



# St Peter's Primary Newsletter



Issue 8 | Term 3 | Sep 2024

## Message from our Principal:

Dear St Peter's Community,

As term 3 comes to a close next week, we reflect on what has been a wonderful time with our students. Their enthusiasm, hard work, and positive spirit have made this term truly special. We are proud of all their achievements and the sense of community we continue to build together.

## Book Week & Grandparents Day:

We are thrilled to celebrate the success of Book Week, brilliantly hosted and led by our exceptional school captains, Charlotte L. and Isaak S. The event was a vibrant showcase of our students' love for reading, enriched by the heartwarming participation of grandparents who came into classrooms to share stories. Their presence made the week even more special, creating lasting memories for everyone involved. It was truly an awesome experience that highlighted the strong sense of community at our school.



## Father's Day:

We are delighted to celebrate the success of our Father's Day Stall, which was a tremendous community effort. Our heartfelt thanks go to the wonderful parents who volunteered at the event and leading up to the event: Nicole Schouteten, Dan Polifiore, Alana Talia, Ange Sculli, Anita Huynh Edens, Annette Penny, Donna Zanella, Franca Luppino, Katrina Bergonzo, Kelly Vandrine, Linda Kefalis (Gauci), Lizzie Pawley, Melanie Zanetti, Melissa Milos, Michelle Xuereb, Romina Tarabolsi, Yasmine Pateras, Felina Theberge, and Vanessa Vrljic. Special thanks to Nicole Schouteten and Dan Polifiore for co-leading this event, your time, dedication, organisation and desire to support our school community is truly valued! The Father's Day Stall, parent-led community initiative, raised an incredible \$4,034.29, significantly contributing to our school's fundraising. Thank you all for your dedication and support!

We wish to thank all of our dads, grandfathers and special male figures in our school community for your time and presence on our 'Donuts for Dads' school event. It was heartwarming to see such a great turnout and witness the wonderful engagement between the dads and their children. The event was filled with joy, laughter, and memorable moments, showcasing the strong bonds within our school community. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this celebration truly special!

### **School Fundraising:**

Our school fundraising efforts are vital in supporting various projects and initiatives that enhance our students' learning environment and overall school experience. Through conversations with our school leadership team and our different parent representative groups—School Advisory Council, Supporting St Peter's, and Community Spirit leaders—I have learned about the school's long-term fundraising target to deliver a 'Covered Outside Learning Area' (COLA). Thanks to parent-led fundraising initiatives over the years, we have raised a total of \$165,272.00. I am now working with our Capital Works team at MACS to engage a landscape architect to plan for this project to become a reality. All infrastructure projects must be reflected in the Masterplan. This process takes time.

The cost of COLAs are quite high in this current climate. To support this important initiative, our school is willing to match the funds raised by our families to erect a COLA within this price range. We recognise that some families may not see the direct benefits of their fundraising efforts as their children move on to high school. However, it is vital to complete this project to honour their contributions, provide much-needed shade for our students, and celebrate our community's dedication. In the future, we aim to focus on new, smaller projects that can be realised within one to two years of fundraising. We will liaise with the School Advisory Council throughout this project development with the landscape architect and keep our families informed.

Thank you for your patience and continued support and dedication to enhancing our school environment!

### **School Production – SOUNDTRAX:**

We are excited to announce our upcoming school production, SOUNDTRAX! Our students have been working incredibly hard, collaborating, and having fun as they prepare for this spectacular event. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff and supportive parents for your invaluable assistance with costumes, props, and more. Your efforts have made this production possible. Get ready to be amazed by our talented students in what promises to be an unforgettable show!

As we head into the term 3 break, I wish everyone a safe and restful time. Take care of yourselves and enjoy this well-deserved pause and time to connect as a family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for term 4. With the warmer weather approaching, our students are reminded to practise sun safety by wearing hats and sunscreen. Usually term 4 brings a change in uniform – from 'winter' to 'summer' uniform. Please note that with Melbourne's unpredictable weather we will accept students wearing the 'winter' uniform if necessary.

