

# ST ANTHONY'S Newsletter



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## Celebrating 125 Years

### Harmony Day 2024

On the 21st of March our students were encouraged to wear a splash of orange to recognise Harmony Day a day to celebrate cultural diversity. The theme for 2024 was 'Everybody Belongs'

The day was an excellent opportunity to educate others on the value and importance of other cultures. The event encourages us to continue building bridges between the many wonderful cultures and ethnicities that make Australia what it is today.



### UPCOMING EVENTS WEEK 10

**Joy Week**  
**Learning Conversations Tues 2nd – Thurs 4th**

#### Thursday 4 April

St Anthony's Playgroup 8:45am  
R-6 Golf Sessions at STA  
1KB Liturgy - Chapel 9:15am

#### Friday 5 April

Occasional Care 8:45am – 3pm  
P & F meeting 9am McCourts Cafe  
Assembly Hosted by 5/6SP & RRW  
2:30pm

#### Sunday 7 April

Mass - St. Alphonsus 9am

### WEEK 11

#### Monday 8 April

SAPSASA Swimming State  
Championships

#### Wednesday 10 April

R-6 Golf Sessions at STA

#### Thursday 11 April

St Anthony's Playgroup 8:45am  
3-6 Golf Clinic

#### Friday 12 April

Occasional Care 8:45am – 2:10pm  
Early Dismissal 2:10pm

#### Saturday 13 April

Mass - St. Alphonsus 4pm

**13 APRIL - 28 APRIL  
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS  
SCHOOL RESUMES ON  
MONDAY 29TH APRIL**



# From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

## Contemplating Joy Week

During my childhood, Easter was all about chocolate and the thrill of indulging in as much as my siblings and I could manage. We'd spend time dyeing eggs in vibrant colours, baking Easter biscuits, and eagerly anticipating the moment we could enjoy them with a cup of coffee. Of course, there was also the excitement of wearing a fresh new dress on Easter Sunday, adding to the joy of the occasion.

While I relished the festivities and feasting, my understanding of Easter as a child was fairly elementary. It wasn't until later in life that I grasped the true significance of Easter: the profound concepts of forgiveness, grace, and unconditional love made available to us through Jesus Christ.

The hope we hold in His resurrection, akin to a tender green shoot emerging from the dark soil, is that something transformative and beautiful occurs in our own lives during this time. We yearn to feel the depth of His love, to embrace hope and renewal. It's a reminder that Jesus is not only alive but also present among us, guiding us toward a new life through His teachings—how to forgive, to love, to have faith, to share the Good News, to nurture hope, and to positively impact our world.

Let's never forget the sacrifice Jesus made for us and the hope His resurrection instils within us. May we live with unwavering faith, trusting that God is ever-present in our lives. As Father Peter eloquently expresses in the Weekly Bulletin, "as we celebrate Easter, we can see the black night giving way to the blue of this new day. The signs of the dawn of Easter revive our hope and remind us that the Son is rising, ... may the light of the rising Son dispel the darkness of fear and doubt within us."

I pray this, for all of us!

## Parent Communication Platforms

At St Anthony's there are a variety of ways parents are able to access information regarding their child/ren's learning at St Anthony's. **SeeSaw** is a significant means of communication with parents/care-givers with your child's teacher and provides opportunities of viewing the daily activities children are engaged in. **School Stream** provides comprehensive information on whole school communications and calendar dates.

We encourage all families to download the SeeSaw and School Stream applications to their phones to be actively involved in the children's and class learning. The St Anthony's newsletter is published fortnightly on Wednesdays of the even weeks, providing an overview of the fortnights events and learning at St Anthony's. We encourage families to engage in these communication platforms.

## School Uniform

School uniforms are an important component in creating equity, pride, a sense of identity and belonging for each child at St Anthony's. Consequently, we take this opportunity to remind families of the school uniform requirements and kindly ask families to take the time to refamiliarize themselves with these requirements, uniform information is available on the St Anthony's website. If families have any questions in relation to school uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school or your child's class teacher. For more information regarding the St Anthony's school uniform policy please go to the school website.

## Mother's Day Celebration

Next term, St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School will be celebrating Mother's Day on Friday, May 10, 2024. We'll begin the celebrations with an afternoon tea starting at 2 pm, followed by open classrooms from 2:30 pm onwards. This afternoon tea will serve as a fundraiser for the Cancer Council's Biggest Afternoon Tea and will also honour all the remarkable women in our community as part of our 125 Years Celebrations.

