



# St Andrew's Primary School Newsletter

Term 1 Issue 2, 22nd February, 2024



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## Principal's Message

*Dear St Andrew's Community,*

### **We begin our year celebrating the Eucharist**

Last week, we gathered as a faith community to celebrate the start of the year. Fr. Floyd blessed the children, staff and families for a successful year of learning and faith community building. At this Mass we also inducted our Sports Captains. The Captains were presented with badges from their peer student council. Living as a community of Jesus people is such an important part of our journey and having many parents and friends join us to celebrate this beginning of the year Mass was very special. The community of St Andrew's has had a very positive and confident start to the year.



### *From the office team* Important Updates



### **Birthday Celebrations at School**

Your child's birthday is a wonderful time to celebrate, and many of our students wish to share this experience with their classmates and peers. Students are welcome to celebrate their birthday at school.

We ask that you keep the following in mind:

- No homemade cakes are permitted.
- Food products containing nuts or chocolate are not permitted.
- Store bought **individual** items (e.g., mini cupcakes from Woolworths or Coles, Krispy Kreme donuts - plain variety). Iced cupcakes from Woolworths and Coles are permitted as they contain cocoa powder, and not chocolate.
- There can be no cakes/items that need to be cut prior to consumption.
- Food items must have an ingredients list visible. This is for health and safety reasons, and there will be no exceptions.

Food items must be delivered to the Administration office before 10:00am - they are **not** to be taken to the child's classroom.

We thank you for your understanding and for collaborating with us to keep all our students safe.

## **Ash Wednesday**

On Ash Wednesday, the school came together again at Mass, to mark the beginning of Lent and our journey towards Easter. Fr Kevin Redmond spoke about the ways we can change - in our thoughts, words and actions, to improve our relationships with God and others during this holy season. The ashes placed in the sign of the cross on our foreheads remind us that our focus in Lent is to become a friend of Jesus.

## **Whole School Assembly**

On Friday, we gathered for our first whole school assembly in the school hall for the new year. We were so delighted to have many parents and friends join us. At this assembly we congratulated the children who received our St. Andrew's Awards for academic improvement and living our gospel teaching. Our next whole school assembly will be on Friday, March 8th at 2p.m. in the school hall. Please enter via the hall gate at the rear of the church car park.

## **Change of day - Morning Assembly**

Each week, we gathered on Monday morning to celebrate the achievements of students who are recognised as student of the week in their class.

After careful consideration of our teaching and learning demands, morning assembly will now occur on Friday mornings instead. The format will be the same; the only change is the day. To transition to this new schedule, this Friday, February 16th, will be our first Friday morning assembly, where we will congratulate the students who have been nominated for student of the week for the upcoming week beginning February 19th.

## **Using the church drop off section in the morning**

Just a reminder that the church drop-off point is only available for families to drop off their children in the mornings. Once on church grounds, we ask parents to wait in the queue and only allow the children to disembark the vehicle on the passenger door side (church door side) when it is safe to do so. We ask our parents to remain in the vehicle and not overtake cars in the line. We have had many near misses in the past, so please be vigilant and aware of the children around the area.





### **Lenten Prayer Group for parents, staff and students**

We would like to extend an invitation to our parents to join us in prayer on Thursday morning at 8.30 in the school library. Lent is a very special time in the Catholic liturgical calendar, and we are invited to prepare our hearts and minds for the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Please refer to the poster in this newsletter.

Students will reflect on this very special time in class on Thursdays as part of their daily prayer.

### **Zone Swimming**

Our swimming squad will represent our school at the Zone swimming carnival on **Wednesday, February 28th**. We wish our squad the best of luck and know that we are all cheering for you.



### **Information Nights**

This week, parents had the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher. Teachers used this platform to share their classroom expectations and grade information with parents. I wish to thank our staff for giving of their time away from their families. The next opportunity for parents to meet the teacher will happen in a few weeks. A letter with booking times is available to read on the Compass app. Parents, just a reminder that this is not a parent-teacher interview. Teachers will not be discussing student progress at this meeting. Rather, this is an opportunity for parents to share any information they deem important so teachers can provide the best learning experiences for their children.