Best wishes,

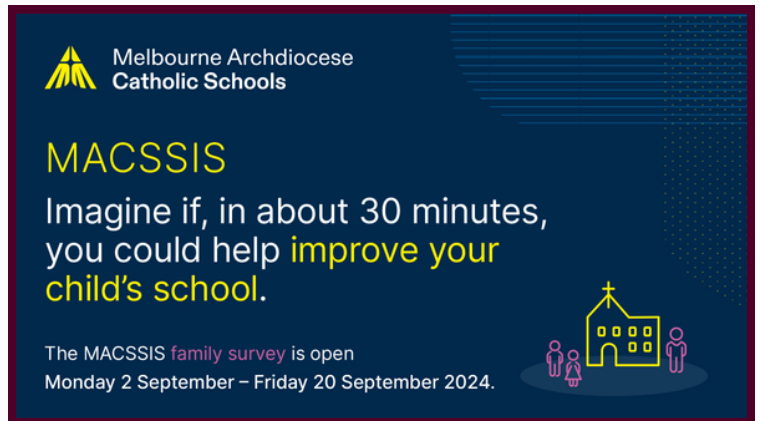
Jemma

# Important Notices and Reminders

## MACSSIS Survey

We invite you to participate in the annual MACSSIS survey to share your feedback and parent perspective about our school. A letter with further information on how to participate has been provided through Operoo. Your voice is important to us, as it helps us understand what is working well and identify areas for improvement.

The data collected from this survey is crucial in shaping our school improvement plan and annual action items. We value your input and look forward to your participation in making our school the best it can be.

A graphic for the MACSSIS survey. It features the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools logo at the top left. The text reads: "MACSSIS Imagine if, in about 30 minutes, you could help improve your child's school." Below this, it says "The MACSSIS family survey is open Monday 2 September – Friday 20 September 2024." On the right, there is an illustration of a school building with a cross on top and two people standing in front of it.

Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools

**MACSSIS**

Imagine if, in about 30 minutes,  
you could help **improve your**  
**child's school.**

The MACSSIS family survey is open  
Monday 2 September – Friday 20 September 2024.

## Chess Club Winners

Congratulations to the winners of our Chess Club this term!

### First place:

Asher Mobilia (2SC, pictured far right)

### Second place:

Joseph Estephan (3IF, pictured below)

### Third place:

Jacob Nguyen (2SC, pictured right)



## OSHCLUB Extended Session, 20th Sep

OSHCLUB will be offering an extended After School session on Friday 20 September 2024.

The session will run from 12.00pm to 6.15pm. Please note that the pre existing After School session bookings have been automatically transferred to the associated Early Finish Time.



# School Production

We're thrilled that students and staff have been putting in a tremendous effort on our upcoming production. The excitement is in the air as everyone collaborates to bring SOUNDTRAX to life.

We can't wait for you to experience what is going to be an amazing show. Spread the word to your friends and family because it's showtime, and you won't want to miss this incredible performance. There are still a few tickets available so come and be part of the excitement!

Please ensure you have read the Operoo note titled 'IMPORTANT INFORMATION - SOUNDTRAX SCHOOL CONCERT 2024' for instructions on the night.

Online ordering for the concert video is now LIVE. You can place orders by following this link and clicking on the St Peter's logo: <https://www.aidemmedia.com.au/concert-production-orders>. Further information can be found within the Operoo note.



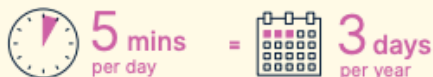


## School is better when your child is here

Going to school every day is the most important part of your child's education. There are no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness. The best thing you can do is support your child to get to school every day.

A positive attitude towards school, healthy habits and routines, and parental involvement can support your child's regular school attendance and prevent chronic absence patterns.

