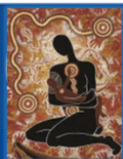


St Ambrose Parish School



Centred by Faith, In Partnership with Community
We Provide Excellence in Learning

Respectful Responsible Resilient Kind



St. Ambrose School

Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land we learn, play, meet and live on. We pay our respects to elders past, present, and emerging and say thank you for sharing this beautiful country.



Loving God,

Bless and care for our mothers & those like mothers to us always.
May they always be beloved and cherished.

Help us to be grateful and helpful,
Not just on Mother's Day but everyday.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus,
Who loved his own mother very much.

All: Amen



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Faith & Family: Pg 11
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Our next newsletter will be published on Friday, May 31st.

Term 2 dates

| | |
|--|--|
| Saturday 18 May 2024 | Confirmation Commitment Mass 6.00pm |
| Sunday 19 May 2024 | Confirmation Commitment Mass 11.00am |
| Monday 20 May 2024 | Cobaw Winter Sports Grades 5/6 Football Victoria Soccer Sessions 3.45-4.45pm Confirmation meeting with Denise Arnel 6.30pm in the school library |
| Thursday 23 May 2024 | Middle Years Mass – Grade 3/4 9.30am |
| Saturday 25 May 2024 | Confirmation Commitment Mass 6.00pm |
| Sunday 26 May 2024 | Confirmation Commitment Mass 11.00am |
| Monday 27 May 2024 | Assembly – commissioning of our social justice leaders 3pm Football Victoria Soccer Sessions 3.45-4.45pm |
| Tuesday 28 May 2024 | Regional Cross Country St Arnaud |
| Thursday 30 May 2024 | Grade 3/4 Kids Helpline online “Friendship” session 9.15-10.15am |
| Monday 3 June 2024 | Social Justice Leaders BUPA visit 10-12pm Football Victoria Soccer Sessions 3.45-4.45pm |
| Tuesday 4 June 2024 | Year 1/2 visit BUPA |
| Thursday 6 June 2024 | Senior Years Mass – Grade 5/6 9.30am |
| Monday 10 June 2024 | King’s Birthday Public Holiday |
| Monday 17 June 2024 | Football Victoria Soccer Sessions 3.45-4.45pm |
| Wednesday 19 June 2024 | SAC Meeting 9.15-11.15am Assembly with Father Martin attending 3pm |
| Thursday 20 June 2024 | Sacrament of Confirmation Practice 11.45-12.45pm Grade 1/2 Woodend Vet Clinic visit 12-3.30pm |
| Sunday 23 June 2024 | Sacrament of Confirmation 1.00-2.00pm |
| Monday 24 June 2024 | Football Victoria Soccer Sessions 3.45-4.45pm |
| Tuesday 25 June 2024 | Curriculum Information Session 5.30-6.30pm |
| Wednesday 26 June 2024 | End of Term Mass 9.30am and farewell to Father Martin |
| Friday 28 June 2024 | Students dismissed 2.30pm |
| Sunday 30 June 2024 | Parish farewell gathering in the hall for Father Martin 12pm |
| Saturday 29 June 2024 - Sunday 14 July 2024 | Term 2 School Holidays |
| Monday 15 July 2024 | Pupil Free Day – Staff Maths PD |
| Tuesday 16 July 2024 | Term 3 commences School swimming program - 1/2CM 12.30-1.15pm, 1/2O 1.15-2pm, 1/2S 2-2.45pm |
| Wednesday 17 July 2024 | School swimming program - 1/2CM 12.30-1.15pm, 1/2O 1.15-2pm, 1/2S 2-2.45pm |



Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

There is a quote by St. Therese of Lisieux that says, "The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the love of a mother." Last week we gathered to give thanks for, to celebrate, and to bless our mothers and all those who play a mothering role in our lives. Our Church has always honoured mothers holding Mary as inspirational in her selfless love and devotion to her son Jesus Christ. This selfless love can be attributed to mothers in general.

