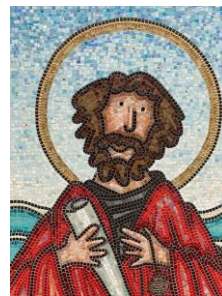




St Peter's Primary School, Keilor East

*Celebrating 52 Years: 1971 - 2023*

**Supervised School Hours – 8.30am until 3.30pm**  
**Remember to bring your BRAIN FOOD & Sun Hat each day!**



**REMINDER: Please be mindful of the speed limit around the school when dropping off and picking up children. It is 40kph!**

<b>TERM 1</b>			
<b>Curriculum Levy now overdue – please make payment</b>			
<b>WEEK 4</b>	Friday	17 February	Interschool sports @St Christophers PS
	Saturday	18 February	Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation – Commitment Mass at 6pm
	Sunday	19 February	Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation – Commitment Mass at 10.30am
<b>WEEK 5</b>	Wednesday	22 February	Prep Testing Day <b>Ash Wednesday - Years 1-6 Mass @ 9.15am</b>
	Thursday	23 February	Parent Helper Induction session (9 – 10am)
	Friday	24 February	Years 3, 4 & 6 - Completion of Sacrament enrolment forms due 24 February.
	Sunday	26 February	First Sunday of Lent
<b>WEEK 6</b>	Monday	27 February	Years 4 – 6 District Swimming @ Queens Park
	Tuesday	28 February	Year 5 Excursion to Parliament House
	Wednesday	1 March	Prep Testing Day Year 6 - Confirmation Faith Night 6pm in the Church Year 5 Excursion to Parliament House
	Thursday	2 March	Grade 4 Mass @ 9.15am. All welcome!
	Friday	3 March	SSP Meet & Greet Interschool sports @St Therese's PS -T-ball @Buckely Park
	Sunday	5 March	Second Sunday of Lent
<b>WEEK 7</b>	Wednesday	8 March	Open days for 2024 Prep enrolments
	Thursday	9 March	Open days for 2024 Prep enrolments School Advisory Council Meeting AGM @ 7pm Grade 3 Mass @ 9.15am. All welcome!
	Friday	10 March	Interschool sports @Home vs O.L.N
	Sunday	12 March	Third Sunday of Lent
<b>WEEK 8</b>	Monday	13 March	<b>Public Holiday – Labour day</b>
	Wednesday	15 March	Naplan begins
	Thursday	16 March	Grade 2 Mass @ 9.15am
	Friday	17 March	St Patrick's Day Interschool sports @ Keilor Heights PS- Tball @ EKC
<b>WEEK 9</b>	Monday	20 March	<b>School photos</b> – Operoo note will be coming in due course. Full summer uniform
	Tuesday	21 March	Harmony Day - <b>Wear a splash of orange on school uniform: such as orange hair tie/ribbon, orange socks etc</b>
	Thursday	23 March	Grade 1 Mass @ 9.15am. All welcome
	Friday	24 March	ISS @ Home vs St John Bosco Ps
<b>WEEK 10</b>	Monday	27 March	Parent Teacher Student Learning Conference
	Mon - Wed	27 – 29 Mar	Semper Dental Van

	Thursday	30 March	Prep & Grade 6 Buddies Mass @ 9.15am. All welcome!
<b>WEEK 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>3 April</b>	<b>2024 Prep enrolments due by 4pm</b>
	Thursday	6 April	Holy Thursday - Easter prayer celebration @ 11.45 – 12.45pm <b>End of term 1 @ 1.30pm</b>

**NB – Please check the diary dates each newsletter in the event of changes or additional information added**

### **Reflection: Ash Wednesday - 22 February**

On this Ash Wednesday, Christians all over the world will stop to celebrate this very first day of the Church season called Lent. On Ash Wednesday, many Catholics receive the ashes, which are traced on their foreheads to remind them that they are disciples of Jesus and that this six-week season of Lent is a time to give special attention to prayer, fasting and good deeds.