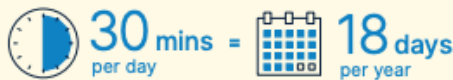
When your child misses just... they miss



When your child misses just... they miss... and over



When your child misses just... they miss



When your child misses just... they miss... and over



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### 1. Establish positive habits to promote attendance

- Set good bedtime and morning routines to make the process of getting to school smoother for everyone. Try to prepare as much as possible the night before, e.g. school uniform, school bag packed.
- Ensure your child gets enough sleep and exercise to support their physical and mental health.
- Talk positively about the importance of school attendance with your child. Explain that it is an important part of growing up, a legal obligation and that you expect them to attend every day.
- Show an interest in your child's school and become involved where possible. Keep notes, newsletters, etc. in a place where they are visible reminders of school news for the whole family. Talk about school activities in a positive manner.
- Discuss any changes to usual routines in advance with your child, such as alternative drop-off and pick-up arrangements, to ensure clarity and minimise anxiety.

### 2. Changes in your child's attitude towards school

We all have those days when it is just too hard to get up and feel motivated to go to work or school, but if this occurs regularly, it may be a sign that your child needs support. Early intervention is vital to address physical, emotional or social reasons for school avoidance before it progresses to chronic absence problems and on to school refusal.

#### Signs of school avoidance to look out for

- feeling sick before school, e.g. waking up with a headache, stomach-ache or sore throat
- tearfulness, clinginess and dawdling before school – struggling to get out of bed, leave the house or get out of the car
- complaints about attending school and reluctance to talk about school
- missing classes and being late for class.

#### What is happening at school?

Early signs of school avoidance may be identified at school through observations and insights by your child's teachers. Work in partnership with the school to support your child's attendance and wellbeing.

### 3. What can you do when you see the signs?

- Work with your child to understand what is happening and so that they feel supported and empowered. Listen with compassion but be consistent in expectations.
- Speak with your child's teacher(s) about your concerns.
- Consider taking your child to the GP to rule out or address any physical or emotional health problems.
- Request and attend school meetings with your child and their teacher to develop strategies to support increased attendance.



Libby  
MHIPS Leader (Mental Health in Primary Schools)  
[lsheedy@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lsheedy@spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au)

## National Child Protection Week

**When:** 1st – 7th of September 2024


**Theme:** 'Every conversation matters'

National Child Protection Week aims to promote a safe and supported life for every child, now and into the future. In 2024, the National Child Protection Week message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Every conversation matters'.



*Conversations are powerful tools to keep children and young people safe and well. Conversations can help us understand issues, craft solutions, value community knowledge, and build the brains and social connections of children and young people.*

## TIPS FOR TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT PERSONAL SAFETY



Article 12 of the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child states that **children have the right to have a say in matters that affect them, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.**

### WHAT WE KNOW:

- Children have the right to feel able to speak up, and to be listened to, respected and believed.
- When we "tune into" children in everyday situations about even small worries, children are more likely to trust us and feel comfortable to tell us if something big is wrong.
- Speaking regularly to children about their safety is a powerful way to build open communication with them.
- It is always the responsibility of adults to keep children safe from harm - child abuse is never a child's fault.



### IDEAS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

- Help children to identify trusted adults (both within the family and outside) they can talk to, if they are worried, upset, or don't feel safe. Create a list together. Make sure the trusted adults know they are on your child's list.
- Remind children that they can talk to you or a trusted adult about anything, no matter how big or small their worry might be.
- Talk to children about how they know when they feel safe or unsafe. Help them to listen to their early warning signs (how their body feels), and to trust their feelings and instincts.
- Use everyday activities (such as preparing meals and snacks, going for walks, playing, shopping) as opportunities for conversations. If children are used to having lots of communication, it can make it easier to talk when big or tricky issues come up.
- Be open to talking about all kinds of feelings, including anger, joy, frustration, fear and anxiety. This helps children to develop a 'feelings vocabulary'.
- Show children that you can respond sensitively to negative emotions as well as positive ones when they express their anger, embarrassment, sadness or fear.
- Don't rush into problem-solving. Your child might just want you to listen, and to know that their feelings and point of view matter to someone.