Events mean different things to us all and how or what we choose to celebrate can be as individual as we are. In Australia, we acknowledge Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May. Its significance highlights the role of women in our lives. We understand that special days spark different memories and emotions for people. In this regard, I am mindful of those who feel loss at these times, or those for whom days like this can create uncomfortable or confusing images. Mother's Day is for many of us, about surprises for our mums, gifts, and homemade cards that show gratitude towards our mothers. For others, it might be about memories or stories we share or reflect upon. However you spent this day, I hope it was meaningful for you. I hope you found time to think about and thank those who represent a mother figure to you. I also hope that those of you who could attend our afternoon tea and classroom activities enjoyed the afternoon. Thank you to Katie D who prepared the lovely spread of food.

On Monday we as a staff valued the time to build upon our collective efficacy and continue to refine our knowledge about best practices as we engaged in, "The Why, What, and How of Literacy". Experienced Literacy Leader and Educator Anne Bone facilitated the learning in which our dedicated staff immersed themselves in.

We continue to build on our work with our writing, "Bump it up Wall" and we are now inspired to develop vocab charts with the aim to support our students to learn 400 plus new words each year.



Farewell to Fr Martin 30th June

As communicated in our previous newsletter, Fr. Martin will be retiring by the end of June. The parish is planning a farewell gathering for Martin after mass on June 30th in the hall. You are all welcome to attend. We will also welcome Fr Martin to our school assembly on Wednesday, June 19th at 3.00 pm to say goodbye.



Our Students Meet our Hens!

It was a lovely day on Wednesday for our sustainability leaders to introduce our new hens to our students. They are settling in well and are slowly beginning to trust humans as the children become familiar with them. The children are working towards the hens grazing amongst the classes and they are looking forward to collecting their eggs.

Our student leaders are planning a process to collaborate with our SRC to name our hens and our fish. Our elusive catfish is doing a great job keeping the plants clean!



Wild Action Zoo Inursion Prep - Year Two



The junior school was buzzing when the Wild Action Zoo visited with many and varied creatures! It was a joy to observe the intrigue on the children's faces!

School Uniform

Most of our children are doing a great job of wearing their winter uniform each day. We have a very presentable and comfortable winter uniform at St. Ambrose and all children are encouraged to wear it with pride. Please ensure that items of clothing are named so that when things get lost, we can relocate them promptly with their owner. Thank you for ensuring that your children come dressed in their full school uniform and that they are dressed appropriately for the colder weather.

Website



If you would like to visit our new look school website you can via:
<https://www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au/>

Facebook

In addition to the website and fortnightly newsletter, which we hope you make time to read, we have now opened a Facebook page as a means of regularly sharing our activities with you & the wider community. Our Facebook page is called, **St Ambrose Primary School Woodend**. We encourage you to follow us and share our page with family and friends. Faces of children who don't have photo permission won't be included in the photos on Facebook.

Click here to follow us on Facebook -



School Open Mornings

Our first open morning on Tuesday 7th May gave the opportunity for four families to have a look through our school and to meet with Mrs. Geisler and I. We are offering another Open Morning on Wednesday 7th August 2024 from 9.30 am – 10.30 am. We also have a general curriculum information meeting coming up on June, 25th at 5.30 pm.

INSPIRE | ENGAGE | THRIVE at St Ambrose School, Woodend



Open Day & Information Sessions

**General Curriculum
Information Evening**
- Tuesday 25th June 2024
5.30pm

School Open Morning
- Tuesday 7th May
9.30 – 10.30am
- Wednesday 7th August
9.30–10.30am

ENROL FOR 2025 NOW

St Ambrose
Primary School Woodend

Principal: Bronwyn Phillips

18 Templeton Street WOODEND | P: 03 5427 1285

E: office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au



Canteen Play lunch is Now Available on Tuesdays!

A reminder that you can now order your child's play lunch from the canteen on Tuesdays and play lunch and lunch on Wednesdays. Note also that play lunch ordered is delivered to the classrooms at 10.30 am.

Subway orders are open for Fridays.