### **Enrolments for Kindergarten 2025**

**Enrolments for Kindergarten 2025 are officially open on Monday, March 4th.** If your child is school age, please lodge an enrolment form in the office. Mrs. Anne King, our enrolment officer, is available to answer any questions you may have about the process. I encourage our families to enrol early, as invitations for placement in 2025 will be sent out to families from next term onwards.

## Open Days

We extend a warm welcome to new families who wish to view our school and facilities to join us on our Open Days. A tour led by our school executive team will be included in the session, and they are always happy to answer questions about our great school.

If you know of any family considering enrolling their child into St Andrew's Primary School for 2025, please share our Open Days with them. They may contact the front office to book a date and time.

### Dates and Times

**Thursday March 7th 10:00-10:30am**

**Thursday March 21st 10:00-10:30am**



## School Fees

Statements have been posted on 13/02/24 and the due date for Instalment 1 is 13/03/2024. Please contact Reshma Kerai on 02 8869 6700 if you have not yet received your statement in the post.

## P and F Committee

Thank you to the parents/caregivers who attended our Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting, where we extended our gratitude to the outgoing team and elected a new team for 2024.

I am delighted to announce our committee members for 2024.

President – Sarah Ford  
Vice President – Kathy Grivas  
Secretary – Angel Pielago  
Treasurer – Bronwyn Lilley

Every volunteer opportunity is published in our school newsletter. Parents are invited to express interest through the following email and/or Facebook accounts:



samps.pf@gmail.com



St Andrews Primary Marayong P + F 2024



## Catholic Schools Week Celebration

### Mark your diary.....

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week, we will be having a special day of celebration on **Wednesday, March 6th.**

Events of the day:

- 11.45am Mass in the church.
- 12.45 – 1.15 Open Classrooms (Parents are invited to visit classrooms to view their child/children's work)
- 1.15 – 2.15 Picnic Lunch on the ground of the school
- 2.15 Children will resume learning and we will say goodbye to our wonderful parents and friends.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

### Utilising every minute for learning time

This year our students will increase their mathematics learning time to 75 minutes a day. Our learning agenda and focus each year are based on our analytical breakdown of student results and goals. The learning framework that the children will experience begins with a warm-up activity to prepare the children for thinking mathematically, explicit teaching and modelling of skills and content from the teacher, followed by rich differentiated tasks so that children experience and develop competency with the skill and content. Following the independent tasks, teachers will reteach the concept using the explicit teaching model, clarifying misunderstandings and confusion, and finally, the students will have time to reflect. This reflection time enables students to identify what they did well and understood clearly, and what they will work on tomorrow. During each lesson, the teacher is noticing and tracking student growth and adjusting the learning for tomorrow. Our expectations are high, so every child has an opportunity to achieve learning success. We ask parents to ensure children are at school every day, except when they are ill. Every day your child is away is a missed opportunity to learn and flourish.

### 3D printing on display

Our 3D printers are now located in the IT hub for children to view when in operation. This is a great way for children to experience the 3D printer in action. Thanks to Mr. Haynes for making this happen for the children.



## **New computer hardware**

Every year, we have been building our bank of learning devices for children to use as part of their experiences at school. This year 70 new Chromebooks have been purchased. These will be distributed to classes in the coming weeks.

## **New sports jerseys for Gala Days**

This year, with the great support of the P and F and sponsorship from OZ Fashions, we are able to purchase new school representative jerseys for the students. The teams will certainly look the part when they hit the field, representing our school in the different sporting events. I wish to thank all our parents for supporting our fundraising initiatives in 2023. The balance of the funds raised will be spent on new seating and picnic-style benches for students at the front of the school .

## **Strings Program for Years 3 and 4**

All students in Years Three and Four experience a year of tuition on a string instrument. Students commenced their string tuition this week. This is a unique opportunity for all students to learn an instrument. This year we have been fortunate to be able to supplement our existing collection with \$50,000 worth of new instruments. The program allows the students to take home the instrument to further practise the skills at home. I wish to thank the CAPTIVATE Team from CSDP for their talent and dedication to our school.

## **Library News**

All classes have a specific library day for borrowing library books (see below). Children can also borrow and return books before school and at lunchtime, provided they have their library bag with them.

Students in Year 1 to Year 6 have started borrowing.

