



St. Matthew's School

PRINCIPAL: Mr Bob Brown
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: Mrs Krystine Hocking
R.E. LEADER: Mr Steven Hubbard
EMAIL: principal@smfawknernth.catholic.edu.au

PARISH PRIEST: Father Florentino (Boy) Galdo
SCHOOL PHONE: (03) 9359 5423
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NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 1st May 2018. No 11.

TERM 2

Friday 4th May ~ **PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION MEETING**, 9:05am in the Family Room.

Friday 11th May ~ **"POWER OF ONE"** Anti Bullying Incursion for all students in Prep - Year 6.

Friday 11th May ~ **MOTHER'S DAY STALL**, more details to follow closer to the date.

Sunday 13th May ~ **MOTHER'S DAY. A VERY HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR MUMS.**

Monday 14th May ~ **WHOLE SCHOOL MOTHER'S DAY LITURGY**, 2:45pm in the Church.

Friday 18th May ~ **YEAR 4 DAY OF THE EUCHARIST**, more details to follow closer to the date.

Monday 21st May ~ **WHOLE SCHOOL PENTECOST SUNDAY LITURGY**, 2:45pm in the Church.

Tuesday 22nd May ~ **PARISH EDUCATION BOARD MEETING**, 7:00pm in the Parish House.

Saturday 26th May ~ YEAR 4 FIRST EUCHARIST FAMILY MASS, 5:30pm in St Matthew's Church.

Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June ~ **GRADE 6 CAMP TO CANBERRA.**

Sunday 3rd June ~ YEAR 4 EUCHARIST MASSES, 12:30pm & 3:00pm both in St Matthew's Church.

Friday 8th June ~ **FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART WHOLE SCHOOL MASS**, 9:30am in the Church.

Monday 11th June ~ **QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY**. No School for Students and Staff.

Monday 25th June ~ **REPORTS GO HOME TO FAMILIES.**

Tuesday 26th June ~ **PARISH EDUCATION BOARD MEETING**, 7:15pm in the Parish House.

Wednesday 27th June ~ **PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS**. Students dismissed at 1:00pm, Interviews commence at 1:30pm.

Friday 29th June ~ **END OF TERM 2, ALL STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 3:25PM.**

Monday 16th July ~ **FIRST DAY OF TERM 3**. School commences at 8:50am sharp. Make sure you are on time.

Saturday 21st July ~ **CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASS**, 5:30pm at St Matthew's.

Tuesday 31st July ~ **PARISH EDUCATION BOARD MEETING**, 7:15pm in the Parish House.

Wednesday 8th August ~ CONFIRMATION PRACTICE FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS AND SPONSORS.

Friday 10th August ~ SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS, 6:00PM AT St Matthew's.

Dear Students, Parents, Staff and Friends of St Matthews,

Last week St Matthew's staff ventured up the Western Highway to Ballarat for our **ANNUAL STAFF CONFERENCE**. Each year the pressures of teaching seem to rise, so the staff spent the two days exploring how they can look after their wellbeing, both individually and collectively. The staff also learnt about "Mindfulness." Mindfulness' simply means paying attention to the present moment. Practising mindfulness can help you to cope with everyday life and deal with tough times. It can also help you to concentrate, relax and be more productive. Mindfulness will also be something we do within the school. The staff found both days very beneficial.

OLSEL - ORAL LANGUAGE SUPPORTING EARLY LITERACY

Yesterday the Prep, Grade One & Two teachers, Mrs Helen Howden and I were all at Professional Development at the Catholic Leadership Centre for the OLSEL Project. This is a funded project that St Matthew's will be involved in for two years. What is the OLSEL Project? Let me explain.

The Oral Language Supporting Early Literacy project initiative is currently being implemented by the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria. The aim of this project initiative is to improve the oral language skills of students in the early years, thereby resulting in a measurable improvement in literacy performance.

The Oral Language Supporting Early Literacy project initiative seeks to develop the oral language competence of students in the early years, to facilitate early literacy development. The goal of the research initiative is centred around professional learning to support teachers to more effectively plan and implement strategies which specifically target the development of oral language skills in the early years of schooling with a particular focus on their Junior (Prep, 1 & 2) years of schooling. We are really looking forward to injecting this project into our Junior school.

COLOUR FUN RUN

A reminder to all families to make sure you have organised all your sponsors and then get online, donate and then claim your prizes. You have to this Friday 4th May to finalise this. We look forward to seeing how much was raised by running such a fun event.