2025 Enrolments are Now Being Taken

We encourage anyone who is considering enrolling their child in 2025 to make contact from now.

It is great that we have so much interest in our school.

I am available to give tours via appointment.

Working in Partnership

Please read through the information about how you can participate in our parent school support program.

We are grateful for your contribution.

St Ambrose Care

Our sincere thanks to the Ambrose Care volunteers who have been preparing meals for those in need.



Confirmation Evening with Denise Arnell

A reminder that all students making the sacrament of confirmation should attend this evening on Monday, May 20th in the library at 6.30 pm. Families are also asked to attend one of the commitment masses.

Next Newsletter

For more news and photos visit our
website
and look at latest news.
Our next newsletter will be
published on
Friday, 31st May.

"Every leaf speaks bliss
to me/Fluttering from
the autumn tree."
EMILY BRONTë



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



Student Awards

| | |
|--------|--|
| Prep K | Audrey C for working hard to sound out words in her reading! |
| Prep K | Redmond O for wonderful work sharing his thinking about animals during Inquiry! |
| Prep T | Neave K for great work in reading and writing! |
| Prep T | Oliver D for being a responsible learner and completing all his work |
| 1/2CM | Mosako S for having a go at his writing independently! |
| 1/2CM | Alfred O for his excellent work in spelling. Well done! |
| 1/2O | Jacques B for always showing the Positive Behaviours for Learning. |
| 1/2O | Mateo S for consistently modelling how to focus while on the floor. |
| 1/2S | Charlotte W for being such a kind and thoughtful member of class who always follows the PBL values. Well done. |
| 1/2S | Teddy M for working hard to achieve his writing goals. Well done. |
| 3/4M | Orlando L for his dedication to his spelling. |
| 3/4M | Ryan K for his wonderful persuasive writing. |
| 3/4R | Neve E-S for displaying increasing confidence when participating in number talks! |
| 3/4R | Jackson G-S for showing respect and enthusiasm in Wild Action Zoo visit! |
| 3/4TW | Emily S for applying new math knowledge and showing her understanding. |
| 3/4TW | Tora C for excellent effort in all learning areas. |
| 5/6M | Tyler T for taking on feedback to improve his work. |
| 5/6M | Caysen E-S for his fabulous "have-a-go" attitude towards all his learning. What a great learning trait! |
| 5/6P | Asher J for being a respectful and responsible student in class. |
| 5/6P | Hayden L for being a responsible class member. |

Sports Stars of the week

Niamh F for excellent effort and persistence in soccer skills and games.
Alfred O for excellent listening and skill development when dribbling
Gwen G for excellent listening and skills when dribbling.

PBL - Bronze certificate

Emrys G, Reuben T, Felicity F, Agatha W, Harry R, Jack B, Lily M, Remy B, Jett M, Arthur H, Deon S, Cooper L, Harriet B, Tora C, Sofia M, Niamh F, Darcy S, Rose A-G, James B, Neve E-S, Tillie J, Oli J, Olivia C, Felix D, Orlando L, Rex R, Jorel L, Patrick F, Leon G, Holly M

PBL - Silver certificate

Varli F, Jethro F

PBL - Gold certificate

Hamish M, Orlando L

Happy Birthday to You

17 May

Chase K

19 May

Arthur H

23 May

Jessica F

27 May

Lily M

31 May

Evelyn C, Bill R





Parent School Support Program on Operoo

As a means of engaging our families to contribute to the functioning and maintenance of our school, as well as connecting as a community, we ask all families to offer a minimum of 2 hours of your time each term. There are many activities that you can get involved with, including, but not limited to, help in the classroom, garden, excursions, canteen, art room, Cobaw sport events, PFA, SAC and many, many more!

To log your **completed** volunteer hours, please select one or more of the options on the self service form on Operoo titled "Parent School Support Program".

We encourage your participation in this program which will greatly benefit the school, students and the whole community.