Kindergarten will commence borrowing in Week 6 (Wednesday March 6).

### **Here are the borrowing days for each grade:**

**Monday – Year 1**

**Tuesday – Year 2 & Year 5**

**Wednesday – Year 4 & Kindy**

**Thursday – Year 3 & Year 6**



God Bless

Mrs Yvette McGowen



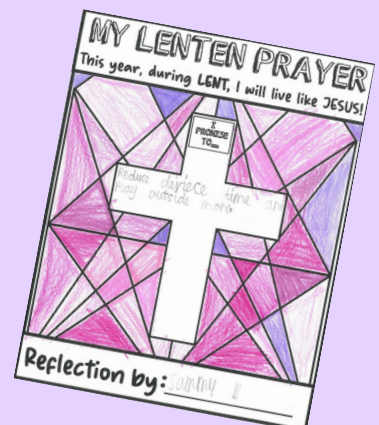
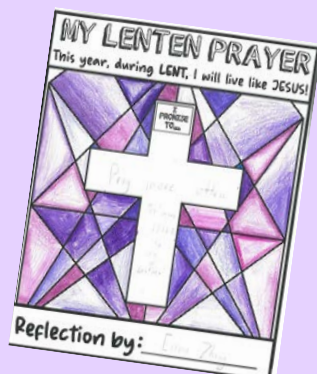
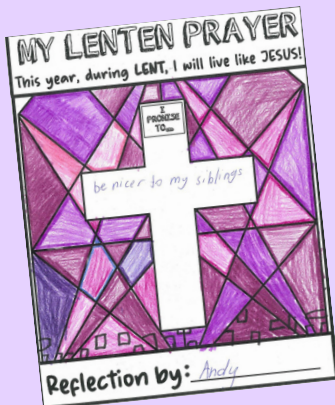
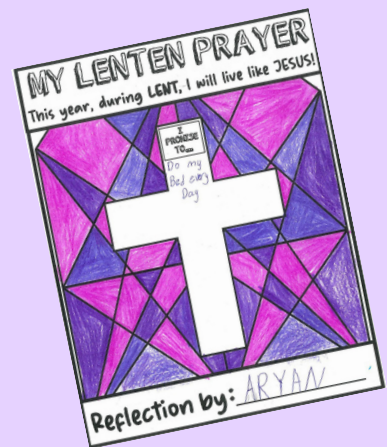
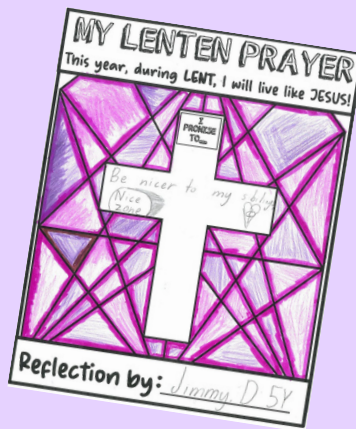
# Faith Page