REMINDER - 2019 ENROLMENTS FOR GRADES PREP – 6 ARE NOW OPEN.

Yes Enrolments are now open and enrolment packages are available from the School Office. **They are certainly coming in at a rather rapid rate** If you know of a family member, friend or neighbour who is thinking of sending their child to St Matthew's in 2019 they can ring the School Office on 9359 5423 and request an individual tour at a time that is both convenient to us and them. Mrs Hocking and I do try to make ourselves available as much as possible for these individual tours.

Parents who have older siblings already at St Matthew's and a younger sibling due to start in 2019 (turning 5 before April 30th 2019) we ask that you come and pick up an enrolment package and return a filled out enrolment form as soon as possible as we are already planning our grade structures for 2019. We hope to start interviewing Parents and Students in the **first half of Term 2, Week 4 or 5. So please get those enrolment forms in as soon as possible as you do not want to miss out on a place in Prep in 2019.**

REMINDER – ABSOLUTELY LAST CALL FOR YOUR COLES VOUCHERS

If you have any Vouchers still at home please send them into school by this Friday 4th May at the very latest as we want to get online and order all our Sports equipment.

Once again can I take this opportunity to sincerely thank every School Family, our Parishioners, Staff and the wider community who have supported this campaign by shopping at Coles and sending in vouchers. We certainly appreciate your wonderful efforts. A great Team Effort!! Well Done Everyone!!

As I wrote last week the Autumn weather just keeps on keeping on. Keep enjoy it while it lasts.

Bob Brown – Principal

“Our School is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children and vulnerable adults.

PLEASE SEE MERCY COLLEGE DISCOVERY DAY FOR ALL DETAILS FOR MONDAY MAY 14TH ON PAGE 5 & ALSO READING INFORMATION EVENING NEXT MONDAY 7TH MAY ON PAGE 7.

MOTHER'S DAY LITURGY:



The Grade 1 classes are planning a special Liturgy to celebrate mothers and special women in our lives to be held on Monday, 14th May at 2:45pm in St Matthew's Church. To make this Liturgy more special we will be including a photo reflection. All families and staff of the school are invited to email in ONE photo of children with their mothers, grandmothers or special women in their lives to be included. Please note, only ONE photo per family will be included.

Please email your photos by **Tuesday, 8th May** and to the following email address:

shubbard@smfawknerth.catholic.edu.au

SACRAMENT PASSPORT UPDATE (YEAR 4 AND 6 FAMILIES):

Fr Boy has now requested that your child's Sacrament Passport needs to be handed in prior to the beginning of the weekend mass. At the conclusion of the mass, your child's Sacrament Passport will be handed back signed. Thank you for your cooperation.

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH MASS TIMES:

Saturday – 5:30pm

Sunday – 9:00am, 11:00am (Italian)

SACRAMENT HOME VISIT FORM (YEARS 3, 4 & 6 FAMILIES)

As you are aware Fr Boy is introducing Family Home Visits for all children making a sacrament this year. These visits are for him to talk about the importance of the sacrament and to get to know your family. The visits are short and informal. A reminder to all families who have children making a sacrament this year to please fill in the Home Visit details form for each child making a sacrament and return it to school as soon as possible. If you require a new form, please ask for a new copy at the School Office. Thank you for your support.

Mr Steven Hubbard
Religious Education Leader

LIBRARY LUNCHTIME

Every Tuesday at Lunchtime Students can come to the library to draw, play a game or do a puzzle. It was great to see so many happy faces enjoying the lovely library space over the past two weeks.

Mrs White - Library Technician

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

➤ *Michael Grose's Parenting Ideas:*

TOPIC SIX: TEENAGERS

Adolescence is a long transition period between childhood and adulthood. It is a period of change for their **body** and their **brains**. Teens battle their physiology as moods can swing wildly, sleep patterns change and assessing risk becomes more difficult. It's also a period of **challenge** as they frequently question parent authority, and can go to great lengths to remind you that you aren't the font of all wisdom as they once thought!

Raising an adolescent is **exhilarating, excruciating and anxiety-inducing**. I've seen each of my three children enter the **fog of adolescence** and wondered what happened to the once-compliant and easy-going kid. It's been a relief to see them come out of that fog, all at different stages and all having experienced adolescence differently.