LOG IN TO OPEROO



SELECT FORM LIBRARY



Form Library

SELECT
PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM FORM



COMPLETE FORM AND SUBMIT






ETC.....



Auslan Feature

Auslan from the Children's Perspective

| What is Auslan? | | |
|---|--|--|
|  |  |  |
| "It is a language where you don't talk" - Ellie B Grade 5 | "It is a way for Australian deaf people to communicate with each other and a good way for children to learn to be able to communicate with them" - Violet D Grade 6 | "You use Auslan with your fingers. You spell things if you're using Auslan" - Elliott N Grade 1 |
| When do you think you might use Auslan? | | |
|  |  | |
| You might use Auslan to communicate with someone who is deaf or if you are deaf. You might use it at the shops to communicate with someone" - Mary G Grade 6 | "When you come across a deaf person" - Elle S Grade 5 | |
| What do you do in Auslan classes? | | |
|  |  | |
| "We practise saying hello in English and Auslan" - Maggie C Grade 2 | "We learn the Auslan alphabet so we can meet people and tell them our names" - Felicity F Grade 2 | |
| What is something you have learned this year? | | |
|  |  |  |
| "I have found the vowels easier this year because I was getting mixed up" - Remy B Grade 3 | "I've learned a lot. I really think Auslan is a great language because some of the people in my family don't hear as well as I can so what you've taught us can help me communicate with them. I think Auslan is a great language for people to learn because it's really fun." - Alice C Grade 4 | "It's about signing without speaking. I learned the rainbow" - Amy M Prep |
| What do you enjoy about learning Auslan? | | |
|  |  |  |
| "I enjoy that it is a connection to people who are deaf" - Rose AG Grade 3 | "I enjoy learning a different language because it feels like you can talk to people and noone else knows what you re saying" - Tillie J Grade 3 | "We play games like the colour game where you touch something that is the right colour" - Oliver D Prep |

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Grade 5 visit to SHC



Cobaw District Soccer

On Tuesday, 28 of our senior Grade 5/6 students participated in the Cobaw district soccer event. The event was held at Dixon field in Gisborne and was played in the spirit of fun and mateship against the schools in our region.

This is one of the myriad of sporting opportunities presented to students at St Ambrose including school sport days, cross-country, tennis, volleyball, cricket, tee-ball, softball, AFL, netball, basketball and athletics.

The boys team won 4 games and lost 2 games, placing 3rd.

The girls team were undefeated but got beaten in the grand final in the dying seconds, losing 2-1 so were runners up.

A great day had by all. Thanks to Lisa for coaching girls, and Mr Portelli, Mrs Cavric and Janene.





HANGING ROCK CROSS COUNTRY & SPORTS





Mental Health & Wellbeing at St Ambrose

Erin Brass



Every single child is unique, so it only makes sense that your approach to preparing them for an online device should be too. Every family has different needs, children of various ages and of course each with their own particular interests.

That's why at Safe on Social we have strategically created a unique 'choose your own adventure' approach to support parents - [eReady Kids](#).

This innovative program is designed to empower you with strategies for a balanced online life, ensuring your family thrives in the online world with each new device or app they may ask for - and the best part?

YOU are in control of how to use the program in the best way for your family!

A cookie cutter approach simply won't work. eReady Kids offers parents a hub of information they can revisit and work through depending on the needs of their family and what is going to help support their child best!

With 14+ topics you can choose from (and more being added all year), pick and choose which learning topics feel the most engaging or skip around to see what topics really catch your child's interest.

Dip in and out as much as you need throughout the year and get online ready in the most effective, fun and engaging way - together! [eReady Kids Program](#) is designed to support families with this transition- and offer ongoing support to both you and your child!

eReady Kids is available immediately for only \$48+gst for an entire year!

[Access Now](#)

Safe on Social and eReady Kids promotes a partnership between parents and children, fostering a stronger understanding and bond through shared learning experiences.

With eReady Kids, you're not just managing online readiness; you're preparing your child for a tech-savvy future while strengthening your family bond.

