ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keilor East

Newsletter | Term 4 | Issue 10| 2026



Term 4 at St. Peter's

Friday 30th October - Day for Daniel (Wear a splash of red)

Friday 30th October - Year 3 Reconciliation 2pm

Mon 2nd Nov- Student Free Day - Staff Report Writing

Tues 3rd Nov - Cup Day Public Holiday

Wed 4th Nov - Student Free Day - Staff Professional Development

Thurs 5th Nov - Prep - 2 Tabloid Sports Day

Fri 6th Nov - Yr 3-6 Athletics Carnival

A message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a smooth start to Term 4, and I think we are all enjoying the warmer weather as we settle into our final term of the year.

Planning is well underway for our 2027 Prep students, with their transition program set to begin midway through the term. Meanwhile, our Year 3 students are preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation next Friday. We keep these children in our thoughts and prayers as they prepare for this important step in their faith journey.

2027 Calendar dates
I will update our 2027 school calendar dates as soon as I have confirmation. For your forward planning the first day of the school year will be a full school day with no 'testing times' or 'meet the teacher' scheduled. I am hopeful the first full day will be Friday 29th January. Stay tuned.

Early Collection of Students
Can I please draw the attention of parents and carers to an important reminder further in this newsletter regarding the early collection of students. Our attendance records continue to highlight a concerning number of students leaving before the end of the school day. I encourage all families to take a moment to read this reminder and appreciate your support in minimising disruptions to student learning.

Principal Appointment
At this stage, I have not received any further communication regarding the appointment of a new Principal for St Peter's. I will continue to keep families informed as the term progresses.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of our school community. I wish everyone a positive final term and hope the weeks ahead don't pass too quickly, allowing us all time to enjoy and appreciate the many wonderful things this time of year brings to St Peter's.

Anne



Important Update

Planning for 2027 – Looking Ahead at St Peter's

As previously communicated, all Catholic schools are currently reviewing their planning, staffing and budgets for 2027, including the changes associated with the new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA).

Today, families will receive our 2027 School Fees and Levies Letter via Nforma, outlining the tiered family tuition fee structure and levies for the coming year. I encourage all families to take the time to read this important information.

I would like to reassure families of the following:

- **Class Structures:** Our class sizes will remain consistent with our current arrangements, and we will continue to provide straight year-level classes, with no composite classes planned for 2027.

- **Learning Support and Intervention:** We will continue to support students in Literacy in Mathematics through targeted teaching and intervention opportunities, guided by student learning needs and the schools available resources.

- **Leadership Structure:** The number of Director of Learning positions will be reduced by one. We will now have a Director of Learning Prep–2 and a Director of Learning Years 3–6. This structure will align with our Student Wellbeing and Learning Diversity Leaders, who also oversee Prep–2 and Years 3–6 respectively. All other leadership positions will remain in place.

- **Teaching Staff:** With some of our experienced teachers and leaders returning from maternity leave, a small number of classes will have job-share teaching arrangements. As always, careful consideration will be given to ensuring consistency, continuity and quality teaching for our students.

- **Year 4–6 Camp Program:** We highly value the experiences and opportunities our camp program provides for students. With increasing costs and staffing considerations, there may be some adjustments to the program in 2027. We are mindful of the financial pressures on families and have worked to keep any additional costs to a minimum while maintaining these valuable learning experiences.

- **Capital Levy:** As outlined in our fees letter, the Capital Levy will increase by $50 per family in 2027. With our major building project commencing in January, this is an important time to continue planning responsibly for the school's facilities and future improvements. The levy helps ensure we can continue to maintain and develop our school environment for both current and future students.

While responsible financial planning sometimes requires adjustments, I want to reassure our families that the quality of education, care and opportunities we provide for our students remains at the forefront of every decision we make.

Important Information



Early Collection of Students

Our attendance records indicate a concerning number of students being collected before the end of the school day. While we understand that there are times when early collection is unavoidable, these interruptions impact not only the learning of the child leaving but also the learning and teaching taking place across the classroom.

