



St Andrew's Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 Issue 16, 20th October 2022



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Dear St Andrew's Community,

What an amazing start to the term! Our school community was in awe with the talent that was shared at our Little Big Shots event. The children were captivated by the variety of acts that graced the stage. I would like to make special mention to the many teachers who volunteered to be on the organising committee and especially Miss Spencer-Salt who coordinated the event. Please view our website gallery for photos.



Knowledge -a-thon

St Andrew's hosted a great fundraiser that not only raised needed funds to enhance student learning resources, but was also a fun and interesting way to motivate learning and thinking skills.

The children were challenged by curriculum and general knowledge questions.

Infants had 25 questions to master and Primary were challenged by 40 brain teasers.

Our Kindergarten children enjoyed 10 general knowledge questions supported by their Year 5 buddies.

All monies raised will go toward student resources.

Please continue to lodge your sponsorship pledges via the QKR online payment system.

St Andrews will be awarding:

- Prizes to the student who has raised the most sponsorship money in every grade.
- Plus a special prize for the top fundraiser across all grades.
- Pizza lunch for the top three fundraisers in each grade.

Students Arriving before 8am- urgent attention needed.

Some mornings we have students arriving before 8am. The gates at this time are not open, therefore parents or older siblings are leaving children unsupervised outside the school gates. I can not stress this enough, that this practice is very unsafe. I ask parents to please adhere to our school policy and drop children at school after 8am. Teacher supervision does not officially start until 8.20am. It is important that we place the safety of our children first in all circumstances.

Children arriving late to school

I ask that parents or responsible adults walk the children who arrive after the bell to the office to sign the children into school. Our student attendance register is an official document and must be correct at all times. The office staff will ask for a reason that you are late to school. This reason is placed on your child's attendance register. If a child is not accompanied by an adult this is recorded as an unexplained absence. This is our school process for all students who arrive late or for students who may need to leave early from school. I thank you in advance for your continued support in following all school processes. These processes are in place for the safety of all students.

Gymnastics Program

This term the children will participate in a gymnastics program delivered by the company Dance Fever. The children seem to be really enjoying the skills taught. This program will continue for the rest of the term.

Parish and Grade Masses

This term children will be attending Parish Mass and a Grade Mass. Please refer to the term calendar to view days and times.

All Saints Day and All Souls Day

An invitation to all parents and friends to join us on the 1st and 2nd of November to celebrate All Saints and All Souls Day.

The children in Kindergarten, Year 1, 3, 5 will be attending parish Mass on the 1st of November and the children in Year 2,4 and 6 will be attending Mass on the 2nd of November.

As these feast days are very well attended by the parish, the school made the decision to have half the students attend on each feast day.

Year 1 Excursion to the Zoo

This excursion which was scheduled for the 20th October will be postponed due to wet weather. A new date will be organised in the coming days.

ADDITIONAL Staff Development Day

Catholic Diocese of Parramatta has given teaching staff an additional staff development day this year.

There will be no school for students on Friday the 4th of November.

Kindergarten Transition Days begin

Over the next four weeks, selected children will begin their transition program in readiness for the start of their formal education life. If you have not been notified of this program in writing by the office staff your child will not be attending this program. All kindergarten students for 2023 will have their first orientation day on the 1st of December starting at 9am and concluding at 11am.

St Andrew's Awards

Please join us for our St Andrew's Awards on Friday the 28th November at 2pm in the school hall.

Notification of Leaving St Andrew's in 2023

We ask that if you intend to leave St Andrew's next year (except for Year 6 students) please inform the office in writing as soon as possible.

Staff on Leave

Mrs Ciantar will be on leave for the next three weeks and Mrs lafigliola will be taking Year 2 during this time. Mrs Ross will be on leave later in the term and Mrs lafigliola will be teaching the class in her absence. Mrs lafigliola has been a teacher at St Andrew's for many many years and has taught the children.

P and F Meeting

The Term 4, P & F meeting will be held on **Monday the 24th of October** at 7pm in the school Library. All parents and friends are invited to join us.