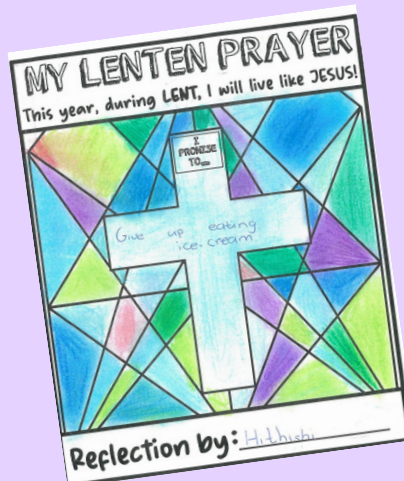
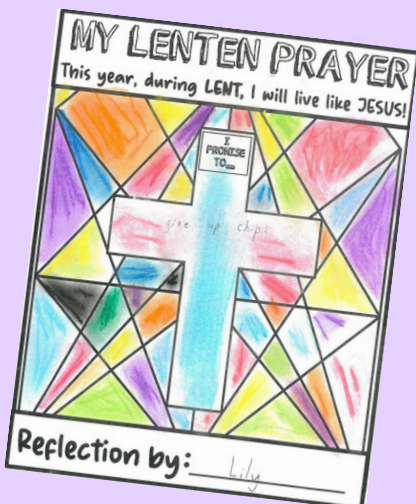
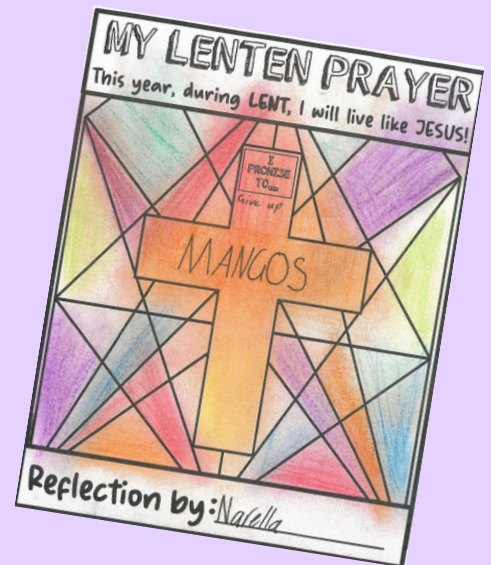
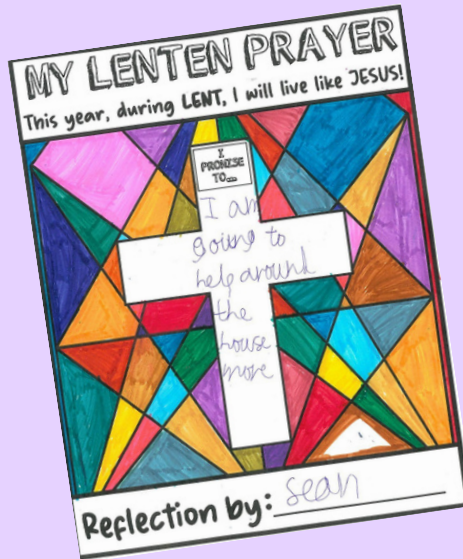
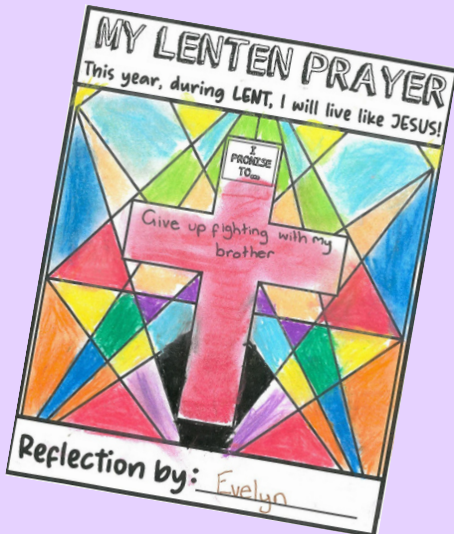
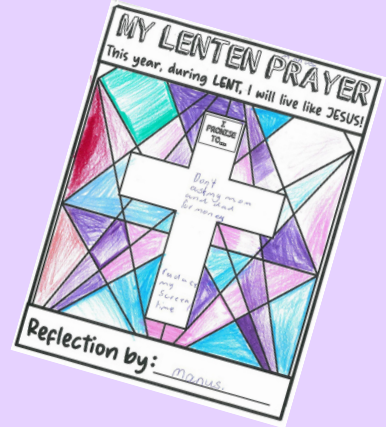
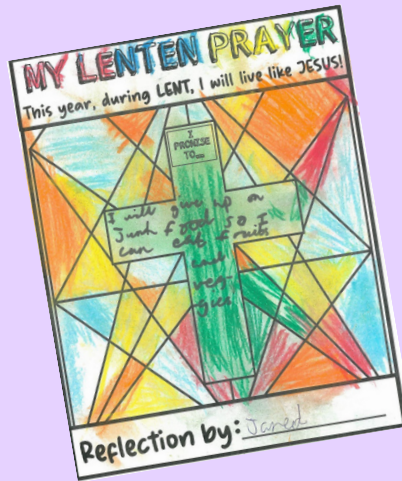
## Year 5's Lenten Prayers



In Year 5, as we began our Lenten journey, we reflected on the meaning of Lent and how we can follow in Jesus' footsteps. We talked about fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, and ways we can be more like Jesus during this Lenten season. We have made a promise to do something better, to give up something that we love doing, or to try hard to avoid actions we know Jesus would want us not to do.