[Click here to start your journey with eReady Kids](#)

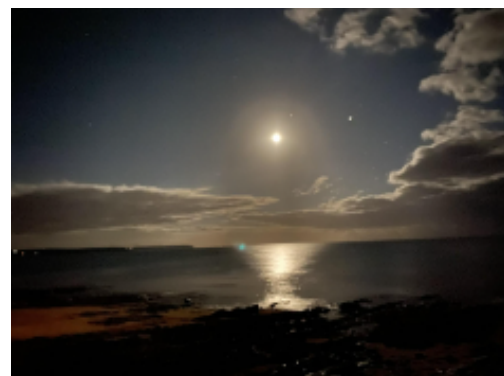


JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

Holy One, creator of the stars and seas,
your steadfast love is shown to every living thing;
your word calls forth countless worlds and souls;
your law revives and refreshes.

Forgive our misuse of your gifts,
that we may be transformed by your wisdom
to manifest for others
the mercy of our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.



Gospel Reflection: Mark 16:15-20 The Ascension of the Lord

The account of Jesus' Ascension in Mark's gospel is completely without fuss. When he was finished talking, he was taken up to heaven. No brilliant flash of light, no fanfare, no angels, he just went. But he had a few things to say before he left. 'go out into the world and preach the gospel to all creation'. Oh, and you might see a few crazy things!

Do we take Jesus' final words seriously? Do we feel compelled to do what he asks?

In the days of Jesus, the followers would have taken this command quite literally, and left home to spread the word. Here we are, 2000 years later, still believing, still following Jesus, so it must have worked! But do we play our part and preach the gospel to all creation?

I think we can preach the gospel every single day. By our smile, our greeting and how we treat people. By our care for the planet. By how we give of what we have to those without. By standing with the marginalised. By speaking truth when the lies have the loudest voice. By choosing to forgive, when it is easier to hold a grudge. By loving our partner. By helping those who find it difficult to do some things. By cuddling our kids.

Preaching the gospel is the last thing Jesus asked us to do. Let us think about the hundreds of ways that we can obey that command every day. Let's look for opportunities to spread the gospel of Jesus so that in the year 3000, they are still talking about Jesus of Nazareth and his message of salvation.

By Katherine Gilmore

| Date | Details | Time |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 18th May | Confirmation Commitment Mass | 6:00 pm |
| 19th May | Confirmation Commitment Mass | 11:00 am |
| 20th May | Confirmation Night with Denise Arnel | 6:30 pm |
| 24th May | Return Confirmation Cards | |
| 25th May | Confirmation Commitment Mass | 6:00 pm |
| 26th May | Confirmation Commitment Mass | 11:00 am |
| 23rd May | Middle Level Mass (Grades 3/4) | 9:30 am |
| 6th June | Senior Level Mass (Grades 5/6) | 9:30 am |
| 20th June | Sacrament of Confirmation Practice | 11:45 am |
| 23rd June | Confirmation | 1:00 pm |
| 28th June | End of Term 2 Mass | 9:30 am |

Reminders:

Reminder to all Confirmation families:
Commitment masses are this weekend and next weekend,
Saturday at 6 pm and Sunday at 11 am. All Confirmation
children need to attend one of these Masses and commit
to learning about Confirmation prior to the ceremony
in June.

Also, the Confirmation evening with Denise Arnel is on
Monday (20th May) at 6:30. Children are to attend with at
least one parent.



PARISH NEWSLETTER
CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Wondering -
How can I bring
the light and love
of God to someone
new today? How
will I respond to
the one God sends
me tomorrow?



COMMUNITY NEWS



**FREE
COMMUNITY
FIREWORKS**

**WOODEND
winter
arts
FESTIVAL**

**7 June
2024**

**5.00pm Food & Entertainment ft.
performances by Woodend Warblers
and Braemar College students**

6.30pm Fireworks

BUFFALO STADIUM



Sacred Heart College Kyneton

Parenting Teenagers

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

Guest Speaker: Michelle Mitchell

Michelle Mitchell is an award winning speaker and best-selling parenting author. Join Michelle as she guides discussion about effective communication, managing emotionally charged moments and championing strengths.