Student of the Week

	T3 WEEK 10	T4 WEEK 1		T3 WEEK 10	T4 WEEK 1
KB	Name Withheld	Savannah Barakat	3G	Isabelle Zammit	Taylor Bigeni
KG	Name Withheld	Rod Aspiras	3R	Luis Ilagan	Jacob Hartono Zen
KR	Virginia Akonda	Kyson Chen	3Y	Natalia Hanna	Daanish Gupta
KY	Jett Spina	Aayan Dahal	4B	Skye Cotelro	Zander Farag
1B	Adrijana Vujica	Audrey Ongkee	4G	Adeena Rejoy	Leo de Castro
1G	Eleya Abboud	Sanjana Davuluri	4R	Jacob Lim	Jayden Kumar
1R	Salvador Bogtour	Shreya Joshi	5B	Christopher Asiegbu	Zac Mau'u
1Y	Name Withheld	Madison-Clair Medel	5G	Yollyn Tanyag	Hayden Straub
2B	Gabriele Huezo	Isabella D'Angelo	5R	Ella Micheal	Sean Willathgamuwa
2G	Skylar Harris	William Ford	6B	Jack Brewer	Rachael Griffiths
2R	Annika Malaviya	Waris Bindra	6G	Daniella Gobrial	Brayden Bailey
2Y	Caleb Magayaga	Elizabeth Wang	6R	Aidan D'Silva	Marcus Dequina
3B	Kadijatu Fornah	Vyonna Lobrigas			



Little Big Shots 2022

Last Wednesday the 12th October saw the return of our Little Big Shots talent show...and what a return it was! The judges would have had a very difficult time coming to their decision as the acts were all so good.

The Encouragement Awards went to the following acts.
Infants: Zawadi Callaghan-Odindo who sung the song 'This Girl is on Fire' and Aaryan Megharaju who recited a beautiful poem.

Primary: A group of talented gymnasts from Yr 5 - Autumn Byrne, Freya Dabhi, Hannah Farag, Elizabeth Lukudu and Jasmine Metcalf known as The Acro-Peeps.

A special mention should also go to the Yr6 students who did an amazing job at both comparing and preforming backstage duties. Thank you also to the committee of teachers, lead by Miss Spencer-Salt, who gave up their time to make sure the event ran smoothly.... and it did! Cannot wait to see what next years talent show will bring.

The Committee



The 5 Finger Prayer

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: These that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

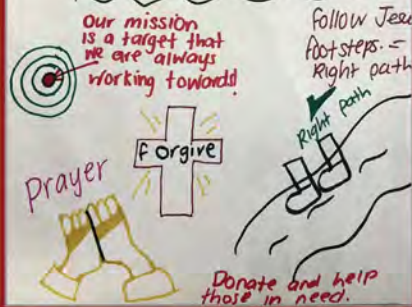
Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.



Spread the word of God through our words and actions.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

MISSION



Driving Question: HOW CAN WE SERVE OTHERS AS JESUS DID?

What is Mission?

Year 2 are learning to identify the ways they can contribute to the mission of Jesus by loving God and all people.



Term 4 Calendar 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	October 10 Staff Development Day	11 Little Big Shots Rehearsal	12 11:45 Little Big Shots (Parents welcome)	13 9am Year 4 Parish Mass	14
2 Newsletter Week	17	18 Knowledge A-thon	19 9am Year 5 Parish Mass	20 Readers Theatre 2023 Kinder Transition	21 Readers Theatre
3	24 7pm P&F Meeting SAC orientation day	25 11.45 Year 3 Grade Mass	26 9am Year 6 Mass	27 2023 Kinder Transition 11.45 Year 4 Grade Mass	28 2pm St. Andrews Awards
4 Newsletter Week	31	November 1 K, 1, 3 & 5 All Saints Mass	2 Year 2, 4 & 6 All Souls Mass	3 2023 Kinder Transition	4 Staff Development Day NO Students
5	7 Basketball Gala Day	8	9 11.45am Year 6 Reconciliation	10 2023 Kinder Transition	11 10.45am Remembrance Day Liturgy
6 Newsletter Week	14	15	16 11.45 Kindy Grade Mass	17 Infants Athletics Carnival (to be confirmed)	18 2pm St. Andrews Awards
7	21	22	23 9am Year 1 Parish Mass 11.45am Year 5 Grade Mass	24	25
8 Newsletter Week	28 2023 Kinder Parents Information Evening 7pm	29	30 St. Andrews Day Year 6 Parents Reconnector Afternoon Tea	December 1 2023 Kinder Orientation Day 9am - 11am Year 1 excursion	2 Swimming Trials 12.30 - 3pm
9	5 Student leaders Rewards Day	6 Stage 2 Disco	7 Infants Disco	8 Year 2 excursion Stage 3 Disco Reports to Parents	9 Principals Awards 9-9.30 Infants 9.45-10.15 Primary
10 Newsletter Week	12 6pm Year 6 Graduation Mass 2-3 Meet the teacher 2023	13 Year 6 Lunch	14 Andrew Chinn Workshops and Concert	15 Year 6 Rewards Day	16 Last Day for Students

OFFICE NEWS

Term 3

We have gone cashless, if you need to make any payments please do so by eftpos.

