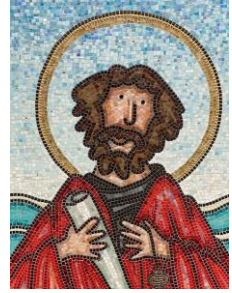




St Peter's Primary School, Keilor East
Celebrating 52 Years: 1971 - 2023



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!

TERM 1			
WEEK 11	Monday	3 April	2024 Prep enrolments due by 4pm
	Thursday	6 April	Holy Thursday - Easter prayer celebration @ 11.45 – 12.45pm End of term 1 @ 1.30pm
TERM 2 resumes	Monday	24 April	Beginning of term 2 – please ensure your child is dropped off by 8.40am to avoid a late arrival entry on the attendance roll.
Week 5	Monday	22 May	Report Writing Day – pupil free day - as highlighted in the previous newsletter

Reflection: Reflection:

Let us pray for the strength and courage we need to live the way of Jesus.

Reader: We pray that we may live the way of hope and joy, enriching the lives of others with Jesus' message.

Reader: We pray that we may live the way of truth and justice, showing understanding and acceptance to all those we meet.

Reader: We pray that we may live the way of peace and love, reaching out to others with a generous heart and a warm welcome.

As we prepare to enter into the Easter season may we always remember that when we uphold the human dignity of those around us, we are truly living the way of Jesus. Amen

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome to week 10 and the final newsletter for term 1! We hope you were able to attend the parent-teacher/student-learning conferences and that the change of timing from the beginning of term to last Monday worked better for you in terms of hearing feedback about how your child is progressing. In this newsletter I have included information about the patent code of conduct – a code designed for all Macs schools. It outlines the expected behaviour for all parent when communicating with staff. Please see below for a summary of the code. I will attach the complete version (which can be sourced from our website) with this newsletter too. Please ensure you are very familiar with it.

Today we had a special visit from Bishop Terry Curtin who spoke to the Year 6 children about their upcoming Confirmation. He covered a range of topics such as: the Sacraments of Initiation, the gift of the Holy Spirit, the important role of the sponsor, saint names chosen and how we can strive to live as spirit-filled people. He also demonstrated how the confirming the candidates would go and called up some students to be in a role play. His talk was very engaging and interactive with the children. Our School captains did a great job in giving thanks to him and wished him a happy Easter. Here are some photos:



It's been quite a busy term and I want to extend a huge thank you to all the staff for their dedication and hard work and also to our parent helpers – classroom, excursions and the SSP team, for all their support for the children and staff. I also thank the members of our School Advisory Council who have been a great sounding board and very cohesive in providing feedback on the many matters we have discussed. I take this opportunity to especially thank our outgoing members – Paul Steward (chairperson), Damian Zahra, Rosie Capuano and Lauri Fillipone. I have enjoyed working with them and I am particularly grateful for the generous commitment of time and support over the years of service. Our new members joining the council are: Maria Minas, Brendan Davey, Liam Murphy, Lizzie Pawley, Jennifer Franjic and Kelly Vandrine.

Here is some information about the new SAC parent representatives:

Lizzie Pawley

I am the mother of Grace who started Prep (Prep KR) in 2023, and Ruby, who will hopefully start in 2025/2026. I am also a St. Peter's alumna, graduating year 6 in 1998. I have been an East Keilor resident all my life and love the community. Living around the corner and being a former student, I have been an active member of the St. Peter's community all my life, from attending Mass to playing tennis at the now defunct St. Peter's Parish tennis club. St Peter's has played a big part in my life and now that my daughter is beginning her journey with St. Peter's, I want to give a little back. I have a science background. I am passionate about St. Peter's and I am looking forward to being part of SAC to support the school in whatever way I can. I believe for a school to be great; it needs the support of both the staff and parent community and I am a strong believer in building this partnership.

Jennifer Franjic

Together with my husband Anthony, we have three beautiful children: Lucas - Grade 1, Catia - 2.5 years old and Leila 4.5 months old. I have a Bachelor of Education and I bring passion, enthusiasm and commitment to the education and wellbeing of all students. My motto has always been that happy students receive the best outcomes, both socially and academically. Now that I have a son who is a student here at St Peter's, I want nothing more than for him and his peers to feel safe, supported and happy. The importance of a solid partnership between parents and the school is extremely important to me, as it allows children to achieve their best educational outcomes. I firmly believe that when there is transparency between the school and parents, it allows all parties to work hand in hand to support the child/student. I look forward to working closely with parish and school, to support the spiritual and educational welfare of the students whilst strengthening the school community.