Other topics to be covered include:

- The stages of development that all teenagers experience
- The role of peer group and how to set realistic expectations
- Ways to maintain connection with a teen who isn't communicating
- Establishing fair, healthy boundaries and tips for saying no
- Managing mood swings and overwhelming emotions
- The role of purpose, passions and opportunity
- What to do when they mess up
- Mental health and when to access support



Scan to book

When: Thursday 6 June

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/CPTSM



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

Parent Engagement Partnership

MELBUSHO ORIENTEERING MACEDON

SUNDAY, 26 MAY

9.30 - 13:00

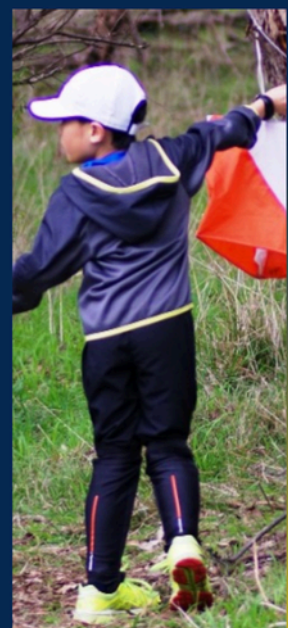
5 COURSES: EASY- HARD

COACHING AND ASSISTANCE IS
AVAILABLE FOR NEWCOMERS

ADULTS \$12.00,
JUNIORS (U21) \$6.00,
FAMILY MAXIMUM \$30.

ONLINE ENTRIES CLOSE
23RD MAY

REGISTER NOW!



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<https://centralhighlands.weebly.com>



COMMUNITY NEWS

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AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

and help us generate extra funds.

- 1 Download or update the Ritchies Card App



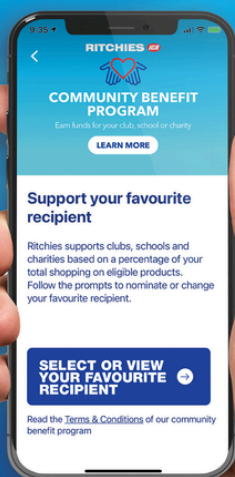
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- 2 Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity

- 3 Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.

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REGISTERED MEMBERS WHO SHOP AT RITCHIES GO INTO THE DRAW TO WIN THEIR NOMINATED CLUB, SCHOOL OR CHARITY \$5000!

**PLUS! Any Ritchies Member who scans their
app or card will go into the draw to win
1 of 5 \$1,000 Ritchies Gift Cards!**

First drawn out wins their nominated organisation \$5,000.

Terms and conditions apply. Go to ritchies.com.au for full details. There is one \$5,000 Ritchies gift card for one lucky club, school or charity. There are 5 x \$1,000 Ritchies gift cards to be won for registered Ritchies Card members who select a club, school or charity. Promotion starts 1/8/24 and ends 28/5/24. *Minimum spend of \$10 in one transaction and excluding cigarette & tobacco products, gift cards, electronic recharge and items marked reduced to clear.

JOIN TODAY!



Download on the
App Store

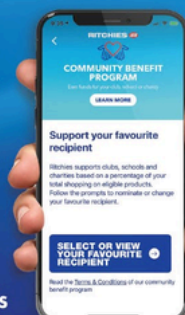


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Google Play

**RITCHIES
COMMUNITY
BENEFIT PROGRAM**

**MORE THAN
\$53 Million**
*Given back to the community
Since 1993*

CELEBRATING **30 Years** OF COMMUNITY BENEFITS



Come and Learn Karate and Self-Defence!

Where: Trentham District Primary School

When: Tuesday – Children under 12

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Thursday – Teenage and Adult

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Contact: Mark Stephens – 0427945245

More information visit www.Junseikan.com.au



日本伝拳法剛柔流順晴館

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For ages 7 years and older
Families Welcome!