These words are from Pope Francis about fasting which give us much to think about:

*Fast from hurting words ... and say kind words, Fast from sadness ... and be filled with gratitude, Fast from anger ... and be filled with patience, Fast from pessimism ... and be filled with hope, Fast from worries ... and have trust in God, Fast from complaints ... and contemplate simplicity, Fast from pressures ... and be prayerful, Fast from bitterness ... and fill your hearts with joy, Fast from selfishness ... and be compassionate to others, Fast from grudges ... and be reconciled, Fast from words ... and be silent so you can listen!*

We pray,  
Loving God, open our eyes and ears,  
so we may see and hear the goodness that surrounds us and the needs of your most vulnerable. Most importantly, open our hearts, so we live more like you not only in these Lenten days but each day. We especially pray for the people of Ukraine and we remember also those affected by floods in New Zealand and the people of Turkey and Syria following the recent earthquakes, Lord bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope. Amen

### **Dear Parents, Staff and Students,**

Welcome to week 4! In this fortnight's newsletter you will find information on the school fees and levy, Covid safe protocols, canteen ordering protocols, photographic permission information and see a lovely picture of our newly appointed school captains. Please ensure that you read this information so you can remain in the loop.

### **Curriculum Levy & Fees**

The school fees and curriculum levy structure for 2023 is:

- Family fee \$1956.00
- Curriculum Levy (P-3) - \$430.00
- Curriculum Levy (4-6) - \$480.00

**The curriculum levy was due on the 10 February.** The teachers need to know their budget for the year so that they can manage the funds allocated for learning opportunities throughout the year. Hence this payment is needed in full at the start of the year.

Secondly, the family fee can be paid in two ways: in full or through direct debit. The invoice that was sent out may have gone to fathers so please we ask both parents to check their emails. Belinda McPherson will be following up shortly.

### Project Compassion Theme: For All Future Generations

This year we will be supporting Project Compassion. The theme reminds us that what we do today can have an impact for all future generations. This message invites us to step up for those who do not have the essential resources they need for their survival and those whose needs at this time are far beyond ours. By putting compassion into action, we can make a difference today, for all future generations.



### Staff News

Debbie Smith (ICT) who has been at St Peter's since 2002 will be going on long service leave and then finishing up at St Peter's School. During Debbie's time she has held many roles: classroom teacher, Team Level Leader, Director of Learning, ICT Manager, Mathematics Intervention Teacher. Debbie always gives 100% to everything she does. As a classroom teacher she supported every student and displayed a sound knowledge of curriculum and effective use of data. Her ability to support struggling students in the area of mathematics was outstanding, ensuring they understood concepts, and providing the right amount of challenge so the children could prove or demonstrate their understanding. As a leader, Debbie always supported the teaching teams and, as ICT Manager, she has been proactive in solving technical problems. Her skills are many and varied. I know Debbie will be missed by staff and students alike. We take this opportunity to thank her for the wonderful contribution she has made in her years of service at St Peter's, and we wish her all the best for the future. We will farewell Debbie next Tuesday. Seona Martin is now our ICT Manager.

### Staff Commissioning Mass with Bishop Terry Curtin

On Sunday, staff attended the 10.30am Mass for their formal commissioning. We were very happy that Bishop Terry Curtin was able to be with us to lead the Eucharistic celebration along with Fr Sebastian. I was very impressed too that two of our wonderful altar servers were able to serve on the day. I thank George Khallouf and Abigail Mortellaro (pictured here with the Bishop) for giving up their time to support their school and parish in such a splendid way.



### School Captains



Last Thursday we celebrated our opening school Mass and it was lovely to see some parents present. The Year 6 buddies did a great job supporting the preps too and I thank them for their leadership. At the end of the celebration, we announced our Year 6 school captains for 2023: **Christian Filippone and Eve Morrison**. We know they will carry out their roles responsibly and we look forward to their leadership over the school year.

## Canteen

Yesterday was the first day of canteen and I can report it was a good start. Parents can place lunch orders up to two weeks in advance. On the day itself, you need to complete the order by **8.15am** and no later please. If you order after the cut-off times the order will go to the following week.

## Covid Update from the CECV school's operation guide 2023

COVIDSafe measures have changed but all Victorian Catholic schools are required to continue to implement important practices to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Schools must continue to take the important steps of ensuring air purifiers are in use, external ventilation is maximised, good personal hygiene is encouraged and face masks continue to be made available for staff, students and visitors who wish to wear them.

## Reporting Positive Cases

The Department of Health recommends that all Victorians should report their positive RAT result to the Department of Health online, or by calling **1800 675 398**. Students (or their parents) should also report a positive result to school. **Rapid Antigen Test are available for all Victorians from Council sites**. People can get 2 free packs (10 tests) for themselves and 2 free packs (10 tests) for each of their household members.

