

# Newsletter



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*Celebrating 125 Years*

## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This morning, we celebrated the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at a whole school mass at St Alphonsus Catholic Parish. On this Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Catholics give thanks and praise for the holy and blessed life of Mary the Mother of Jesus. We celebrate how God has honoured her and welcomed her into heaven.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Week 4

#### Wednesday 14 August 2024

Whole School Mass 9:15am

#### Thursday 15 August 2024

St Anthony's Playgroup 8:45 – 10am

#### Friday 16 August 2024

Occasional Care 8:45 – 3pm

Assembly Hosted by 5/6SP & RRW

#### Sunday 18 August 2024

Mass at St Alphonsus Parish 9am

### Week 5

#### CATHOLIC EDUCATION OPEN WEEK BOOK WEEK

#### Monday 19 August 2024

Dress up Day

Costume Parade in the Gym 9am

TWC 2025 Year 7 Subject Selection

Session at St Anthony's 5-6pm

#### Wednesday 21 August 2024

YELP Forum at Naracoorte Caves

Open Classrooms & Big Book

Afternoon 3:10 - 4:30pm

TWC 2025 Snr School Subject Selection

interviews at St Anthony's. 4:30-7:30pm

#### Thursday 23 August 2024

Pyjama Day & Buddy Reading

St Anthony's Playgroup 8:45 – 10am

#### Friday 24 August 2024

Occasional Care 8:45 – 3pm

Come & Try Reception Session 8:50-10am

#### Saturday 25 August 2024

Mass at St Alphonsus Parish 4:30pm

### Week 6

#### MERCY WEEK SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

# From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Each year on August 15th, we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day honors Mary's bodily assumption into Heaven and stands as the most significant of all Marian feasts, also recognized as a Holy Day of Obligation. The feast is known by several names, including The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and The Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

Today, we gathered as a whole school to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, reflecting on her compassion, kindness, and unwavering faith in God. The Mass was led by Fr. Olek Stirrat at St. Alphonsus, and we extend our gratitude to him for guiding us in this celebration. We also thank Ms. de Nys for her careful organization and preparation of the Mass.

Pope Francis reminds us:

"Today we are celebrating the 'great things.' Mary is assumed into heaven: small and humble, she is the first to receive the highest glory. She, a human creature, one of us, attains eternity in soul and body."



## Catholic Schools Open Week

This week, from August 19th to 23rd, we celebrate Catholic Schools Open Week. Throughout the week, we will focus on the theme "Raising Hearts and Minds," highlighting the values that make Catholic education unique. At St. Anthony's, we are also combining this celebration with Book Week, offering a variety of exciting activities: Principal and School Captain tours, a Book Week Dress Up Day Parade at 9 am, PJ Day and Buddy Reading, and a Come and Try Reception Session on Friday, August 23rd.

These events showcase our school's wonderful opportunities, where young learners can reach their full potential and thrive in a welcoming and caring community. We encourage all families to participate in these events, as it's a perfect chance for them to discover the benefits of a Catholic education and see our educational programs in action.

For more information about Catholic Schools Open Week and how St. Anthony's is celebrating, please visit our Facebook page: St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School Millicent.

We look forward to welcoming you to St. Anthony's during Catholic Schools Open Week!



## Acting Principal

Today, the school community received a letter, posted on School Stream, from the Executive Director, Dr. Neil McGoran, announcing that I will be on leave from September 16, 2024, to October 25, 2024. I am pleased to share that Sharn de Nys has been appointed as Acting Principal during this period.

Sharn is a familiar and respected member of our community, currently serving as Assistant Principal of Religious Identity and Mission. We extend our best wishes to Sharn as she prepares to lead St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School during this time.

## CESA Community Living Learning Leading Survey for Parents and Caregivers

We encourage all parents and caregivers to participate in the Living Learning Leading Survey. This survey, known as the CESA Living Learning Leading Perception Surveys, is being conducted across all Catholic schools in South Australia. Its purpose is to gather insights into how well Catholic Education SA's Living Learning Leading Framework is being implemented in schools. Developed in collaboration with Curtin University, the survey is an important tool for collecting this data.

Parents and caregivers can access the survey by visiting [www.NSIPartnerships.com.au](http://www.NSIPartnerships.com.au) and using the access code: SACPSMLLLP.

At St. Anthony's, we highly value feedback from our families, as it helps us continuously improve our faith, learning, and wellbeing initiatives. The survey will remain open until August 23rd.

We sincerely appreciate your time and effort in completing the Living Learning Leading Survey.