# Wellbeing & Learning Diversity

## R U OK? Day

**Ask R U OK? Any Day** because life happens **every** day.

A lot can happen in a year, a month, a week. Whether it's your friend, family member, colleague, partner, or teammate, the people you care about go through life's ups and downs every day.

By having regular, meaningful conversations, you build trust and normalise talking about what's really going on, so when the people in your world find themselves struggling, they know you're someone they can talk to.

So whilst **R U OK? Day on Thursday September 12** is our **National Day of Action**, we encourage you to **Ask R U OK? Any Day** of the year because a conversation could change a life.

**R U OK? is about all of the people who can help someone**



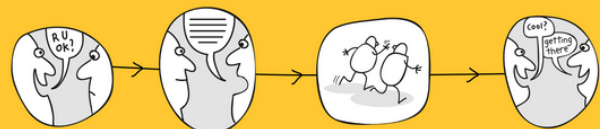
**When our friends are sad, frustrated, angry or just not themselves, its important that we try to help them, and ask "Are you OK?"**



**How do we feel when we are worried or sad?**



### How to have an R U OK? conversation



Ask R U OK?

Listen

Encourage action

Check in



You don't seem yourself lately – want to talk about it?

What's going on?

Ask your friend  
**"Are you OK?"**



I'm here to listen if you want to talk more.

How are you feeling about that?

#### Listen

Let your friend tell you how they feel.



Have you talked to an adult?

How can I help you?

Let's go and tell someone together.

#### Encourage action

Tell a trusted adult if you are worried.



Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing?

Did you tell an adult? What did they say?

Do you need more support?

#### Check in

Keep asking how they are feeling.

### Services and Support

Kids Helpline (24/7)

1800 55 1800

[kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)



# Term Three – 2024 Calendar

Week	Date	Event
Week 3	Thursday 1 Aug	Year 4 Mass at 9.15am
	Friday 2 Aug	Prep 100 Days of School
Week 4	Monday 5 Aug	Book Fair
	Thursday 8 Aug	St Mary of the Cross McKillop Feast Day: Whole School Mass 9:15am
Week 5	BULLYING NO WAY WEEK	
	Monday 12 Aug	School Assembly at 2.30pm
	Thursday 15 Aug	Feast of the Assumption Whole School Mass 9:15am
Week 6	BOOK WEEK	Reading is Magic!'
	Monday 19 Aug	Whole School Book Week Costume Parade
	Wednesday 21 Aug	Year Prep to 2 Book Week Incursion Performance at 9:30am
	Wednesday 21 Aug	Year 3 to 6 Book Week Incursion Performance at 11:40am
	Thursday 22 Aug	Year 3 Mass at 9:15am
	Thursday 22 Aug	First Reconciliation Faith Night
Week 7	Monday 26 Aug	School Assembly at 2:30pm
	Tuesday 27 Aug	Father's Day Stall
	Thursday 29 Aug	Year 1 & 2 Class Mass at 9:15am
	Friday 30 Aug	Father's Day Pop Up Stall
	Friday 30 Aug	Father's Day Donuts for Dad
	Saturday 31 Aug	First Reconciliation Mass
Week 8	Thursday 5 Sep	Year 5 Mass at 9:15am
Week 9	Monday 9 Sep	School Assembly at 2:30pm
	Thursday 12 Sep	Year 6 & Prep Mass 9:15am & National R U OK? Day
	Thursday 12 Sep	Footy Inspired Lunch Day
Week 10	Tuesday 17 Sep	School Production
	Wednesday 18 Sep	School Production
	Thursday 19 Sep	School Production
	<b>Friday 20 Sep</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 3, dismissal at 12:00pm</b>