## Caritas Project Compassion Launch 2024

On February 7th, four students (Renaë, Veronica, Evelyn, and Louis), along with the FIAT coordinators, Maria Hyson and Mariquita Park, represented St. Andrew's Primary School, in attending the Caritas Project Compassion Launch. The students were very engaged at the event and are now enthusiastic to lead the St. Andrew's community in raising money for Caritas to assist future generations. Each grade has a Project Compassion box where students can donate money. Families are encouraged to donate to our St Andrew's primary School Project Compassion online page. Donations can be made at [this](#) website.

*Here's what the students had to say about the event.*

This event was very moving and fun. I got to learn about different communities and what I can do to support them. I met Bishop Vincent and he told us that *yeast raises the flour*. I inferred that he was telling us that we are the yeast and Caritas is the flour. In other words, with our support, Caritas can do much more and help more communities. The stories helped me realise how fortunate I am and motivated me to want to do more. Our group talked about what we can do at school to help Caritas like fundraisers or learn more about this organisation.

- **Renaë**



The event was good because it was teaching us different ways to raise money for the poor and for the people who need it. We watched a video to show us how our money makes a difference to communities around the world. - **Louis**





It was a nice way for our community to come together to raise awareness about Project Compassion. I now have a better understanding of what the money goes towards. I now feel more connected to the people who the charity are helping. - **Veronica**

*We arrived at St Finbar's Primary School and were led to a hall where two students from the hosting school led us in prayer and Acknowledgement Of Country. Then, many people, such as Bishop Vincent, gave speeches. Students had an opportunity to ask questions about the work of Caritas Australia through Project Compassion and what we, as students and as a school community, could do to help.*

*Next, we watched videos of the people who had been assisted by Caritas Australia, and their stories were inspiring. All had lived without some or any of their basic needs but had persisted in continuing on with their lives. With the help of Caritas Australia, they were able to get back on their feet. This got me thinking about more things that we could do to help people like them.*

*After this, we had many opportunities to ask questions, and then we shared what our school did and what our school could do in the future for Project Compassion. It was fun taking ideas from other schools and improvising them to make them suitable for our school.*

All in all, it was a very rewarding experience with inspiring stories from many different people from all walks of life. It was a way to connect with other students and collaborate on different topics.

**Evelyn**

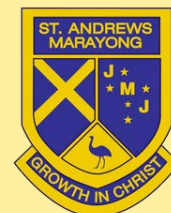






# Student Of The Week

## Term 1 Weeks 2 & 3



	WEEK 2	WEEK 3		WEEK 2	WEEK 3
KB	Palvy Awad	Hudson Warner	3R	Jayden Katafono	Kismat Sandhu
KG	Alexandra Baranyi	Sapphire Samonte	3Y	Sidney Heine	Michelle Arshilo
KR	Vanessa Xavier	Jack Summerton	4B	Dhwani Raghesh	Nadene Hipolito
KY	Harnoor Kaur	Coco Petschy	4G	Jandre Arnaldo	Rhys Straub
1B	Selina Byrne-Abella	Francesca Femia	4R	Elizabeth Wang	Ivan Vujica
1G	Deanne DSouza	Kennedy Hitchcock	4Y	Matthew Basili	Name Withheld
1R	Elsie Miller	Grayson Banas	5B	Isaac Kaloustian	Jacob Hartono-Zen
1Y	Sebastian Walsh	Zoe Caraig	5G	Gabby Angok	Leilani Ma'u
2B	Ryleigh Ang	David Yang	5R	Ethan Bijeesh	Lily Raymondo
2G	Ellie Cortez	Krishiv Patel	5Y	Maya Stewart	Henry Oalin
2R	Thomas Kaloustian	Savannah Barakat	6B	Hristina Miletic	Ruby Gater
2Y	Aaryan Megharaju	Alexandre Dalzell	6G	Ivy McCarthy	Georgia Ortiz
3B	Jonah Kaloustian	Finn Walsh	6R	Ruby Fox	Liam Inconcentes
3G	Anaira Walia	Lydia Lee	CONGRATULATIONS		

