wonderful ideas that I will take to leadership.

It's going to be a GREAT year in the library and around our school this year!



Around the School this week



Our Art Leaders helping to display student artwork. Watch this wall grow this term!

St Ambrose Ukulele Group : We have just recently formed a Ukulele Group that meets up every Wednesday at lunch time. It is presently open to Gr 3 – Gr 6 students. We enjoy learning about how to play the ukulele and look forward to playing our first songs together. Our aim is to be performing at the school production 'Safari' in Term 3.



My Buddy - by Sailor C (Prep)

I love my buddy Catalina because she takes me to class, we play puppies, and she plays basketball with me.

PE Trophy Winners

In PE sessions with Mrs Cavric, we have a different focus each week to win this huge trophy! These were our fastest runners.







Years 5/6 are learning about caricatures and honing their drawing skills. Keep an eye out on the art wall for a guessing game of who's who.



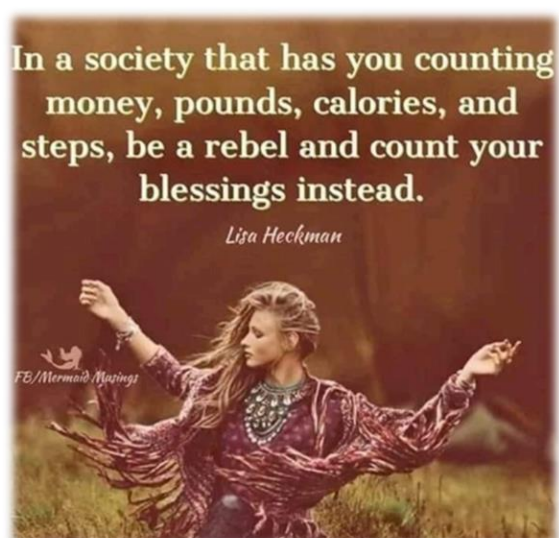
See last week's edition of the newsletter for:

- how to support children with transitions.
- our new play areas.
- ukulele club begins.
- our opening mass and presentation of leadership badges.
- our new staff member.
- SAC information session date.
- children's meditation opportunity.
- bushfire protocols update.
- library news.
- faith & family & sacrament dates.
- parent information session update
- parent-teacher conversations.
- student initiatives.
- canteen helpers.
- and more!

<https://www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Newsletter-T1-Wk3-10022023.pdf>

Yours sincerely,

Bronwyn Phillips
Principal





JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS
FAITH & FAMILY

WEEK 4. TERM 1. 2023.



Be Still

"Be still and know that I am God..."

Be still and know that I am...

Be still and know...

Be still...

Be..."

(Psalm 46:10)



ALL WELCOME
Ash Wednesday Mass
Wednesday 22nd February
St Ambrose Church,
9.30am

IMPORTANT SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION DATES

- Sunday 19th February – Reconciliation Commitment Mass – 11am – St Ambrose Church
- Thursday 9th March - Reconciliation Preparation Evening with Denise Arnel – 6.30 -7.30pm, St Ambrose Church
- Sacrament of Reconciliation – Wednesday 22nd March - 12.30pm – St Ambrose Church

For Jesus, real virtue is in the heart. He expects honourable, respectful relationships between people.

A Christian must be honest and trustworthy, a person of his word. (Sacred Space)

For all Faith & Family related matters please email nicole.sherlockbyrne@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au



Gospel Reflection

Called to Righteousness (Matthew 5:17-37)

Matthew's Gospel is consistently clear and demanding; that following Jesus is not a matter of being comfortable and nice. We are called instead to a higher righteousness and a radical change of heart. And then, if we genuinely hear and follow what Jesus is teaching, our lives and actions will conform with the promises of the Kingdom.

This week's Gospel reading continues the Sermon on the Mount, which began with the Beatitudes of two weeks ago and then last week's depiction of his disciples as salt and light. Now Jesus develops and escalates this further.

Jesus talks of murder, anger, adultery, lust, divorce, and oaths, but these are not a set of directives or proscriptions, nor is it an exhaustive list. Rather he provides examples of what conversion and transformed will lead to, though the focus is not on actions but on hearts. They expand on what the beatitudes told us about humbleness, purity of heart and peacemaking.

Jesus is not ignoring the Law or our relationship with God, as that comes later in the Sermon. Rather the focus is that how we are oriented to others reveals if we are truly in alignment with the Law of God's Kingdom. Are we seeking only to fulfil the requirements of the Law (which he has not dismissed), or are we actively and intentionally willing the good of others, aligned with the Law but enabled through love, mercy, and compassion?