The final 15 minutes of the school day, between 3.00pm and 3.15pm, are particularly busy, with teachers and students completing important learning activities and end-of-day routines. Early collections during this time can cause unnecessary disruptions, particularly when staff are required to contact classrooms or make announcements to locate students.

I kindly ask parents and carers to avoid collecting their children early wherever possible, particularly between 3.00pm and 3.15pm, and to wait until the normal dismissal time of 3.15pm.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us minimise interruptions and make the most of every learning opportunity for all students.

Faith in Action



The Year 4 students created and sold bookmarks to raise money for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF), providing learning opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in remote communities. The initiative was linked to their History Discovery unit. Whilst reflecting on Australia's past they put their faith into action by supporting others and making a positive difference in the wider community.















Highlights to share

Year 6 Camp

Our Year 6 students recently enjoyed an action-packed camp at **Phillip Island!**
A visit to the Penguin Parade was a particular highlight, creating special memories of their time away.
We were incredibly proud of the students' excellent behaviour and the way they represented St Peter's throughout the trip. Well done, Year 6!
Thankyou to our staff who generously gave up time with their own families and stepped away from their usual routines to provide our students with such a valuable experience.













Highlights to share

Year 4 incursion

The year fours enjoyed an engaging Forces in Action incursion, where they explored a range of forces, including gravity, inertia, pressure, buoyancy, friction, thrust push & pull. The children participated in interactive demonstrations and hands-on experiments to develop a deeper understanding of how forces influence the world around us.














Highlights to share

Little Hands, Big Impact!

Our Little Hands, Big Impact! movement has been featured in the **Inner North Press!** This is a wonderful achievement for our students, whose sustainability messages and environmental actions are reaching beyond our school and into the wider community. We are proud to see their efforts recognised—showing that even small actions can inspire positive change!


Inner Northwest Press

Get to know 'The Flash'

Return to Racing at The Valley


LITTLE HANDS, BIG IMPACT!

ST PETER'S GRADE 1'S RALLY FOR A GREENER EARTH!

LITTLE HANDS, BIG IMPACT - ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Students at St Peter's Primary School in Keilor East are proving that you're never too young to make a difference. As part of their "Little Hands, Big Impact" unit, Year 1 students are learning how everyday human actions can impact the environment.

The program introduces students to natural, managed and constructed environments, encouraging them to think about the ways they interact with the world around them.

A key focus of the unit is the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, which helps understand how small, sustainable choices can become part of everyday life.

The students will also host an environmental rally, sharing messages about sustainability and encouraging their school and wider community to make more environmentally friendly choices.

Together, they can show that little hands really can make a big impact.

CHECK THEIR PROGRESS

Look at spkeiloreast.catholic.edu.au to check their progress.





Staff news

Congratulations to three of our staff members who have recently welcomed beautiful new additions to their families: Sarah Whelan welcomed Lucy Mae, Frances Monaghan welcomed Grace Mae, and Kristen Trani welcomed Lyla Catalina.

We send our warmest wishes to Sarah, Frances, Kristen and their families as they enjoy this special time, filled with love and baby cuddles!







We wish Shannon Scanlon all the very best as she begins maternity leave and prepares to welcome her new baby in November!

We are delighted that Alex Mulkearns will be stepping into the role of Middle School Director for the remainder of this year.