If you require any reports printed please log into the QKR App and you can pay via this we will then print the reports and send them home. The cost is \$6 per report.



Mrs Taylor's Book Shop

Our 2nd hand book shop is looking for any donations of children's books. If you have any children's books you no longer require we would love to share them with the students. You can leave them at the school office for Mrs Taylor. Thank you in advance for any donations.

FREE PARENT WEBINAR!
TRAINING FOR PARENTS (of students 10-18 years)

Term 4: FREE Parent webinar: Digital technologies and mental health webinar
for parents and carers of young people

Learn how games, apps and social media can influence young people's mental
well being.

This webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 10 to 18.

It will cover:

- *current research on young people, time online and mental health
- * what to do about accidental exposure to content about suicide, self-harm or eating disorders
- * using games, apps and social media to support mental well being
 - * the pros and cons of digital mental health platforms
 - * strategies for young people to support friends online.

Term 4 date (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

Thursday 27 October 12.30 to 1.30 pm

You can register at the website <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/9223357062192996109>



30 August 2022

Dear Parents,

Gel Blasters in New South Wales

New South Wales Police would like to highlight an emerging issue which many of you might not be aware of.

Gel Guns or Gel Blasters are lifelike 'toy' guns that closely resemble firearms. They fire gel balls and can be very difficult to differentiate from a real firearm. They are classified as air guns under NSW law and gel balls are classified as ammunition.

It is a crime to possess a Gel Gun in NSW unless you have a firearms licence, even if it was purchased online or legally in another State. It is also a crime to bring a Gel Gun to school. There is potential for injury if a person is struck by a gel pellet ammunition and understandably students and staff may become frightened and distressed if they believe a firearm has been brought into the school.

If a student is found to have a Gel Gun in a school, it will be confiscated, parents and the police will be called. The student may face disciplinary action through the school and could be arrested and charged with possession of a firearm. Parents may also be held liable as per Section 82 of the Firearms Act.

On 1 July 2021, New South Wales Police commenced an ongoing National Firearms Amnesty along with all other states and territories. This allows for any firearms or firearm related articles to be surrendered to a police station without fear of prosecution. If this issue relates to you please ensure you contact your local police station prior to attending and ensure the firearm is in a bag or wrapped in a blanket.

My sincere thanks for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Wood'.

Gavin Wood APM

Assistant Commissioner

Capability Performance and Youth Command

TRIPLE ZERO (000)

Emergency only

POLICE ASSISTANCE LINE (131 444)

For non emergencies

CRIME STOPPERS (1800 333 000)

Report crime anonymously

OnlyFans and Omegle guides for Parents and Teachers

Last night, after a Channel 10 television show called MirrorMirror aired, hundreds of parents reached out to ask about two popular social media platforms: Omegle and OnlyFans.

We believe that knowing how the online world operates will help us talk about it with our children, so below you'll find two free Safe On Social resources designed especially for parents & teachers to understand what these apps are, what dangers to be aware of and most importantly, how to talk to your kids about them.

Omegle

Around since 2009, Omegle is something of an internet cockroach; it just won't die. And this site is a disturbing and a serious concern that needs to be on your radar. Barely mentioned in cyber safety talks these days, Omegle can claim to be one of the more frightening social media services seen in for a while.

Download our Omegle guide for Parents here <https://www.safeonsocial.com/omegle-guide>

OnlyFans

With more than 50 million registered users and more than 1 million content creators worldwide, OnlyFans is unlike any other online platform online and, parents should understand what OnlyFans is about. OnlyFans doesn't have a lot of restrictions in place, making it easy for content creators to post adult material, which is what the site eventually became known for.

Download our OnlyFans guide for Parents here

<https://www.safeonsocial.com/onlyfans-guide>

We hope these resources provide the confidence to spark discussion at home or in the classroom. You can find information and tools online here: www.safeonsocial.com

Kirra & The Safe On Social Team

School Travel

Term 4 2022

2023 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2023 open from **Monday 10 October 2022**.

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2023 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2023.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Travel from Term 1 2023

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for 2023 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel open at the start of Term 4 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a busy period for local transport operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Students using School Opal cards are also reminded that they must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel

Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback