



# St Andrew's Primary School Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 9, 15th June 2023



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## Principal's Message

### Dear Parents,

On Friday we celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Our faith teaches us that each of us is precious and unique in the eyes of God. It also teaches us that we are loved by God, and that God wants us to be fulfilled, generous, responsible, peaceful people who will accept the challenge to live life to the full.

In the Greek language there are four words for the word 'Love.'

One of them is **"agape"** which is the love that acts because the other person is in need. This love is a conscious act of will.

We can't say we love without doing something. The Feast of the Sacred Heart is an extraordinary gift - that God LOVED us so much that He sent LOVE into our world in the person of Jesus.

As we are all followers of Jesus we are called to respond to God's LOVE in many ways. The Feast of the Sacred Heart calls us to express and action our LOVE by donating items of non-perishable food and warm clothing.

**Please join us in celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart at Mass at 9.15am on Friday 16 June.**

*"Whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me!"  
(Matthew 25:40)*



### Primary Athletics Carnival

Our Primary Athletics Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 21st June**.

A note went out to parents last week. A reminder that permission notes need to be returned asap. If you need another note, either contact the office. We will have one sent home, or you can ask your child to inform their teacher, who will also be able to provide one for you.

Thanks in advance to Mr Paynter who is organising the carnival.

### Winter Uniforms

Parents are reminded that children need to be in full winter uniforms. Many children are still coming to school without their ties and hats.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Please be reminded that the window for booking parent teacher interviews will close this **Sunday June 18th at 4:00pm**. If you have not already done so, please book your interview following the instructions supplied on the Compass portal by the closing date..





## **2023 ACARA Item Trial Test**

Our school has been selected to participate in the ACARA Item Trial Test for Literacy and Numeracy. The data from the test will provide valuable information for the inclusion of questions in future NAPLAN tests. Please read the attached flyer for further information.

## **School Fees**

School fees are now overdue. If you have not yet made a payment, kindly do so. For all queries, please contact Reshma on 8869 6700.

## **Code of Conduct at St Andrew's**

Can I please remind parents and responsible adults to please treat all staff members with respect? At no time are parents to use threatening language or aggression when speaking with a staff member. Any parent who chooses to behave in this way will be asked to leave the school grounds. We are a Catholic community and follow the Gospel values of our Lord. Respect and understanding are key values to ensure a safe and positive school culture. If you have an issue that you would like to discuss, please make an appointment with the teacher or staff member. No issues should be discussed at the afternoon dismissal gate.

**Mrs Yvette McGowen**  
**Principal**

## **Thank You**

My first day at St Andrew's School, twenty-one years ago, is etched so vividly in my memory. I was so warmly welcomed by Mrs Cruikshank in the office. She greeted me with opened arms, giving me a big hug and saying, "Welcome, we have been waiting for you." That was my introduction to this amazing community, and I have always felt privileged to have been appointed the Assistant Principal of St Andrew's.

Over the years I have seen many changes to learning and to our school environment-our new buildings, and I was fortunate enough to have coordinated the opening and blessing of our buildings by the bishop. I have lost count of the number of children I have enrolled in the school, the number of assemblies, the number of awards I have presented and the number of parent meetings. I entered the teaching profession as I saw teaching as a way of making a difference in the lives of children. My focus has always been about "the child" and for all decisions I been involved in making children remain the main focus. My only hope is that, in some small way, I have achieved that goal.

So, reflecting on my time here has been one of mixed emotions. I will definitely miss working with children and walking with parents as their children grow and develop, but I am also looking forward to whatever God has planned for me.

I wish to pass on my heartfelt thanks for all the well wishes I have received and acts of kindness; they have been appreciated.

I warmly welcome, personally, and on behalf of our community Mr Stephen Bawden and know that he will enjoy his time here at St Andrew's and that the many gifts that he brings will be enriching for our community.

**Kim McDonald**  
**Assistant Principal**



# SPORTS NEWS



## Stage 3 Girls Soccer 2023

Last Friday, 28 young ladies from Stage 3 represented the school at the Soccer Gala Day at Penrith. The girls performed admirably with the gold team finishing second and the blue team finishing third.



Blue Team - 3rd Place



Gold Team - 2nd Place

I would like to thank Mr Matthew Reitano who trained the girls and assisted me in managing the teams. Thank you also to the parents who transported and supported the children on the day. A special thanks to Mr Scott Morton who also assisted on the day, even though his daughter Skyla was sick and could not attend.

**Mr Graham Paynter**  
**Sports Co-ordinator**

## Years 5 and 6 Gala Soccer Day

Twenty-eight Year 5 and Year 6 children will be representing our school at Jamison Park at Penrith on Friday in a Soccer Gala Day. Huge thanks to Mr Paynter and Mr Reitano who have coached the children and will coordinate their play on Friday.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



We would like to congratulate **Jacqueline Westlake of Year 6** who is achieving great results with karate.

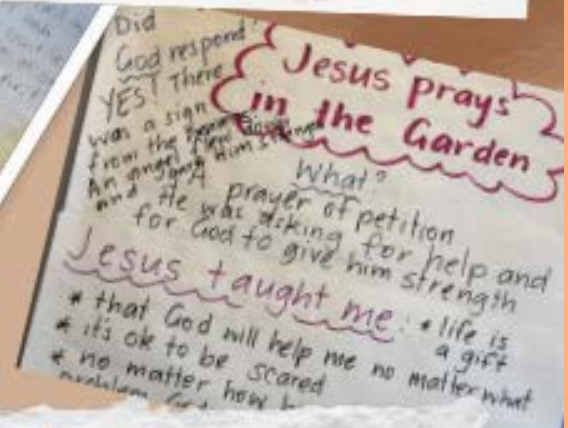
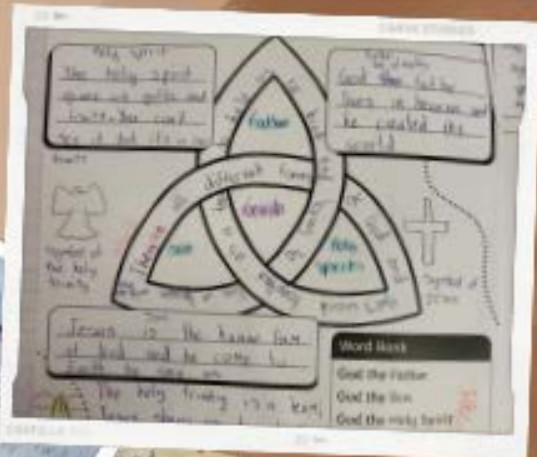
She has won a bronze (kata), silver (kumite) and a gold (kumite) in her Orange Belt Division for 10-11 year olds.

She has also won a bronze in the State Championships for her belt division.

**Congratulations Jacqueline!**







## Year 5 Faith Page



# *Sacred Heart Mass*

**16th June, 9:15 am**

At this Mass each year we support the St Vincent de Paul Society with donations of non-perishable food items for the Winter Appeal. If each child only brought in one item we would have over 700 articles that would then be distributed to those in need in our community. Teachers will collect these items in the classroom and then donate to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. New socks, scarves, shawls, beanies and gloves are also always gratefully accepted for distribution to the homeless.

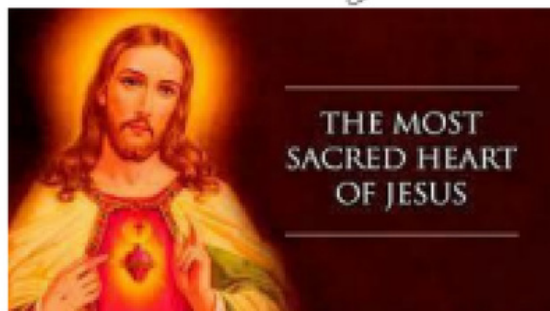
Thank you for your kind support as we teach our children about caring for others.

Suggested items for food donation.....

Breakfast cereal, Long-life milk, teabags,  
coffee, hot chocolate, rice, pasta, noodles.  
Tinned soup, packet soup mix, cup-a-soup,  
sauce, pasta sauce, Asian stir-fry sauce,  
tinned fish / meat, vegetables, baked beans,  
spaghetti, cordial, fruit juice, poppers, tins or jars of fruit,  
biscuits (sweet or savoury)

And anything else, so long as it is NON-Perishable Please avoid sending items that contain nuts.

## *Thank you*



# Mrs Taylor's Bookshop



Our second hand book shop is looking for donations of children's books.

If you have any children's books in good condition, which you no longer require, we would love to share them with the children.

You can leave them at the school office for Mrs Taylor.

**Thank you for your generosity.**







# 2023 ACARA Item Trial Test

## 13th and 14th June

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE ITEM TRIAL

Item Trial tests have occurred each year since 2007. The purpose of the Item Trial is to evaluate NAPLAN test items (questions) that are under consideration for inclusion in future tests.

Each year a different selection of sampled schools is needed. The sample ensures a diverse range of student backgrounds and abilities is represented.

The Item Trial will involve 2 classes in Years 3 and 5 to help collect a national samples.

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***Since the test is not an assessment, it won't be marked and results won't be distributed. 2 classes per grade will participate in the Item Trial. The test is purely for ACARA to work through the process of collecting both online and offline data.***

### WHAT GRADES ARE INVOLVED?

50 x Year 3 students and 50 x Year 5 students will be involved in the Item Test.

#### **Dates for each grade:**

Tuesday 13th June: Year 3

Wednesday 14th June: Year 5

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### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO FOR MY CHILD?

As a parent it is important that you encourage your child to participate and enjoy the trial experience should they be selected to do so.

While the Item Trial is not an assessment that will be graded, it is still very important that students try their best. Your positivity and encouragement will help to achieve this.

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## STANDARD 3: FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES ARE INFORMED AND INVOLVED

**AIM:** Organisations support children by actively engaging with families and communities



### WHY IS THIS STANDARD IMPORTANT?

Parents/Carers have primary responsibility for raising their children.

Children feel more valued when child safe organisations include families and community in decisions affecting them, and when organisations are accountable for their child safe practices.

### What should CSPD be doing?

- Families have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of their child and are provided opportunities to participate in decisions affecting the child.
- The organisation engages in open, two-way communication with families and communities about its child safety approach, and relevant information is accessible.
- Families and communities have a say in the organisation's policies and practices.
- Families and communities are informed about the organisation's operations and governance.

### What we're doing

- Check out System Policies on CSPD Website!
- Staff can also check out our OSCAR PAGE!

- Promotes and participates in various resources and initiatives for parents, carers and communities which support a child safe culture.
- Building Child Safe Communities (BCSC) Undertaking and Training modules are available on the CSPD website and outline the standards of behaviour and reporting requirements for parents/carers/families as volunteers (and contractors) in our schools.
- Offer a range of opportunities for parents/carers to engage in the services and supports provided to their children at school.
- Provide opportunities for parents/carers to work in partnership with schools via various forums including school information evenings and meetings.
- Parent Representative Councils and associated educational initiatives.
- Provide opportunities for parent/carer feedback via the annual "Tell Them From Me Survey".
- Families are informed and made aware of CSPD's Safeguarding policies and procedures which are available on [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)
- Access to wellbeing counsellors for students and their families.
- Partnership with the esafety Commissioner to provide parents and carers training and education on esafety.
- Regular updates to families on CSPD's adherence to the Child Safe Standards.



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## STANDARD 4:

### EQUITY IS UPHELD AND DIVERSE NEEDS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT

**Aim:** Children are provided opportunities to participate to their full potential

#### Why is this standard important?

Children have diverse needs which should be supported by organisations, ensuring equality of opportunity and participation in programs and activities.

It is a necessity for children to build skills and knowledge, have access to resources that keep them safe, and be able to build relationships.

Organisations are then better able to empower children to have a voice and prevent abuse, fostering a transparent and open culture that is inclusive.



#### What should CSPD be doing?

The organisation is proactive in identifying and responding to children's diverse circumstances and vulnerabilities.

Every child has access to support, information and complaint processes.

Particular attention is paid to the needs of children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

#### What we're doing

- Check out System Policies on CSPD Website!
- Staff can also check out our OSCAR PAGE!

The following have been developed and/or implemented with our diverse community in mind, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability or additional needs:

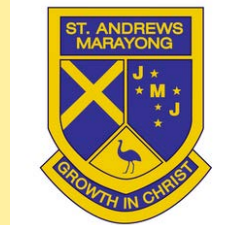
- CSPD codes, policies, procedures and guidelines.
- Our physical and online sites are welcoming, safe and accessible.
- Staff are educated in cultural competency and in identifying and assisting vulnerable children.
- Specialised staff, wellbeing services and programs available for students with diverse backgrounds, learning, behavioural, and emotional needs.
- Jarara Cultural Centre provides a link between schools and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Increased focus on safety and services in high support needs units.
- Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L) assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.
- Life Skills curriculum for students with an intellectual disability.
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education K-10 Syllabus for all students is inclusive of the Standard 4 requirements.



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# Student Of The Week

## Term 2 Weeks 6 & 7



	Week 6	Week 7		Week 6	Week 7
KB	Jagmehar Toor	Benjamin Lebon	3G	Halim Unal	Bhani Aggarwal
KG	Savya Jaganiya	Iniya Vijayasekaran	3R	Margaret Feeve Bagayas	Sameer Thapar
KR	Natalia Irvine	Brianna Dangamuwa	3Y	Rose Thomas Kurian	Jacqueline Jing
KY	Jordan Khawaga	Lucy Sultana	4B	Ethan Bijesh	Nathan Herft
1B	Name withheld	Isaac Tan	4G	Phoebe Andrew	Arya Prabakaran
1G	Prateek Soni	Luke Ilagan	4R	Jacob Ingram	Ady Ding
1R	Arzoyi Brar	Hudson Gater	4Y	Lillyana Feltham	Riley Ankrett
1Y	Lucas Torres	Harlyn Warner	5B	Antonia Modaffari	Name Withheld
2B	Desmond Li	Juliana Karam	5G	Jana Deepak	Ruby Gater
2G	Cruz Schwalger	Myra Sohal	5R	Katherine Jing	Marcella Arshilo
2R	Jastej Sidhu	Amelia Themistou	6B	Elizabeth Lukudu	Dean Ferguson
2Y	Alexander Demian	David Mayson	6G	Gabriel Pantazopoulos	Melina Sklibosios
3B	Annabelle Kels	Name Withheld	6R	Aidan Remotigue	Jeffrey Su