### Wellbeing Initiative - Classroom Pulse 'Check In'

During Weeks 5 and 6, all students in Catholic schools across South Australia will participate in a brief online survey called Pulse Check-In. This survey is designed to gauge how students are currently feeling about their school experience. It allows your child's teacher(s) to check in with them and provide immediate feedback and support as needed. The Check-In will be conducted during the school day.

While we understand that school life has its ups and downs, we are confident that your child's teachers are committed to understanding how they are feeling so they can support both you and your child in addressing any social, emotional, or learning needs that may arise.

To facilitate this, your child's teacher and the Leadership team will have access to their responses, ensuring that appropriate follow-up and support can be provided. Rest assured that, as your child's primary caregiver, you will be informed and consulted in advance if any support is needed.

The Check-In includes a series of simple questions about your child's school life, personal identity, learning experience, sense of belonging, safety, and friendships. Catholic Education SA is dedicated to helping every child become a thriving person, capable learner, and leader in the world God desires.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact me at [couzl@sta.catholic.edu.au](mailto:couzl@sta.catholic.edu.au) or by calling the office on 87333479.

### So Many Learning Opportunities at St Anthony's

There are always so many exciting learning opportunities at St. Anthony's, giving us much to celebrate and be thankful for. These past two weeks have been especially busy, filled with outstanding learning activities both inside and outside the classroom. At St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School, we put students at the heart of learning, focusing all our efforts on delivering educational excellence and creating opportunities for young people to thrive as capable learners and future leaders.

This commitment is reflected in the number of students who have been actively engaged not only in their studies but also in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Learning outside the classroom is incredibly valuable, with research showing that students who participate in these activities achieve higher academic results, build better relationships at school, and experience a greater sense of belonging.

Reflecting on the opportunities presented to St Anthony's students over the last few weeks, there has been extracurricular activities on offer to students each day. Some highlights have included:

- SAPSASA District Basketball and Soccer
- Class, Whole School and Family Mass
- Alter Server Training
- Andrew Chinn Concert
- Road Safety Sessions
- YELP Forum
- Gymnastics

Congratulations to all the students for participating in these extracurricular opportunities and to the staff who have supported them in these events.



### 2025 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN

Visit our website at [sta.catholic.edu.au](http://sta.catholic.edu.au) or contact the front office on 8733 3479 for more information or to book a school tour



### 2025 Enrolments

It is now the time for the 2025 year enrolments to be submitted. If you have a child who is to begin Reception in Term 1 2025, 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 1 2025, please let them know about our 2025 enrolment intake, or they can contact the school on 87 333479 at any time. We welcome all new families!

With Blessings,

**Liza Couzens**  
Principal

## Book Week: A Time to Reflect on the Greatest Book Ever Written

As we prepare for Book Week next week, our school community is buzzing with excitement. Book Week is a time to celebrate the joy of reading, discover new stories, and dive into the imaginative worlds that books open up to us. This year's theme invites us to explore, dream, and learn through the pages of our favourite books. But before we get lost in the many wonderful stories we'll share, let's take a moment to reflect on the greatest book ever written: the Bible.



The Bible is more than just a book; it is a sacred text that has guided millions of people for thousands of years. It is a collection of books that tells the story of God's love for humanity and His plan for our salvation. The Bible is divided into two main parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament contains 46 books and focuses on the history and laws of the Jewish people, who were the first to worship the one true God. It includes books of law, such as Genesis, which tells the story of creation and the early ancestors of the Jewish people; Exodus, which recounts the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt; and Deuteronomy, which presents the laws that God gave to His people. There are also books of prophecy, like Isaiah and Jeremiah, which foretell the coming of the Messiah, and books of wisdom, such as Psalms and Proverbs, which offer guidance on living a righteous life.

The New Testament contains 27 books and focuses on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the foundation of the Christian faith. The Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—tell the story of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. The Acts of the Apostles recount the early days of the Church and the spread of the Gospel. The Epistles, or letters, written by apostles like Paul, offer encouragement and instruction to early Christians. Finally, the Book of Revelation provides a powerful vision of the end times and the ultimate triumph of God's kingdom.

The key message of the Bible is God's immense love for us. It tells us that God created us, that He cares for us, and that He has a plan for our lives. Most importantly, it teaches us about Jesus Christ, who came to offer salvation and to show us the way to eternal life.

As we enjoy Book Week and the many beautiful stories it brings, let us remember the Bible, the most extraordinary story ever told. It is not just a book to read but a living word that guides us every day.