Living Our Vision at St. Peter's

As an engaged community, we celebrate students who embody our values every day



Justice

Poppy Jones



Respect

Lexi Saunders, Archie Ivaneza, Brooklyn B



Integrity

Hamish Breen, Rio Ristevski



Empathy

Chanelle Rivelli, Margot Kennedy



Community

Darcy Warton, Michael Quinlan



Creativity

Ava Merlino, Salvatore Maio

"inspired by the teachings of Jesus, we uphold justice and respect for all"

Living Our Vision at St. Peter's

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Love of Learning

Avery Lazorov, Audrey Cayton, Mia Azzato, Noah Schembri, Isla Kat, Mattia Totino, Jacob Balmano, Lyon Placanica, Suraj Varane, Cooper Ding, Alessio Sepiello, Roman Ristevski, Cara Genovese, Harper Aloi, Millie Franco



Hope

Hope Gray, Mateo Alabella, Elsa Moghadam, Elias Foudoulis



Specialists

2TD

"inspired by the teachings of Jesus, we uphold justice and respect for all"

Love of Learning

Year 5 Writting

As part of their poetry unit, our Year 5 students explored The Best Part of Me, a book pairing striking black-and-white photographs with children's reflections on what they love about themselves.

Inspired by the book, students took their own portraits and created personal pieces of writing celebrating a favourite part of their body and what makes it special.

This thoughtful activity encouraged creativity, self-esteem and an appreciation of what makes each of us unique.

We're delighted to share some standout pieces from 5KH, 5JG and 5MA. Enjoy their wonderful work!







Child Safety Update

A Change to Our Public Social Media

As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety and privacy, St Peter's is making some changes to the way we use our public social media.

The Australian eSafety Commissioner has recently provided updated guidance for schools about sharing student images online, particularly as technology makes it easier for publicly available photos to be copied, altered or used outside their original context.

eSafety encourages schools to take a more considered, risk-based approach to what is shared publicly and what may be better suited to closed or restricted communication channels.

With this in mind, our Instagram will continue to celebrate the learning, achievements, faith, events and community life of St Peter's, while taking a more considered approach to how individual students are shown publicly.

Our students will still be very much part of our social media. You will continue to see learning in action, school events, student work, celebrations and everyday moments, simply photographed and shared a little differently.

More personal and identifiable student photos will continue to be shared with families through our password-protected newsletter and other closed school communication channels.

We know that seeing our students' smiling faces brings warmth to our school communications, but we believe this is a positive and responsible step in balancing how we share the life of St Peter's with our responsibility to protect the children in our care.

As part of this change, we are also moving to a new school-managed Instagram account. Our current account will become inactive in three weeks.

Please follow our new official page:

@stpetersprimary_keiloreast

Parent Essentials

Get ready to run wild with Monty! It's here - ***Monty the Monstar Fun Run!***

Jump in now! Set up your child's My Profile Page – it's quick, easy and super fun.

We also have some amazing bonuses up for grabs:

- *Every student gets rainbow sunglasses and a headband!*
- *The class with the most profiles at the end of week one will win an ice block party!*
- *Receive donations on four different days and go into the draw to Slime a teacher!*
- *Raise $20 and go into the draw to win a tuckshop voucher!*

Together, we can achieve amazing results for our school!



Health and Wellbeing

Health Notices

Seasonal illness

We ask families to please monitor for the following symptoms: Fever, vomiting or diarrhoea, persistent cough, sore throat or runny nose, fatigue or general unwellness.

If your child is unwell:

- Please keep them at home until they are well enough to participate in school activities.
- Students should be symptom-free for at least 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school, and at least 48 hours following vomiting or diarrhoea.
- Encourage good hygiene practices at home, including regular handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Please notify the school if your child has been diagnosed with a contagious illness.

Head lice

We ask all families to regularly check their children's hair for any signs of head lice or eggs (nits).
Early detection and treatment are important in helping to prevent the spread of head lice.
If head lice are found, please commence appropriate treatment and notify the school office so that we can continue to monitor and support our school community.

Allergies

We ask families to be mindful of the allergies within their child's year level.

Year P: Dairy, egg, prawns, lychee, pistachios, cashews
Year 1: Peanut, walnut, pecan, sesame
Year 3: Egg, tree nuts, peanuts, walnuts, hazelnuts, pecans, seafood
Year 4: Pistachio, cashew, walnut, pecan, egg, milk/dairy, wheat, macadamia, kiwi, peanuts, shellfish
Year 5: Soy sauce
Year 6: Walnuts, hazelnuts, macadamias, cashews, pistachios, tree nuts, pecans, eggs, shellfish



Student Wellbeing & Support Services

If You Are Concerned About a Child's Safety

If you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a child, support is available.

Victoria Police – Emergency *000*

If a child is in immediate danger or at risk of harm.

Child Protection (Department of Families, Fairness and Housing – DFFH)

For concerns where a child may be experiencing significant harm or abuse.

Child Protection Crisis Line (After Hours): 13 12 78

The Orange Door

Provides support for families experiencing family violence, child wellbeing concerns or needing parenting and family support.

1800 271 170

www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au

Kids Helpline

Free, confidential counselling for children and young people aged 5–25.

1800 55 1800

www.kidshelpline.com.au

eSafety Commissioner

Support and advice for cyberbullying, online safety and reporting harmful online content.

www.esafety.gov.au

Families are encouraged to speak with the school if they have concerns about their child's wellbeing or safety.

Together, we can continue to create a safe, caring and supportive community for all children.

Parenting Insights

Helping Children Build Resilience

Warmth, Boundaries and Confidence

A reflection inspired by Michael Grose



As parents, we naturally want our children to feel heard, understood and supported. We want to protect them from hurt, disappointment and difficult emotions.

But could **protecting our children from** every difficult experience actually make it harder for them to cope with life's challenges?

Michael Grose encourages parents to think about the balance between **empathy and leadership**. Children need to know that their feelings matter, while also learning that feelings don't always change the boundaries, expectations or decisions that adults make.

Children need to experience manageable challenges

Frustration, disappointment and saying "no" are not necessarily negative experiences. When children experience these things within the safety of a supportive family, they have opportunities to develop coping skills and resilience.

We don't need to remove every difficulty for our children. Instead, we can help them learn:

- "I can be disappointed and still be okay."
- "I don't like this, but I can manage it."
- "Sometimes the answer is no."
- "I can try again when something doesn't work."

Empathy doesn't mean giving in

We can acknowledge a child's feelings while still maintaining a boundary.

For example:

> "I can see that you're really upset that we have to leave the park. It's hard to stop when you're having fun. It's time to go now, and I know you can manage it."

The child's feelings are recognised, but the adult remains calm and confident in the decision.

Parents don't have to be perfect

Grose also highlights the pressure parents can feel to remain endlessly patient, calm and emotionally available.

The reality is that **parents are human.**

Children don't need perfect parents. They benefit from parents who provide warmth, consistency, clear expectations and dependable guidance.



Authoritative Parenting 2.0

Grose describes this balanced approach as Authoritative Parenting 2.0, built around three key ideas:

Empathy first, leadership second

Acknowledge your child's feelings without allowing those feelings to determine every household rule or expectation.

Structure over endless dialogue

Clear routines and expectations can reduce the need for constant negotiation, particularly during challenging transitions.

Calm, consistent follow-through

Boundaries are most effective when they are supported by predictable and proportionate consequences, delivered calmly and confidently.

A simple reminder for parents

Perhaps the goal isn't to raise children who never experience frustration or difficulty. It is to **raise children who gradually** develop the confidence to say:

> "This is hard, but I can handle it."

As parents, we can support that development by offering plenty of love and empathy—while also providing the boundaries, structure and leadership children need to grow into capable and resilient young people.

Parent Essentials

Our recent Parents' Trivia Night at Doutta Galla Bowls Club, Essendon North, was a fun and entertaining evening filled with nostalgia, fabulous costumes and plenty of laughs!

We are so lucky to have enthusiastic parents who organise these wonderful events, keeping our social calendars busy and bringing our school community together. Thank you to the organisers and everyone who joined in the fun!











MACS CARE

Parent/Carer Newsletter 9

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools

Working together for Child Safety

Child Safe Standard 9

"Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed."

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission-driven, and legal responsibility to ensure the safety and wellbeing of every student entrusted to our care.