Mother's Day is a poignant reminder of the invaluable role mothers play in our lives. It's a time to express gratitude for their unwavering support, boundless love, and endless sacrifices, not just today but throughout the years and into the future. To all the mothers in our midst, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your dedication and care. May your year be filled with love and joy, surrounded by your loved ones.

During the month of May, we will also pay tribute to Mary, the mother of Jesus, our universal mother. As a community, we will reflect on her profound love for her Son and the sacrifices she made to facilitate Jesus' mission of spreading hope, joy, and peace in our world.

We warmly invite all mothers, carers, grandmothers, aunties, and families to join us in celebrating Mother's Day. During the afternoon tea, we'll share stories, and our School Captains will lead a special prayer of gratitude for the extraordinary women in our lives. Additionally, a panel of past scholars will share their experiences at St. Anthony's

The children will also have the chance to showcase their learning in their classrooms from 2:30 pm to 3:10 pm. We eagerly anticipate the participation of all our mothers and families in this joyous celebration. For more information please see the invitation on page 9.

## Our school is a safe place for all

At St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, we provide an absolute commitment to ensuring that our school is a safe place for all.

- Our staff are committed and trained to protect the children and young people in our care.
- All staff and regular volunteers have current police checks.
- We teach our children age-appropriate strategies to keep themselves safe through South Australia's Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.
- Staff complete certification and undertake regular updated training in Responding to Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care Settings.
- We also promote strategies to minimise bullying and help students stay safe online.

Additional information about the broader protection policies of Catholic Education SA can be found on their website: <https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/safe-environments-for-all>. The website also includes links to online resources for parents and students on a range of topics. If you have any questions or concerns about child safety, please contact me anytime.

## Setting students up for success

The beginning of the school day is very important. As part of setting students up for success, they should be at school before the first bell which rings at 8:47am. However, not before 8.30am. School supervision begins at 8.30am. If a student happens to be at school before this time, they must head to the front office to wait. Your support in this would be greatly appreciated.



## Farewell and Welcome

As Term 1 comes to an end, we say farewell to Kimmi Tincknell. Kimmi will be on maternity leave and we wish her all the best as she prepares for the arrival of her newest family member.

I take this opportunity to thank Kimmi for her outstanding educational contribution to the life of St Anthony's and the students. Kimmi is a passionate educator who has certainly made a difference.

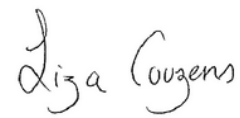
Naomi Damhuis will replace Kimmi in Reception for the rest of the year. Naomi is an outstanding educator who is well known amongst the St Anthony's community.

## Sincere thanks

As this is the last newsletter for the term, I take this opportunity to thank the entire school community, students, parents and staff for a wonderful start to the 2024 school year. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and support throughout Term 1 to the life of St Anthony's Catholic Primary School. We are certainly a blessed and privileged school community.

Wishing you all a well-earned rest over the holidays and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 29th April to begin Term 2.

Yours in Hope,



**Liza Couzens**  
Principal

## Important Reminders

**The school term concludes next week, Friday 12th April at 2.10 pm. Buses will be running earlier to accommodate the early departure.**

### Important Reminders:

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

- 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 13 December (Term 4, Week 9)

### Safety is Number One

Please be mindful that safety for your child / children is paramount and you will need to be patient and careful when using the Drop Zone. It is important, for the safety of the entire school community, that when dropping off and picking up students from the Kiss and Drop area you remember:

- To enter the Kiss and Drop via a left hand turn from Salts Street **ONLY**
- That no right hand turn into the school from Salts Street is permitted
- To leave the drop zone via a left hand turn into Salts Street **ONLY**
- To leave the neighbours' driveways free and do not park on the paths
- If in the queue, you keep traffic moving.

The **digital version of The Southern Cross** is available via the following link. <http://www.thesoutherncross.org.au/>. The Southern Cross, South Australia's Catholic newspaper, contains stories and features on local, national and international issues, with a strong emphasis on Social Justice and Christian values. Schools play a vibrant and important role in the life of a community and the Southern Cross covers Catholic school news and special events of interest to students and their families.

### P & F News:

Our next Parents and Friend's meeting is this Friday 5th April at McCourts Cafe, 9am for coffee and the meeting will start at 9:30am. We would like to extend a warm welcome to any other parents interested in joining. If you wish to learn more about the P&F or would like to attend simply for a chat and a coffee, we encourage you to do so. Hope to see you there.



## Project Compassion wraps up for 2024.

A reminder to please return your Project Compassion boxes to the school before the end of term so all donations can be tallied and sent off to Caritas. We would like to thank all families who have already returned their boxes with their generous donations.



# COUNSELLOR'S CORNER



## Holidays are on their way!

With just a week and a half left until the end of term 1, your child is probably tired and looking forward to relaxing. Here are several suggestions for the school holidays to ensure your child returns in term 2 refreshed and prepared for learning.

Firstly, make sure your child gets enough sleep every night, as regular sleep is important for their overall health. Also, make sure they have ample free time to relax, play, and pursue their interests without strict schedules. Encourage outdoor activities to promote fresh air, sunshine, and physical exercise.

It's important to limit screen time and promote hands-on activities like crafts and puzzles. Maintain healthy eating habits by offering nutritious meals and snacks, avoiding overly sugary or processed foods, except for the occasional left over Easter chocolate of course...if there is any left!

Support your child in pursuing their hobbies and interests, and teach them relaxation techniques such as deep breathing or mindfulness to manage stress. Most importantly, schedule quality family time to bond and create cherished memories together. Lastly, be flexible and ensure you also have down time when able to, it's a tough gig being parents!

By implementing these tips, you can help ensure your child has a fulfilling and refreshing school holiday break.

Bec Baker  
School Counsellor



## Road Crossing Monitors

**Week 10:** Kirra Madden & Finn Peace

**Week 11:** Shelbi Mason & Lacey Randall

**Term 2:**

**Week 1:** Myla Bowman & Max Wells



## Mercy Key Awards



### Responsibility

Hugo Lowndes  
Eden Kuchel  
Spencer Redman  
Kolton Redman  
Emmi Sorella  
Matilda Stephan  
Prudence Johnson  
Lidia Bromley

### Compassion

Diyanshi Thapa  
Logan Clark

### Loyalty

Drew Wakelin  
Pippa Bromley

### Integrity

Cameron Robinson  
Willow Combarngo  
Flynn Ellis  
Monnie Peters  
Ethan Barkle  
Bodee Grosvenor  
Tully Robinson  
Kaia Green

## Principal Awards



*Congratulations to the first Principal's Award recipients for 2024.*

## Birthday Greetings!

Birthday greetings to the following people who celebrate a birthday between 21 March to 3 April.

Orlando Newton  
Oscar Rebellato  
Flynn Ellis  
Finlee Keck

Connor Johnson  
Lucas Bowering  
Haddi Ellis  
Lacey Peters

# SPORTS NEWS

## SAPSASA Netball (Girls)

Girls in Year 5/6 that are interested in trying out for SAPSASA Netball should have brought home a note explaining the online registration process. If your daughter is interested but is yet to get a note, please get in contact with your class teacher.

## SAPSASA SUCCESS



Congratulations to Lottie, Mazi & Sam, who were selected to represent the Mid-South East region at the SAPSASA Softball State Championships in Adelaide in Week 9. Lottie's team finished up Division 2 Gold Medalists while Mazi & Sam's team finished up Silver Medalists also in Division 2. An amazing achievement. Well done!

## SAPSASA Swimming

Good luck to Hunter Hughes, Dalila Scanlon and Ruby & Ella Loveday who will be representing the Mid South East swimming team in Adelaide next week at the State Championships.

## SAPSASA Golf

Well done to Mazi Hales, Hunter Hughes and Hugo Ellis for trying out for SAPSASA Golf. Mazi Hales was successful in making the regional team.

## AFL CUP VISITS ST. ANTHONY'S

Students were given the chance to come up close and personal with some of the most prestigious trophies in Aussie Rules football. SANFL Game Development Coordinator and St Anthony's School Old Scholar Heath Sims was visiting schools around the region giving students the opportunity to have photos with and get up close with The 2024 AFL and AFLW premiership cups, the perpetual SANFL Thomas Seymour Hill Trophy and the SANFLW premiership cup.





# Barefoot Bowling

On Friday 22 March 2024, as part of our 125-year birthday celebrations, current and former students along with staff and families gathered to celebrate an evening on the greens, at the Millicent Bowling Club. It was a fantastic opportunity for all to reconnect with old friends, while enjoying a game of barefoot bowls and sharing a meal.

Rob Francis the MC for the evening initiated some interesting conversations with our panel of special guests including old scholars: Jack Gregory, Joe Rayson and Patrick Noonan along with Parish Priest Fr. Peter Zwaans.

Also on our panel was old scholar Rodney Damhuis and current student and 2024 School Captain Rhys Damhuis who were both unfortunately unable to attend on the evening, they have however put together a write up of their time at St Anthony's School:

## RHYS DAMHUIS

### CURRENT STUDENT & 2024 SCHOOL CAPTAIN



- The thing I like the most about St Anthony's is the education, especially the Stephanie Alexander Gardening Kitchen Program because some kids don't get a chance to cook at home, so it gives them a chance to learn and it helps them get skills for when they are older. I enjoy the friends I've made and the opportunities like SAPSASA sports. I also enjoyed serving the pancakes on pancake day.
- Mutual Respect is the Mercy Key I try to use every day. I use Mutual Respect towards everyone and I accept that every has differences. I accept what people do and the things they like.
- The teachers I've had in my schooling are Mrs. Gipps, Mrs. Roundtree, Mrs. Little and Mrs. Redman, Mrs. Doyle and Mrs. Rayson, Mr. Theodorus and Mrs. Rayson, Mrs. Phelan, and this year Mrs. Bromley and Mrs. Rayson.
- The activities I am most looking forward to this year are the year 6 play, year 6 camp because we go to Adelaide and we will probably go to The Beach House where I can spend time with my friends playing games and going on the massive waterslide. You can only do those activities in Year 6 and the Stations of the Cross because I have been looking forward to it.
- I want to achieve anything I can and I aim to be the best role model I can be. I hope that by the end of my captaincy people remember to always be kind and treat people the way you want to be treated.





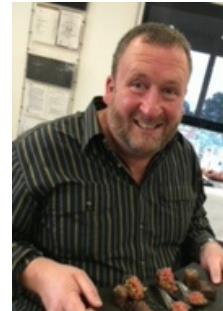
# Barefoot Bowling





# Barefoot Bowling

## RODNEY DAMHUIS - OLD SCHOLAR



Our family association with St Anthony's Primary School started with my father, back in 1960 when they immigrated from Holland in 1953 and then eventually settled in Millicent in 1960.

Being one of 12 children and being a devout Catholic, it was a natural progression and he went to the school with the Sisters Of Mercy. Dad said they were tough, but rightly so he said, he used to get into a lot of trouble as a migrant and not speaking the language as fluently as others.

My journey at St Anthony's started in 1980 after starting preschool at Tantanoola Primary School, my parents decided that both my brothers, Jamie, Collis and myself would start our education at St Anthony's. This involved being bused from Tantanoola to Millicent every day. I am so pleased to see the next generation of Damhuis continue this tradition of being educated at St Anthony's, which is quintessentially such a beautiful nurturing school where I believe the school gets the best out of each and every individual child.

Rhys Damhuis, is a very unique and individual person. He has a lovely disposition and empathy for others. He is not scared of being in front of large crowds and sharing his many talents. The wonderful thing about St Anthony's is that it has nurtured all of the students to embrace their own individual leadership qualities. The teachers I have had throughout my schooling at St Anthony's were Year 1, Mrs McLennan, Year 3 Mrs McLaughlan Year 5 Mr Addicoat, Mrs Irene Hann as principal.

So many wonderful memories such as the year level camp on our farm in 1981 where all of the yr 2/3 class rode on the back of Dads Ute. Can't do that these days! But the best thing about my schooling was when my parents bought the convent and we moved next to the school in 1983, that meant no more bus rides, extra sleep-ins and ice cream for lunch!

I remember one after-school football practice which was held behind the centennial park the boys and I were singing a song from that day's 'Singing and Listening', it was called what's up Fred, I don't believe Fred Smith liked the extra attention and because I lived next to the school, he drove me back home and spoke to Mum!



JOIN US FOR A

# MOTHER'S DAY

*afternoon tea*



*In conjunction with the annual P&F Cancer Council's Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, we are inviting families & friends of St Anthony's to celebrate Mother's Day and honour the female members of our community.*

**FRIDAY**

**10**

**MAY**

ST ANTHONY'S SCHOOL, MILLICENT

**2.00PM AFTERNOON TEA**  
**2.30PM OPEN CLASSROOMS**

*Special guests*  
*Performance by the choirs*



**Cancer Council**  
Australia's Biggest  
Morning Tea