## Class Masses & Liturgies for Term 3:

Week	Masses	Liturgies
1	-	
2	Room 8	
3	-	
4	Whole School	
5	Room 4	
6	Room 6	
7	Room 5	
8	Room 7	Tues - Room 10 Thurs - Room 1
9	Room 9	Tues - Room 3 Thurs - Room 2

## SRC for Semester Two

We are proud to announce our Semester Two SRC students!

### Gracie Westerman

**Dusty Hughes**

**Oscar Rebellato**

**Quinn Lowndes**

**Macey de Donatis**

**Saige Bellin**

**Lacey Croser**

**Cydi McEwen**

**Hannah Mules**

**Hunter Hughes**

**Shelbi Mason**

**Mathilda Facey**

**Lawson Baker**

**Continuing:**

**Mia Croser**

**Kylan Robbins**

**Surkhab Dhaliwal**

These students will receive their badges at assembly this Friday (apart from our continuing year 6 students, Mia, Kylan and Surkhab). We look forward to hearing their thoughts and ideas at our SRC meetings in the coming terms, and look forward to seeing them flourish in their student leadership roles.

God Bless,

Sharn de Nys

APRIM

## BULLYING NO WAY



It's Bullying No Way Week this week, I wanted to give some tips on how to help your child if they are being bullied at school, or at activities out of school. If your child is being bullied it's tough for the whole family supporting them through it, here are some tips to assist:

1. **Listen and Support:** Encourage them to talk, reassure them it's not their fault, and take their concerns seriously.
2. **Gather Details:** Find out what's happening, who's involved, and document incidents.
3. **Contact the School:** Report the bullying to the school, and ensure they take action.
4. **Work Together:** Collaborate with the school to create a safety plan for your child.
5. **Build Confidence:** Encourage activities that boost self-esteem and teach assertiveness.
6. **Address Cyberbullying:** Report online bullying, use safety tools, and consider legal advice if necessary.
7. **Seek Help:** Consider counselling, contact helplines like Kids Helpline, or get legal support if needed.
8. **Educate:** Teach your child about bullying and how to respond.
9. **Monitor:** Stay involved to ensure the bullying doesn't continue.
10. **Take Care of Yourself:** Seek support if you're feeling stressed.

Our staff are here to assist if you are worried your child is being bullied. There are also great websites out there such as [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au) and [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au), that provide tips and support.

KIDS HELPLINE AUS: **1800 55 1800** (24 hours a day)

### BULLYING NO WAY!!

*Bev Baker,*

School Counsellor

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.

### Our school is a safe place for all.

At St. Anthony's, we believe that every child has the right to be safe, and we are committed to ensuring that St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School is a safe place for all.

- Our staff are committed and trained to protect the children and young people under our care.
- All staff and regular volunteers have current police checks.
- We teach children age-appropriate strategies to keep themselves safe through South Australia's Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.
- Staff complete certification and undertake regularly 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 Catholic Education SA's broader protection policies can be found on its website: <http://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, including anxiety, depression, and how to support your child. If you have any questions or concerns about child safety, please contact me anytime.

### Important Reminders:

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

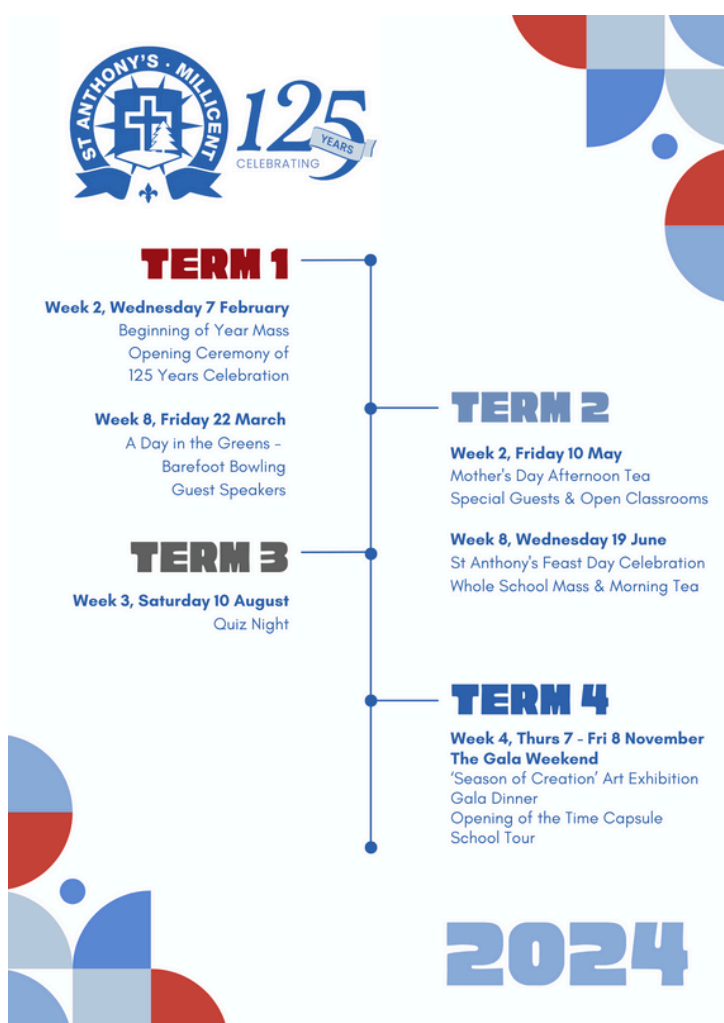
- Friday 6 September (Term 3, Week 7)
- **Friday 8 November (Term 4, Week 4)**
- Friday 13 December (Term 4, Week 9)