Our commitment to child safety includes creating and maintaining safe physical spaces and responsible online environments where children can learn, play, and connect with confidence. This means thoughtfully designing school spaces, supervising activities, and using digital technologies in ways that protect children's dignity, privacy, and wellbeing.

By actively identifying and reducing risks in both physical and online settings, our schools foster environments where children feel safe, supported, and able to thrive. Child safety is not only reflected in policies, but in everyday practices, supervision, and decision-making across the school community.

This newsletter series provides an overview of what the Child Safe Standards are, how they help keep children and young people safe, and how schools governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) are prioritising and achieving this.

Overview of the Child Safe Standards:

The Victorian Child Safe Standards are a set of 11 minimum requirements that all organisations working with children must adhere to.

These standards are designed to:

- Promote the participation and empowerment of children, young people and their families
- Prevent harm and abuse of children and young people
- Ensure child safety is a shared responsibility
- Support the wellbeing of all children, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children with disabilities

These standards apply to all school staff, volunteers, contractors, and anyone working with children in schools.

As Pope Francis reminds us, "Safeguarding minors and vulnerable persons must be a priority for everyone in the Church" (May 5, 2023). Child Safe Standard 9 reflects this call by emphasising that children are safest when the environments around them, both physical and online, are intentionally designed to protect and support them. Grounded in our Catholic mission, this standard invites us to act with care, vigilance, and responsibility, so that every child experiences school as a place of safety, dignity, and belonging.

Why are safe physical and online environments important?

Children spend a significant part of their lives at school and online. When school spaces, and digital platforms, are well designed, appropriately supervised, and used responsibly, risks are reduced and wellbeing is strengthened.

Safe environments help prevent harm before it occurs and ensure children feel secure, respected, and confident to participate fully in learning and relationships. This includes balancing safety with children's rights to privacy, access to information, social connection, and learning opportunities.

Reviewed: June 2026

Why is it important to identify and manage risks?

Proactively identifying and managing risks helps schools respond early to potential concerns and prevent unsafe situations from developing. When risks are recognised and addressed thoughtfully, children are better protected and supported, and families can trust that safety is a priority.

Spotlight on Child Safe Standard 9

"Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed."

Child Safe Standard 9 focuses on how school environments; classrooms, playgrounds, excursions, camps, and digital spaces - are designed, supervised, and used. When schools take a proactive approach to safety in all environments, children feel secure, confident, and supported to learn and grow.

What does this look like?

- **Safe physical spaces:** School buildings, playgrounds and facilities are designed and maintained to reduce risks and promote wellbeing.
- **Appropriate supervision:** Staff actively supervise students during school activities, breaks, excursions and events.
- **Responsible use of technology:** Clear expectations guide the safe and respectful use of online platforms and digital tools.
- **Risk management planning:** Schools identify and manage risks linked to activities, settings and environments.
- **Working with others safely:** When schools engage third-party providers or facilities, child safety is prioritised through clear procurement and safety requirements.

How Parents, Carers and Guardians can get involved:

Child Safe Standard 9 works best when schools, families, and staff work together to ensure children's safety. Families can help by:

- **Talking with your child**: Encourage conversations about school, friendships, and online experiences.
- **Supporting safe online behaviour**: Discuss digital safety, privacy, and respectful online communication at home.
- **Raising concerns early**: Contact the school if you notice anything that may affect your child's safety or wellbeing.
- **Partnering with the school**: Work collaboratively with staff to support safe environments for all children.

Want to know more?

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how we support child safety, please contact your school directly. More information about the Child Safe Standards is available through the Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP).

Additional Resources

The e-Safety Commission has a huge amount of resources designed to support and assist parents with issues related to online safety, including Webinars, toolkits, FAQs about social media, Gaming and many more, these can be found here:

e-Safety Commission - Parents Resources

The Australian Government Signals Directorate also provides a significant amount of information and guidance for parents regarding cyber safety; these resources can be found here:

ASD: Protect your Family

Parent Essentials

Coming onsite

Parents when coming onto the school grounds between the hours of 10 and 3, please ensure the Church side gate closes behind you. We have a high latch at the top of the gate for student safety. This gate is to be closed during the school day.