Maria Minas

My husband's name is Phillip and we have two children who attend St Peter's – Livia (6FG) and Harry (3AT). I have lived in East Keilor all my life, and also attended St. Peter's Primary School when I was young. I work as an Executive Assistant at UniSuper, a superannuation company that focuses on delivering greater retirement outcomes for their members. In my role, I also run a Cultural Program which focuses on effective communication and enhancing engagement. I come from a very proud Italian heritage, with a strong Catholic ethos. Catholic education is extremely important to me, as I believe Catholic schools offer a unique educational experience that enable children to grow spiritually, socially and emotionally. I work full-time but try when I can to support the school and parish. I look forward to being part of the SAC team as I feel the St. Peter's School and its community have given so much to me – I would like to return that support and contribute to the future.

Brendan Davey

My daughter Zara has begun her school journey at St Peter's School this year and is in Prep FM. Next year my son Archer will join and a couple of years after that Henry will begin. Currently I am a curriculum coordinator at a primary school in the northern region and have been involved in education for 12 years. In the community I am the president of St Bernard's Old Collegians Cricket Club and have been for the past 8 years. Being involved in the community is something I value highly, along with being actively involved in my children's activities. Primary schooling is such an important part of their lives and being actively involved in school life helps with understanding the experiences my children are living each day. I have a sound knowledge of the Victorian Educational landscape and an ability to be the link between the wider school community, parent community and school leadership.

Liam Murphy

My daughter, Matilda Murphy has recently commenced Prep at St Peter's School. I would like to assist the school community and want to make a positive contribution to the SAC. As our family is new to the St Peter's community, I see the SAC as my starting point for community engagement. Some of the skills I bring are: leadership, providing vision, direction and oversight to sporting associations; entrepreneurial experience, strengthening the profile and appeal of sports to players, officials, spectators and sponsors, shaping innovative pathways, activities, programs, events and competitions; Strong skills in finance and commercial management; collaborative leadership in establishing sport cultures that create accountability, improve engagement and drive performance. I look forward to being part of the SAC team.

HOLY WEEK

Below is a summary of the significance of each day of Holy Week. The three days from Holy Thursday evening until Easter Sunday evening are known as the *Triduum* (a Latin word meaning 'three days'). During these three holy days the Church remembers Jesus' suffering, death and Resurrection. The Easter Vigil and the celebrations of Easter Sunday bring the *Triduum* to a joyful conclusion. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is such an important feast for Christians worldwide and is celebrated over the fifty days, from Easter to Pentecost.

Holy Thursday (6 April): The feast of the Passover is an important Jewish holiday. During this feast the people remembered the time when Moses, with the help of God, freed the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. They did this through a special meal. As a Jew, Jesus followed these customs and traditions. Jesus shared this special meal with his friends, which we call the Last Supper. We too continue this tradition by remembering and celebrating the Last Supper when we attend Mass.



Good Friday (7 April): After the Last Supper, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray to his heavenly Father. He took Peter, James and John. The Gospels tell us that Jesus experienced distress. It was at this place that Jesus was arrested. He was brought before Pontius Pilate and was condemned to death by crucifixion. He was scourged, ridiculed and had a crown of thorns placed on his head. He was then nailed to a cross. After he died, Jesus was buried in a tomb outside Jerusalem. The crucifix is a sign of love because on it Jesus opened his arms to embrace the world.



Easter Sunday (9 April): Easter is at the heart of our Christian faith. On Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead. In the Gospels, it was Mary Magdalene to whom Jesus first appeared. She came to realise and understand that Jesus was alive and she rushed to tell the other disciples. As people of the Resurrection, we too bring the good news of Easter to others. This is our challenge!



2023 PARISH EASTER CALENDAR

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – 1st/2nd April

Normal weekend timetable (Blessing of the Palms, Procession & Mass)

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – 3rd April

Morning Mass at 9.15am

Tuesday of Holy Week – 4th April

Morning Mass at 9.15am

Wednesday of Holy Week – 5th April

Morning Mass at 9.15am

LENTEN PENANCE WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

at 7.00pm (No Mass)

(Priests will be available for individual Confessions)

Holy Thursday – 6th April

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm

Altar of Repose & Eucharistic Adoration from 8.30pm until midnight

Friday of the Passion of the Lord – 7th April

Way of the Cross at 10.30am

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm

Holy Saturday – 8th April

The Easter Vigil Mass at 7.00pm

(Blessing of Fire, Paschal Candle & Baptismal Water followed by solemn Mass of Easter)

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – 9th April

Mass at 8.30am (Italian & English)

Mass at 10.30am (English)

There is no 5.00pm Mass on Easter Sunday (however, there is 7.00pm Divine Mercy Novena followed by Mass

LEADERSHIP and MANAGEMENT

Revisiting the Parent Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct is a MACS/School policy designed to state clearly expected behaviours of parents whose children are involved in Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Generally speaking, communication is in line with the Code. Occasionally due to high negative emotions or anger, some conversations can be very challenging. The Code is based on the following principles that everyone:

- has the right to be safe
- has the right to be treated with respect and be valued even in disagreement
- has the right to participate within a secure environment without interference, intimidation, harassment, bullying or discrimination
- is encouraged to be respectful, polite, courteous and considerate of others

I have attached the full copy of the Code with this newsletter and it is also available on the school's website. When engaging with staff at school, we expect all parents to follow the Code guidelines and ensure interactions:

- uphold the school's core beliefs and values
- behave in a manner that does not endanger the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves or others
- abide by all health and safety rules and procedures operating within the school
- respect school staff and accept their authority and direction within the exercise of their duties
- observe all school rules as required
- strictly adhere to the school's policies and procedures as required
- behave with respect, courtesy and consideration for others
- refrain from all forms of bullying and harassment
- refrain from any form of verbal insult or abuse and from any form of physical abuse or intimidation

If communication deviates from these expectations, the meeting will be ended and a meeting will need to be held with the principal.

Unacceptable conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- any form of physical or verbal violence including fighting, assault or threats of violence.
- approaching a child that is not your own with a view to disciplining that child for their behaviour. Such matters are only to be dealt with by school staff.
- approaching other school parents to resolve issues arising between students at school. Such matters should be referred to school staff.
- any form of cyber bullying or cyber abuse that is directed towards the school, staff members, students or parents or any member connected to the school.
- any form of threatening language, gestures or conduct.
- language or conduct which is threatening or likely to offend, harass, bully or unfairly discriminate against any student, employee, contractor, volunteer or other person.
- corresponding or communicating with school staff in a manner which is unreasonable (including via email or apps) in terms of the frequency or volume of communications, or the nature or tone of such communications.
- the use of inappropriate or profane words or gestures or images.

Reminder: School Closure report-writing days – pupil free

- **Monday 22 May 2023**
- **Monday 6 November 2023**

Please mark these dates in your calendar.

Celebrating Harmony Day – 21 March

We had a great day last week when we celebrated Harmony Day. Harmony Day is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. Australia is one of the world's most successful multicultural countries and our cultural diversity is at the heart of who we are. The Hon Andrew Giles MP Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs stated, *'we're privileged to share this beautiful country with the world's oldest continuing culture. This is a fundamental part of who we are. For more than 60,000 years First Nations peoples cared for country. Appreciating and understanding this truth is a vital part of what it means to be Australian'*. In celebrating the theme of 'Living in Harmony' the students came dressed in cultural clothes or in a splash of orange. The cultural dress included beautiful Saris and Dirndls, representing the diverse cultures that make up our school community. The day started with a lively assembly, where our talented Glee Club performed a Harmony Day performance with singing, dancing, and bongo drums. The whole assembly joined in the singing, creating a fantastic atmosphere of unity and togetherness. The Grade 5s ran the assembly and explained why we are raising money for Turkey and Syria and what Harmony Day means. This linked to their Discovery learning this term and was an inspirational action to end their unit. Throughout the day, classes participated in Harmony Day activities in the classrooms, attended a silent disco, and enjoyed delicious donuts. Today's celebration was a testament to the wonderful spirit of harmony and understanding that we have here at St Peter's Primary School. Thank you to everyone who made this day so special! Here are some photos:





Chess Club

How can chess benefit your child?

Educational: Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.

Social: Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.

Emotional: Confidence, self-esteem, resilience through winning/losing games.

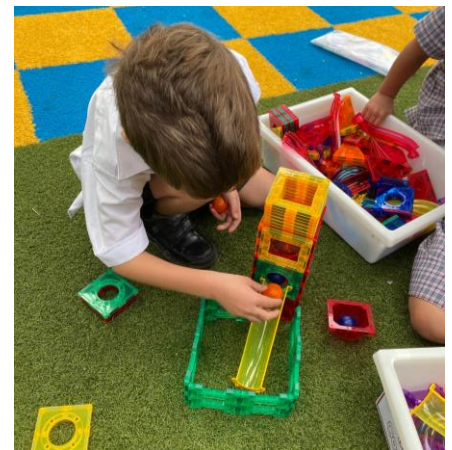
A flyer has been attached for consideration for Term 2 enrolment.

SSP Funds – what is happening?

While we are waiting to receive confirmation that the building works will go ahead (as this will impact on the shade sails over the basketball court) we are going to use some of the funds so that all children benefit. This was cross-checked at the last School Advisory Council meeting and thought to be a good idea.

Some of the funds have been allocated to purchasing items for the lunch-time clubs, classroom games for wet day programs, top-up of sport equipment for PE lessons and finally books for the classroom libraries. We hope all children will get enjoyment.

Here are some photos of the items purchased for the lunchtime clubs:



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. 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), 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 2, WEEK 2

Have a happy and safe Easter and a good holiday break!

Stay safe and well

Linda Tarraran – Principal