# 125 Year Celebrations

Earlier this year, we released the event timeline for the 125th anniversary of St Anthony's. After much consideration, the Gala Weekend dates have been moved to November in order to align with local community events.

The weekend will kick off with the opening of the **Season of Creation Art Exhibition**, featuring the art pieces created by our students on **Thursday, 7 November**. The **Gala Dinner** will follow that evening at the Millicent Civic Centre, where the time capsules will be opened. **Friday, 8 November will be a student-free day** and the school will be open all day for a **school tour** which includes the new buildings and the Commemorative Walk (with personalised bricks designed by the students).

More information on the Gala Weekend will be released as soon as they become available. For now, please pencil in these dates on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there!



# Year 6 Quiz Night

Congratulations to everyone involved with last Saturday night's Quiz Night Fundraiser & Auction. The night was a huge success and we congratulate and thank Rob & Kate for their work and preparation along with all other staff and year 6 families and friends who attended and supported the evening.

We also congratulate the year 6 students who were the stars of the evening, facilitating with so much energy and enthusiasm. We are excited to announce we raised close to \$6,000 to support the year 6 camp to Adelaide that will happen later this year.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following people and businesses who very generously donated items for the auction or supported us on the night:

**Sharn & Jason de Nys**  
**Millicent Toyota**  
**Wangolina Wines**  
**Noky @ The Henty**  
**Kimberly-Clark**  
**Teagle Excavations**  
**Amelia Morrison Hairdressing**  
**New Heaven Indian Restaurant**  
**ACM Plumbing**  
**Skeer Family**  
**Adam & Cassie Dinnison**  
**Kmart**  
**Swift Steel and Forge**  
**Bunnings Warehouse**  
**Linen House**



## Birthday Greetings!

Birthday greetings to the following people who celebrate a birthday between 1 August to 14 August 2024.

Mathilda Facey	Blaine McEwen
Pippa Bromley	Freddie Strother
Sidney Mules	Dalila Scanlon
Stella Peters	Forrest Letheby
Linh Nguyen	Hugo Lowndes



## Road Crossing Monitors

**Week 5** Max Wells & \*Fill in required  
**Week 6** Matilda Stephan & Emily Freebairn/Mia Croser  
**Week 7** Orlando Newton & Tahli Thomas

# Book Week 2024

**St Anthony's Catholic Primary School**  
 Catholic Education Open Week and Book Week  
**WEEK 5**  
**19 - 23 AUGUST 2024**

Monday	• Book Week Dress Up Day - Parade 9am
Tuesday	• Classroom Swaps
Wednesday	• Classroom Swaps • Open Classrooms & Big Book Afternoon 3:10 - 4:30pm
Thursday	• PJ Day and Buddy Reading
Friday	• Come & Try Reception Morning 8:50am-10:00am

We would love for you to join us in these events - further details will follow!  
 Please call 8733 3479 or email [info@sta.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sta.catholic.edu.au) to let us know you're coming!



## Mercy Key Awards



<b>Responsibility</b> Oliver Hoffmann Emma Hill Lucas Bowering Addison Lowe Polly Sapiatzer	<b>Mutual Respect</b> Drew Wakelin Hazel Wheatley Clyde Levison Thomas Lowe	<b>Loyalty</b> Jaxson Letheby Aaliyah Skeer Madison Walker Hamish Damhuis
<b>Compassion</b> Cedar Ferguson Kobe Skeer	<b>Hospitality</b> Hudson Peterson Sylvie Ellis Joey Hill	<b>Integrity</b> Ollie Deland Parker Wells Eddie Haggett

## St Anthony's Awards BRONZE AWARDS



## SILVER AWARDS



# Snapshots Around the School