## Term 1 Calendar 2024

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	29	30	31	1st Feb Year 1-6 Return 1/2 day Kinder	2 1/2 day Kinder
2	5	6	7	8	9 9.15am Opening School Mass
3	12 6pm P&F AGM Library	13	14 11.45am Ash Wednesday Mass	15	16 2pm Whole School Assembly
4	19 Year 1 & 2 Parent Info	20 Year 3 & 4 Parent Info night	21 Year 5 & 6 Parent Info night	22	23
5	night 26	27	28 Zone Swimming Carnival	29	1st March
6	4 Meet & Greet	5 Meet & Greet	6 11.45am Catholic School Week Mass, Open Class, Picnic Lunch  Meet & Greet	7 10-10.30am Open day (2025 Parents Only)  Meet & Greet	8 Cross Country  2pm Whole School Assembly Meet & Greet
7	11	12 Diocesan Swimming Carnival	13	14	15
8	18	19	20	21 10-10.30am Open day (2025 Parents Only)	22 School Athletics Carnival
9	25	26	27	28 10am Infants 11.45 Primary Holy Thursday Stations of the Cross 2pm Whole School Assembly	29 GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL
10	1st April EASTER MONDAY NO SCHOOL	2 Students Return  8.50am Easter Liturgy	3	4	5
11	8	9 Infants Disco	10 Stage 2 Disco	11 Stage 3 Disco	12 Last Day of Term 1



# LENTEN PRAYER COMMUNITY ADVENT PRAYER GROUP

*Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be marked as Year of Prayer.*

We are inviting ALL (parents, grandparents, carers, and staff members) to join us in prayer during Lent.

As we journey together through Lent, we are encouraged to pray and reflect on the Gospel as a St Andrew's School Community.  
We look forward to praying with you each week.



**When : *Thursdays during Lent***

February 15

February 22

February 29

March 7

March 14

March 21

March 28

**Where : In the School Library**

**Time : 8:30 am - 8:50 am**  
(20 minutes)

# **Sacramental Program Dates for 2024**

## **SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)**

*The Sacrament of First Penance Program will take place in Term 1 for children in Years 3 & above who have been baptised.*

Registration Forms may be collected from the Parish Office  
from Monday 29th January 2024

[These forms may also be collected from the Parish Office on  
Sunday 4th February and 11th February 2024 between 9.30 and 11.30am]

Registration Evening:

Tuesday 13th February 2024 at 7.00pm in the Church

Classes:

Sundays 10th March, 17th March and 24th March 2024

[Classes begin with 8.45am Mass and conclude at approximately 11.30am]



Sacrament of First Penance will be celebrated on :

Saturday 6th April (9:30 am) and/or Saturday 13th April (9:30 am) 2024

## **SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

*This Program will commence in Term 2 for children in Years 3 and above who have received the Sacrament of Penance.*

Registration Forms may be collected from the Parish Office starting  
Monday 29th April 2024

[These forms may also be collected from the Parish Office  
on Sunday 5th May and Sunday 12th May 2024 between 9.30 and 11.30am]

Registration Evening:

Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7.00pm in the Church



Classes: Sunday 26th May & Sunday 9th June 2024

[Classes begin with 8.45am Mass and conclude at approximately 11.30am]

Sacrament of First Holy Communion:

Saturday 22nd June (5pm) , Sunday 23rd June (8:45am)

Saturday 29th June (5pm) and Sunday 30th June (8:45 am)

## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

*This Program will commence in Term 3 for children in Years 5 & above who have made their First Holy Communion.*

Registration Forms may be collected from the Parish Office  
from Monday 22nd July 2024

[These forms may also be collected from the Parish Office  
on Sunday 27th July and Sunday 3rd August 2024 between 9.30 and 11.30am]

Registration Evening:

Tuesday 6th August at 7.00 pm in the Church

Classes: Sunday 18th August & Sunday 25th August 2024

[Classes begin with 8.45 am Mass and conclude at approximately 11.30am]

Sacrament of Confirmation Ceremony: (Dates to be confirmed)

Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 7 pm

OR Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7 pm





# OLMC PARRAMATTA OPEN DAY

**Sunday, 3 March | 9.00am – 3.00pm**

*Courageous Advocates. Limitless Possibilities.*

