

# ST ANTHONY'S Newsletter



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## Celebrating 125 Years

### YELP - Young Environmental Leaders Program

Last Tuesday February 27, our 3 Environmental Leaders Maeva Ellis, Maggie Buhlmann and Matilda Stephan, accompanied by Mr Rebelatto and Maureen Sanders, attended the first YELP forum for 2024, at the Naracoorte Caves. The program has been implemented to involve students in developing their connection to the natural environment and to grow as leaders. Throughout the year our team will devise and develop a project to be presented at the final Forum day in Term 4. We look forward to following their journey through the year.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### WEEK 6

##### Wednesday 6 March

Sports Day

##### Thursday 7 March

8:45am St Anthony's Playgroup

##### Friday 8 March

8:45am Occasional Care

2:30pm Assembly Hosted by 2CF & 3/4KP

##### Saturday 9 March

4:30pm Mass - LOWC

#### WEEK 7

NAPLAN 13 - 25 March.

##### Monday 11 March

ADELAIDE CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY

##### Tuesday 12 March

STUDENT FREE DAY

##### Thursday 14 March

8:45am St Anthony's Playgroup

6pm TWC Milllicent Families Gathering - St Francis

7:15pm Year 7 Information Evening - St Francis

##### Friday 15 March

8:45am Occasional Care

##### Sunday 17 March

9am Family Mass

#### WEEK 8

NAPLAN 13 - 25 March.

##### Tuesday 19 March

3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

6pm School Board AGM

##### Wednesday 20 March

SAPOL Road Crossing Monitor Training

# From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

## An Evening on the Greens -125 Years Celebration

As part of the 125-year birthday celebration, St Anthony's Catholic Primary School invites all current and former students, staff, and families to join us for an Evening on the Greens, Friday March 22nd, 2024, 4.30 to 7.30 pm. This event honours St. Anthony's community's fathers, grandfathers, and sons - past, present and future.

It will be a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones while enjoying a game of barefoot bowls and sharing a meal. There will be some interesting conversations with the guest panellists from different stages of life with one common thread - St Anthony's Catholic Primary School. All profits from this event will go to support the Millicent Men's Shed. Bring your friends and family - it promises to be a great afternoon for all ages!

## Lent: A time to think of others

Lent is an opportunity for us to enter renewal more deeply. In a General Audience, Pope Francis shared the following:

*'Lent is a powerful season, a time for giving and a turning point that can foster change and conversion in each of us. We all need to improve, to change for the better, and Lent helps us.'*

We are now approaching a very important part of the Church Liturgical Year. The celebration of Easter takes place on the weekend of the end of Week 9. Before we reach Easter, we have a period of six weeks known as Lent. The major Catholic spiritual and life focus is our personal and community preparation for Easter through caring for and being just with others. During this time, we are invited to model Jesus's life during the Lenten season. Jesus lived and preached compassion, love, gentleness, healing, peace, and joy. Modelling the life of Jesus during the season of Lent allows us to demonstrate faith, love, and generosity to others less fortunate than we are.

The Project Compassion theme for 2024, 'For all Future Generations,' reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of future generations. It invites us to improve the world by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues. By supporting Project Compassion, we encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Project Compassion is an opportunity for students to do this and learn about life in different countries through the personal stories of people who have participated in Caritas Australia-supported programs.

Students are invited to take the time to discuss with teachers and parents how they as an individual can assist with making the world a better place during Lent.

## Staff Professional Learning Day 12 March 2024

As a gentle reminder to families, Tuesday, 12 March 2024, is a Staff Professional Learning Day and a student-free day. This is a joint St. Anthony's and Mary MacKillop Memorial School Professional Learning Day, and staff learning focuses on Assessment strategies and common understandings in numeracy to support student learning growth.

As a staff community, we will explore evidence-based strategies that have proven results in improving assessment strategies and outcomes. I thank you for your continued support with these student-free days.

## 2024 School Board Annual General Meeting

On Tuesday, March 19th, 2024, at 6 pm, the Annual General Meeting for the St. Anthony's School Board will be held in the St. Francis Building at St. Anthony's. At this meeting, reports on last year's events will be delivered, and the election of Board members to represent the parent body for the 2024 year will be facilitated, with an opportunity for questions.

You are invited to join the School Board and the school staff to attend this informative meeting, and this is a great way to learn about what is happening at your child's school. The School Board is responsible for the school's governance, focusing on policies, strategic planning, and finances.