Jesus calls us to surrender to God in trust, embarking on a journey of transformation empowered by the spirit of God. Jesus doesn't replace the Law. Rather he expands and elaborates on it, demanding active discernment as a personal responsibility.

The examples Jesus uses are not insignificant, as they highlight attitudes that crippled and oppressed his society, and that still cripple and oppress our own. These are not only about murder and adultery; as they are also essentially about corrosive attributes of hostility, possessiveness, patriarchy, dishonesty, revenge, and tribalism.

In my reflection on these attributes, I wonder if we collectively do recognise these as crippling or corrosive? And are we able to find ways to respond that are not superficial? Is the Law a code with which we seek to comply, or is it the Code that shapes and drives our lives?

I am challenged by these questions, but this is not over. The Sermon continues unabated next week!

Kevin Lawlor

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sacred Heart College Kyneton

Boys Issues

Members of the local community are invited to attend this event.

Guest Speaker: Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists, specialising in parenting, children, adolescents & mental health.



We are thrilled to be able to welcome Dr Carr-Gregg to speak with members of our local community.

This workshop examines the nature and extent of the considerable difficulties facing young men, and looks at what the latest research is saying schools and parents might do to help. This will be a popular event so we advise early bookings.

When: Tuesday 14 March

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Where: Mary Moloney Theatre
Sacred Heart College, Kyneton

Tickets: This is a free event but seats must be booked via www.trybooking.com/CETFC

A Ministry of Mercy Education Limited - ABN 69 154 531 870



Parent Engagement Partnership

WOODEND JUNIOR FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB



WOODEND JUNIOR
FOOTBALL NETBALL

SEASON 2023 NOW OPEN

**BOYS FOOTY UNDER 17s, 15s.
MIXED U/13s, U/11s, U/9s.
GIRLS FOOTBALL U15, U18.
NETBALL U/17, U15, U13, U11.**

**REGISTER NOW
SEASON STARTS APRIL 2ND**

Email new enquiries to
registrar@woodendhawks.com.au

Go to....
www.woodendhawks.teamapp.com

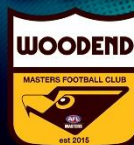
THEN GO TO THE REGISTRATION PAGE AND FOLLOW THE
INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGNUP
ALSO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.



Scan for more info



MASTERS SEASON 2023 LAUNCH



Over 35 & love footy?

Whether you want to play the VIC Country Masters season, or just train with a great bunch of blokes, who value physical & mental health... **JOIN US!!**

(No experience necessary)

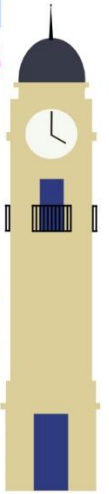
**Friday 3rd March 2023 | Buffalo Stadium
6:30PM** Casual Training followed by food & refreshments at Woodend RSL

Inclusive choir for 5-12 year olds who want to have FUN!
Tuesdays 4pm - 5.15pm at Norma Richardson Hall
ellymckinnonmusic.com/youngwarblers

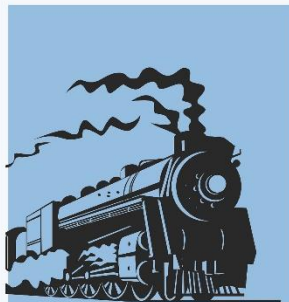
Book a free trial!



Young
Warblers
WOODEND



THE MOUNT PLAYERS
PRESENTS



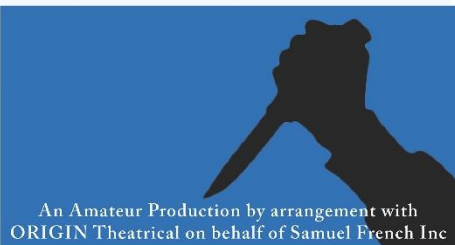
ADAPTED BY
PATRICK BARLOW
NOBBIE DIMON AND
SIMON CORBLE

THE 39 STEPS

BY JOHN BUCHAN

A COMEDY

A PLAY FOR RADIO
ADAPTED FOR RADIO
AND DIRECTED BY JOHN ROWLAND



24 FEBRUARY - 12 MARCH

BOOKINGS:
www.themountplayers.com
or 5426 1892



Mountview Theatre, 56 Smith Street Macedon



Macedon
Ranges
Shire Council

Hanging
Rock



ART COMPETITION



Want to see your artwork displayed at Hanging Rock?

Children and school students of all ages are invited to participate in this term one competition. Create an artwork including some pieces of single-use plastic to show the impact plastic has on our environment. More prizes to be won!



To enter or learn more,
scan the QR code or visit
mrsc.vic.gov.au/singleuseplasticscomp