THREE PHASES OF ADOLESCENCE

There are three distinct adolescent phases:

1. **Early adolescence** lasts from 10 to 13 years of age and comes as a shock for many parents. Peers rather than parents are important in a young teens' mind. They like to have more privacy, and their vocabulary starts to shrink as well.
2. **Middle adolescence**, 13 to 16 years of age is a tricky stage all around. Boys take more risks and girls can be downright cruel to each other in times when social success, is far more important than academic success.
3. **Late adolescence** starts at around 17 years of age and can last until well into the twenties. It's an easier stage as teens begin to negotiate different relationships with their parents. Still they are emotionally and financially-dependent on their parents for longer than past generations.

Raising teens today takes some savvy, some attitude and some backbone. Teens need parents who know how they tick and can handle them effectively at each stage of development during these high-risk, volatile times.

More information can be found on the following website: <http://www.parentingideas.com.au/>

Mr Hubbard
Student Wellbeing Leader

PRACE is a local not-for-profit community education provider with over 20 years' experience in delivering high-quality English language (EAL) classes. Our classes are small, interactive and our teachers hold postgraduate qualifications. Our organisation also provides students with additional supports as they navigate their new life in Australia. Enrolments are taken throughout the year and we are only 10 minutes from Fawkner (Bus 902 via Mahoneys Road).

For more information, please see the attached English classes flyer or ring us on 9462 6077 or visit our website: <https://prace.vic.edu.au/english-eal/>

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Lauren Rizzacasa
Marketing Coordinator

Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education (PRACE)
Merrilands Community Centre
PO Box 510 | 35 Sturdee Street, Reservoir VIC 3073
P: 03 9462 6077 | F: 03 9462 5077 | W: www.prace.vic.edu.au



DISCOVER MERCY DAY

Monday 14 May 2018

Meet the Principal and tour the College at
9.30am or 6.00pm

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

mercycoburg.catholic.edu.au

760 Sydney Road, Coburg North VIC 3058 | Phone: 03 9319 9299 | CRICOS code 02227J

EXTEND AT ST MATTHEWS



Last week at after school care we had an amazing activity filled week. We began our week with our favourite activity, making slime. We tried the different recipe, unfortunately the recipe was not that good, and the slime become too elastic! We decided to try another recipe for the next time. We love challenges! We then created our own unique wind charm with metal ring and colour papers. We decorated the wind charm with different shapes and designs of colour paper. Meanwhile, we also had different sports games in the gym room. Everyone loved it and had fun with their peers. During the curriculum day, we had lots of fun together. Each child provided ideas and shared their opinions while we planned programs together. We had a full pack schedule with making a doll house, wind charms, art paintings, watching movies, and also a playground challenge. Friday, we did a fun baking activity of mug cake and also some fun scratch art in the afternoon. Everyone was very creative and quite genius. This week is going to be full of exciting activities to try, we hope to see you there! Check out what's happening below!

*Yee Yin,
Team Leader*

Our Extend Superstar is...

Stella H. For always being friendly, helpful and kind to her friends and teachers. Keep up the great work, Stella!

Announcement

We are delighted to announce the launch of a brand new and exciting platform for families. The Parent Portal will cease to operate at the conclusion of Term 4 Before and After School Care and will be replaced with a reliable, flexible, and user- friendly platform named **LookedAfter**. All families requiring bookings for the Summer Holiday Program and/or 2018 Before School Care and After School Care (existing and new families) must create a new account with **LookedAfter**. <https://www.lookedafter.com/>

What's on this week?

Monday 30th April

Art and Craft – Scratch Art
Outdoor – Playground Challenges

Tuesday 1st May:

Art and Craft – Flying Butterfly
Outdoor- Sport Day

Wednesday 2nd May:

Egg and spoon competition

Thursday 3rd May:

Treasure Hunt

Friday 4th May:

Play Dough
Outdoor – Playground Challenges



READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Newsletter Announcement

April/May 2018

Reading with Your Child

Do you need tips for reading with your child?

Reading with your child or children can be both a wonderful thing or a horrible event that happens after school. St Matthews is holding a "Reading with your child" information session on **Monday the 7th of May** held in the school library beginning at 7pm.

The information session is aimed at parents from Prep to Year 2—but also to any parents who have children who are going to start school in the next year.

The information session will provide some strategies and sharing of parent tips as well.

"When I say to a parent, 'read to a child', I don't want it to sound like medicine. I want it to sound like chocolate."

— [Kam Fox](#)

*Reading Magic:
Why Reading aloud to Our Children
Can Change Their Lives Forever!*



- Reading enhances a child's concentration
- Reading develops a child's imagination and creativity



Reading is so important—the more we read the more we will succeed