If you would like to nominate to be part of this very important parent leadership group, please complete the nomination form sent to families via School Stream and on our school website. If you have any questions about being part of the School Board, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## Wellbeing Initiative - Classroom Pulse 'Check In'

During last week and this week, classes at St Anthony's have participated in the CESA Pulse Survey. The Pulse Survey highlights that your child's relationships, identity, belonging, and learning are essential to their happiness and success at school.

This Check-In has been developed to ascertain how students feel about their school experience. It is tailored to allow your child's teacher(s) to check in and provide immediate feedback and support to them.

I am conscious that school life has its ups and downs, but I am also confident that your child's teachers want to understand how they are feeling so they can support you and your child in meeting any social, emotional, or learning needs they may have.

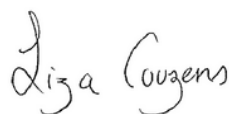
To enable this, your child's teacher and I will have access to their responses to facilitate follow-up and support as required. As your child's prime caregiver, please be assured that any support required will be communicated and discussed with you in advance.

Our role is to help every child become a thriving person, capable learner and a leader for the world God desires, and we believe this Check-In will play an important part in supporting that goal and your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further clarification.

## 2024 Mid-Year Enrolments

It is now the time for 2024 mid-year enrolments. If you have a child who is to begin Reception in Term 3 2024, please complete an enrolment form and return to Admin. If you know of any families who are thinking about enrolling their child at St Anthony's Primary School for term 3 2024, please let them know about our mid-year enrolment intake or alternatively, they can contact the school on 87 333479 at any time. We welcome all new families!

God Bless,



**Liza Couzens**  
Principal





## Reminder - Liturgy of the Word for Children

At Mass this Saturday, March 9, at 4.30 pm Liturgy of the Word for Children will take place. All children are invited, and we especially encourage our children in the Sacramental Program to attend.

## Reminder - Next Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is on Sunday March 17. If you would like your child/ren to participate in this Mass please phone the school office and speak to Liza, or email directly.

## Sacramental Program

Our nine Sacramental Program candidates have participated in two of their six sessions so far, and on Tuesday March 19, they will experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers.

## Altar Serving Training

Altar Serving training will start again next Wednesday March 13, 8.00 am at St Alphonsus church. Recently a letter was sent home on Schoolstream with the information and a consent form to allow children to be walked back to school by a teacher. Please check Schoolstream for this letter if you have missed this information and send in your consent form to school as soon as possible.

## Project Compassion

Please continue to support Caritas Australia by donating coins and spare change to the Project Compassion Box. It is a wonderful way to use Mercy Keys both here at school and at home. Teaching children to give a little of their own so that others may live is a life skill and the importance of it has benefits for all time.

Thank you.

## Sharn de Nys

Assistant Principal;  
Religious Identity and Mission



**2024 Student Representative Council**



Year 3/4 students Isabelle, Ellie and Haddi testing out our new Buddy Bench.

The idea of the buddy bench started with the desire to create a place for students of all year levels to reach out and connect with one another, particularly when they are lonely or in need of a buddy. Not only would it be a visible symbol of friendship, but it would also function as a useful seating area for students during playtime and other outdoor activities.

With sustainability in mind and an aim to work with the students to create a bench that they had a part in making, the P&F had an opportunity to collaborate with the sustainability team at Tenison Woods College. With the support of Mr. Rebellato, the 2023 YELP students lead the project of collecting recycled plastic milk bottle lids from students and families at our school, they then took them to Tenison to be processed into slats for the bench. Our bench was made out of approximately 22kgs of recycled plastic that would have otherwise gone into landfill. A group of keen St Anthony's students then helped to fix the slats onto the base.

The parents and friends committee are thrilled to see the buddy bench in action after such a collaborative effort from the school community. It not only promotes friendship but also reflects our school's commitment to sustainability.

In completion of the project the P&F will visit classrooms during Harmony week for a book reading of "The Buddy Bench".





## HUG REMINDER!

The power of a hug, is so important in many ways, especially for the following:

**Bonding and Attachment:** Hugging is important for building a strong emotional connection between parents and children. It helps create feelings of safety and trust, which are essential for a child's healthy growth and development.

**Emotional Regulation:** Hugs comfort children when they're stressed, sad, or anxious. Hugging releases oxytocin, a hormone that helps them relax and feel less stressed.

**Self-Esteem:** Regular hugs convey unconditional love and acceptance, which are essential for building a child's self-esteem and self-worth. Knowing they are loved and valued through physical affection helps children develop a positive self-image.

**Communication:** Hugs show love, empathy, and support without words. They strengthen the emotional bond between parent and child by expressing feelings that words might miss.

**Physical Health:** Hugs can improve physical health by lowering blood pressure and heart rate. The oxytocin released during hugs also helps boost the immune system.