## Face masks

The Department of Health recommends that masks should be worn by a person who is a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 when leaving home. Additionally, the Department of Health recommends that masks should be worn by a person who has COVID-19 for at least 7 days after a positive test when they need to leave home.

## Infection prevention and control

All staff, students and visitors to schools should practise good hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet.

## Management of confirmed cases at school

The Department of Health recommends that a person who tests positive to COVID-19 report that result to their employer, school and household. Where a student is identified as a positive case, the following steps should be taken:

1. Parents/carers should inform the school by phone or written notification if a student tests positive to COVID-19 (via a PCR or rapid antigen test).
2. Students who report a positive result are recommended to isolate for a **minimum of 5 days** and not attend school until their symptoms have resolved.

## Resilience Project Staff Professional Development Day

The teachers had a productive day on Monday preparing for the implementation of the resilience project. There is a parent portal which you will be given access to shortly. We are now a GEM (Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness) school.



## Photographing Students at School

From time to time our school has family activities, performances and excursions where parents/carers like to take photos or video of the event. In line with our Privacy and Child Safe Policies, we request that no photos or videos are taken on school property in order to protect the privacy of each student and their family.

We also draw your attention to the Photographic/DVD form that each family has completed that gives permission for a student to be photographed or participate in a video for the purposes outlined in the document for the duration of their time at St Peter's School unless the school is notified by you in writing of any changes. This form also covers permission for your child to watch G/PG rated movies/documentaries for educational purposes. A current version is available in the Forms section on the St Peter's School website or from the school's office. **If you wish at any time to confirm, withdraw or change your authorisation then please contact your child's teacher.**

## Reflection Sheet and its Purpose

The reflection sheet is part of the behaviour management policy at St Peter's. In the event of an issue arising, the sheet provides the time for the children to have some quiet time so as to calm down and record their response to what happened (for younger children they draw a picture), what zone they were in and what they could do in the future. The children record their name on it to identify who wrote the reflection. The reflection sheet is a learning tool which St Peter's use and it is part of a positive behaviour management approach and is widely used in many schools.

## HEALTH ALERTS

If your child has an allergy, please ensure you provide the appropriate action plan signed off by your medical practitioner and provide the school with the medication i.e. epi-pen or antihistamine.

### Life Threatening Allergies Anaphylaxis

The following year levels have children with allergies:

Prep: eggs

Year 1: cashews, pistachio, eggs, wheat, milk

Year 3: Nuts, seafood, cashews, pecans, hazelnuts, macadamias, walnuts, pistachios, egg

Year 4: Cashews, pistachios, red lentils

Year 5: Eggs, peanuts, hazelnut, walnuts, pecan, nuts, milk.

Year 6: Nuts, pistachios, cashews, egg

Please note: We suggest, regardless of the class your child is in, that you avoid sending your child with peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches or any health bars which contain tree nuts. As expressed in earlier newsletters, if a child comes into contact with the allergen even if it is by a touch on the hand, it can trigger an anaphylactic reaction. Children having a severe anaphylactic reaction will experience difficulty breathing, swelling of the throat, face, lips and tongue, sweating, low blood pressure, abdominal pain, dizziness, fainting and nausea. It might be challenging to make our school completely nut free, however we do make a conscious effort to reduce every possible risk. We need your help and cooperation in this matter.

Please note: if your child is having a birthday and you wish to give something to the class, please ensure it is a **non-food item**.

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

OSHCLUB are our before and after school provider. OSHCLUB operates at the following times:

- Before school care: 7.00 – 8.30am
- After school care: 3.15 – 6.15pm

## How to book

An OSHCLUB online enrolment form must be completed. Enrol online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au). Once enrolled with OSHCLUB, log in to your account and select a place – either a permanent or casual booking.

## Final Word

Our school community, at its heart, strives to foster goodwill and cooperation. Please do come and speak with me if you feel there is an issue to discuss. If you are unable to make a time during the school day, I am available most weekdays until 6pm. If contacting me by email ([principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au)), please follow the communication policy protocols. Email will not be used to answer lengthy or serious concerns, as in such cases the school requires that parents arrange a meeting time so that the situation can be discussed properly, and actions implemented if needed.

NEXT NEWSLETTER – TERM 1, WEEK 6

Enjoy your day!

Linda Tarraran – Principal