Homework Expectations

Students are encouraged to read daily and follow the homework policy available on our website.

School Fees

2026 fee statements have now been issued. Fees are due by 30 November 2026. Payment plans are available and can be arranged via direct debit.

Payment Options:
Direct Debit (weekly, fortnightly or monthly)
EFTPOS (in person or by phone)
Direct Transfer:
Account Name: St Peter's Primary School
BSB: 083 347
Account Number: 538760722
(Please include your family ID)
For support, please contact the school office.

Thanksgiving Offering

The Parish would like to thank our families for their generous support of the Parish Thanksgiving Program.
A gentle reminder, the Parish Thanksgiving contribution for 2026 remains at $355 per family, as set in consultation with the Parish Finance Advisory Committee, and has remained unchanged for several years. The Parish are sincerely grateful for the ongoing support of our families. Contributions may be made via EFTPOS, credit card, or EFT (NAB, BSB 083347, Account No. 194857554 – please quote your Family Code).

Canteen Lunch Orders Reminder

Lunch orders must be placed by 8:00am *and can be submitted up to two weeks in advance.* ***Orders received after 8:00am will be moved to the following week.***

When ordering through the app, please ensure you select 'Confirm' so the order is successfully processed.

Please also ensure any late lunch payments are made to the front office or canteen the next day. Thank you.





2026 Instrumental Music Program

Mini Mozarts, in collaboration with St Peter's Primary School, offers instrumental music lessons for students from Prep to Year 6.

Instruments Available

- *Keyboard*
- *Guitar*
- *Ukulele*

Lessons run for 30 minutes and are available during school hours and after school.

Lesson Fees

- *Shared lesson: $25 per student, per lesson (two students)*
- *Group lesson: $21 per student, per lesson (three to five students)*

Priority will be given according to the date expressions of interest are received.

Instrument Hire

- *Keyboard: $10 per week*
- *Guitar or ukulele: $10 per week*

Hire terms apply. Students must purchase or hire an instrument before beginning lessons.

Items Available to Purchase



- *Instrument motif bag: $20*
- *Ukulele: $50*
- *Acoustic guitar kit: $130–$160, depending on size*
- *Method and theory books: as required*

Students can be measured to determine the correct instrument size.

Payment

Lesson fees are paid weekly by direct debit through Payleadr. Terms and conditions apply.

Click on the provided link

Local classes available for students

School Calendar

Click on link to view School calendar
OR
view on School Website

St Peter's Primary - Term dates 2026		
Term 1	Tuesday 27th January - Thursday 2nd April	12pm dismissal
Term 2	Monday 20th April – Friday 26th June	12pm dismissal
Term 3	Tuesday 14th July – Friday 18th September	12pm dismissal
Term 4	Monday 5th October – Tuesday 15th December	12pm dismissal

St Peter's Primary - Curriculum Days - No school for Students		
Term 1	Friday 6th March	Berry Street Education Model #3
Term 3	Monday 13th July	Berry Street Education Model #4
Term 4	Monday 2nd November	Report Writing Day
	Wednesday 4th November	Staff Faith Formation
	Wednesday 16th December	Compliance and Organisational Training

2026 Sacrament Dates		
Reconciliation	Year 3 students	Friday 30th October 2pm
Eucharist	Year 4 students:	Sat 25th July 6pm - 4AA Sun 26th July 10.30am - 4LK Sat 1st Aug 6pm - 4EB Sun 2nd Aug 10.30am - 4 KT
Confirmation	Year 6 students:	Sat 29th Aug 6.00pm Sat 5th Sept 6:00pm

Community Notices

The following notices are shared for our school community



Community Notices

The following notices are shared for our school community



Mini Mozarts

Click on the provided link
Local classes available for students