**Brain Development:** Positive physical touch, such as hugs, has been shown to stimulate the release of growth-promoting hormones, contributing to healthy brain development in children.

**Social Skills:** Hugging teaches children about appropriate physical boundaries and social norms regarding affection. It helps them understand the importance of physical closeness in relationships and how to express affection in healthy ways.

**Trust and Security:** Regular hugs make children feel safe and secure in their family, giving them confidence to explore the world around them.

Hugging your child is important not only for their emotional well-being but also for their physical health, social development, and overall growth into happy and confident individuals. Give an extra hug today, it helps us adults too 😊

Bec Baker  
School Counsellor



Birthday greetings to the following people who celebrate a birthday between 22nd February & 6th March.

Max Wells	Saige Bellin	Paige Stewart
Polly Sapiatzer	Cydi McEwen	Tully Robinson

### Road Crossing Monitors

Week 6: Nyree Baker & Maggie Buhlmann  
Week 7: Prudence Johnson & Ella Loveday  
Week 8: Pippa Bromley & Polly Sapiatzer

## Mercy Key Awards



### Integrity

Violet Rebellato  
Lachie Bromley  
Remi Hughes  
George Bowman

### Mutual Respect:

Gracie Westerman  
William Grech  
Hadley Peterson  
Raff Lawlor

### Responsibility

Lawson Baker  
Ryder Kuchel  
Blaine McEwen  
Riley Clark  
Hugo Ellis

### Compassion

Phu Si Nguyen  
Finn Peace

### Hospitality

Lottie Matthews

### Justice

Max Wells  
Oliver Hoffmann

### Loyalty

Cydi McEwen  
Edward Ellery  
Noah Wakelin

## Important Reminders

### Important Reminders:

To assist families with planning for the year, please note the 2024 Staff Formation Days are as follows:

- Tuesday 12 March (Term 1, Week 7)
- Thursday 6 June (Term 2, Week 6)
- Friday 7 June (Term 2, Week 6)
- Friday 6 September (Term 3, Week 7) – Staff Reflection Day
- Friday 18 October (Term 4, Week 1)
- Friday 13 December (Term 4, Week 9)

### Safety Around the School

At the beginning of a new school year, we must remind ourselves about being safe as we drive around the school.

### Please drive safely, and we ask families to observe the following requirements and requests:

**Drop Zone:** Entry to the school drop zone is via a left-hand turn from Salts Street or Emily Street only. To prevent traffic congestion and to ensure traffic flows smoothly, no right-hand turn to enter the Drop Zone from Salts Street is permitted.

**School Crossing:** A reminder that when the school lights are flashing, all cars should travel at 25km. At all other times, the speed in front of the school is 50km. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.



# 2024 Sports Day

Today students participated in our annual Whole School Sports Day. Well done to all students for having a go, encouraging their team mates and getting into the team spirit. Thank you to all of our House Captains, teachers and parent volunteers for their amazing support to ensure the day was a success.





# 2024 Sports Day





# Barefoot Bowling



## AN EVENING ON THE GREENS

### MILLICENT BOWLING CLUB NORTH TERRACE

MARCH

FRIDAY

22

4:30-7:30PM

**\$15 per ticket**

includes a meal & a game of barefoot bowling

PURCHASE  
YOUR TICKETS  
NOW!



All profits go to support the Millicent Men's Shed  
Drinks available at bar prices from the venue.

NO BYO

**TONIGHT!!!**

Wednesday 6 March, 5:30pm for a 5:45pm start



# TWILIGHT TOUR



Our 2024 Twilight Tour is open to all prospective families, with two tour options available:  
**Junior School Focus | Middle/Senior School Focus**

We ask that you please register your attendance via our website or Facebook page or via this link:

[tenison.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/twilight-tour](https://tenison.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/twilight-tour)



**RAISING  
HEARTS  
AND  
MINDS**

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[tenisonwoodscollegemountgambier](https://www.facebook.com/tenisonwoodscollegemountgambier) [tenisonwoodscollege](https://www.instagram.com/tenisonwoodscollege)



## INFORMATION EVENINGS

YEAR 7 IN 2025  
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**Millicent**

Thurs 14 March 7:15pm

**Penola**

Mon 25 March 7:15pm

**Naracoorte**

Mon 6 May 7:15pm

**Mount  
Gambier**

Wed 8 May 7:00pm

For enquiries please contact  
our Enrolment Registrar,  
Tracey Davey on  
(08) 8725 5455 or

[enrolment@tenison.catholic.edu.au](mailto:enrolment@tenison.catholic.edu.au)