# Term Four – 2024 Calendar

Week	Date	Event
Week 1	Monday 7 October	Term 4 Commences
Week 2	Tuesday 15 Oct	School Photos – Graduation and groups
	Thursday 17 Oct	Year 2 Mass at 9:15am
Week 3	Monday 21 Oct	Year 6 Camp: 21 Oct to 24 Oct
	Thursday 24 Oct	Day for Daniel' – Child Safety Education & Awareness Day
Week 4	Tuesday 29 Oct	First Reconciliation at 5:30pm
	Friday 1 Nov	Feast of All Saints Whole School Mass at 9:15am
Week 5	<b>Monday 4 Nov</b>	<b>School Closure Day – Report Writing and Assessment Moderation</b>
	<b>Tuesday 5 Nov</b>	<b>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</b>
	<b>Wednesday 6 Nov</b>	<b>School Closure Day – Professional Learning</b>
	Thursday 7 Nov	Year 6 & Prep Mass at 9:15am
	Friday 8 Nov	Prep – 2 Junior Athletics Carnival
Week 6	Tuesday 12 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition Session 1 at 9:15am
	Thursday 14 Nov	Year 5 Mass at 9:15am
Week 7	Monday 18 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition Session 2 at 9:15am
Week 8	Tuesday 26 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition Session at 9:15am
	Tuesday 26 Nov	Prep 2025 Transition Expo & Family Connection at 10:15am
	Thursday 28 Nov	Mini Mozarts End of Year Concert Performance at 3:30pm
Week 10	Thursday 12 Dec	Year 3 Mass at 9:15am
	Thursday 12 Dec	Graduation Mass at 5:00pm
	Friday 13 Dec	Year 3 to 6 Athletic Carnival
Week 11	Monday 16 Dec	Step Up Day
	Tuesday 17 Dec	End of School Mass at 9:15am
	<b>Tuesday 17 Dec</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 4 – 12:00pm dismissal</b>

## Community Notices

# 10 YEARS OF BIG GROUP HUG

### The important questions: Why? Who? How?



#### Why we help

We want to build resilient families and alleviate financial stress, so no child starts life disadvantaged based on a lack of necessities.



#### Who we are

We are a community of people who want to ensure no child goes without the essentials.



#### Who we help

We help vulnerable children living in crisis, so they'll not only survive but also thrive in early life.



#### How we help?

We ask you to donate your time, talent, or treasure (money or material) to support kids in need.



#### How we help

We supply families with essential items for kids including clothing, toiletries, books and toys.

**We focus on the big picture while acting at the local level.**

**We give your donations a new life. You give a child a better life.**

Big Group Hug graciously accepts donations of new or pre-loved goods for children aged between newborn and 16 years old. We humbly ask that you only donate items that are clean, in good, working condition, and comply with Australian safety standards.

**Rule of thumb:** Don't donate something you wouldn't be happy to receive yourself.

## MOST NEEDED ITEMS



**New toiletries**



**Bed linen (new single bed doonas, and new or pre-loved bassinet/cot/single bed sheets and blankets in excellent condition.**



## Community Notices



**FREE COUGIRLS Football clinic**  
GameFit  
Overland Reserve  
9am - 12pm Wednesday 25th September  
All Skill Levels Welcome <https://www.trybooking.com/CUXTP>

### GAMEFIT & EKFC Present:

Free ALL GIRLS clinic for all skill levels who would like to try or develop their football skills.

### COACHES ON THE DAY

Special guest Essendon AFLW player and Calder Cannons players and more...

- Clinic from 9am – 10.30am
- Morning Tea provided 10.30 – 12:00pm

**REGISTER HERE**



**BOOMFIT COUGARS**  
ESTD 2020  
**10-16 YEAR OLD GIRLS & BOYS FOOTY CLINIC**  
**10:00AM-2:00PM WEDNESDAY 2ND OCTOBER**  
**\$70 PER CHILD INC. LUNCH**  
**RUN BY 'BOOMER' HARVEY & AFL PLAYERS**  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER OR USE THE BELOW URL  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CUSJY>  
**OVERLAND RESERVE**

### BoomFit is coming to EKFC!

- Wednesday 2nd October
- 10am – 2pm
- \$70 Lunch will be provided
- Boomer Harvey & other AFL Guests
- Improve your Skills
- Have Fun

**REGISTER HERE**