



St. Matthew's School

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DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: Mrs Krystine Hocking
R.E. LEADER: Mr Steven Hubbard
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PARISH PRIEST: Father Florentino (Boy) Galdo
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NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 20th February 2018. No 3.

TERM 1 2018 ~

Wednesday 21st February ~ **FINAL NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS.**

Friday 23rd February ~ **YEAR 6 LEVEL MASS WITH THEIR YEAR 1 BUDDIES, 9:30am in the Church.**

Friday 23rd February ~ **FIRST ASSEMBLY FOR 2018 – SRC & SPORTS CAPTAINS PRESENTED WITH BADGES, 2:45pm in the Hall.**

Saturday 24th February ~ **PREP MASS (5:30PM) FOLLOWED BY FOOD & DRINKS, supplied by the school.**

Tuesday 27th February ~ **PARISH EDUCATION BOARD MEETING, 7:00pm in the Parish House.**

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

Friday March 9th ~ **5M ASSEMBLY, 2:45pm in the hall.**

Sunday 11th March ~ **CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK COMMENCES.**

Monday 12th March ~ **LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY, NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF.**

Tuesday 13th March ~ **OPEN DAY 1 WITH SCHOOL MORNING & TWILIGHT TOURS @ 9:15am & 6:00pm.**

Thursday 15th March ~ **OPEN DAY 2 WITH SCHOOL MORNING TOUR @ 9:15am.**

Saturday 17th March ~ **ST PATRICK'S DAY.**

Friday 23rd March ~ **YEAR 5 LEVEL MASS WITH THEIR PREP BUDDIES, 9:30am in the Church.**

Friday 23rd March ~ **6T ASSEMBLY, 2:45pm in the hall.**

Thursday 29th March ~ **5P ASSEMBLY & PRINCIPAL AWARDS, 2:45pm in the hall.**

Thursday 29th March ~ **HOLY THURSDAY + LAST DAY OF TERM 1, 3:25pm Finish. HOLIDAYS COMMENCE.**

Friday 30th March ~ **GOOD FRIDAY, Jesus died on the Cross for us.**

Sunday 1st April ~ **EASTER SUNDAY, Jesus rose from the Dead.**

Monday 16th April ~ **TERM 2 COMMENCES at 8:50pm sharp. Don't be late.**

Friday 20th April ~ **Tentative date for WHOLE SCHOOL COLOUR FUN RUN.**

Wednesday 25th April ~ **ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY. No School for Students and Staff.**

PREP MASS & DINNER

A reminder to all our Prep parents that we invite you to our **Grade Prep Welcome Mass** this coming Saturday 23rd February at 5:30pm in St Matthew's Church followed by a Dinner in the Café area (near the Canteen) after Mass. **WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE ALL OUR PREP FAMILIES PRESENT**. All food and drinks are provided. We ask you to return your slips as to whether you are attending or not for catering purposes.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR CANTEEN

Anna our Canteen Manager is once again sending an SOS to all Mums to see if the Canteen can recruit some more Volunteers. If we can't get the volunteers then unfortunately we will be left no choice but to close the Canteen on other days as well as the current Mondays and not be able to have Special food days like the Pancake Day we had last week. Come on Ladies we need your commitment to volunteer at least one day a month. Remember it is for your kids.

PARENT PROTOCOLS

I would like to take this opportunity to inform and remind parents that there are Parent Protocols for situations that may arise with your children at school. Unfortunately there are 3 Nevers:

1. Never approach someone else's child regarding an issue.
2. Never approach another Parent regarding an issue.
3. Never ask for Staff contact numbers or personal details.

Please see and read our Parent Protocols Procedure sheet on page 4. It may save you some embarrassment.

PREP ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND COMPLETED

The workers from Play Safe were here yesterday and installed many new safety parts of the Junior Adventure Playground to make sure it now meets the new Australian Standards. They were very pedantic about every piece of the equipment. The Prep, One & Two students were delighted today to once again play on their favourite piece of equipment. While the workers were here they also completed all the safety improvements on the Middle & Upper Adventure Playgrounds. All Adventure Playgrounds are now fully Australian Standards compliant. Now it is up to the kids to use the playgrounds safely.

REMINDER - COLES DOCKETS FOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT For every \$10 spent you receive 1 voucher. Please hand them into the office or send them along with your children to put in their class tub. Also if you are shopping at Coles in Campbellfield there is a box in their foyer with our school logo on it. Please put your dockets in the box and encourage your friends to do the same. We look forward to your assistance and support for your children with this initiative of Coles.



SCHOOL LEVIES ARE DUE

All students have now been back at school 3 weeks and are reaping the benefit of all their classroom resources. School levies should all be paid by the end of this week, week 4, Friday 23rd February. Even if you are on Direct Debit, the levies still need to be paid by this Friday. We need to pay our due bills and keep our good credit rating in tact with our suppliers. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

REMINDER - CHURCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY

Father Boy, our Parish Priest has asked that the following volunteer duties be advertised in today's and coming week's newsletters. They are important to the life, maintenance and continuous running of our Church.

READING AT SATURDAY 5:30 PM & SUNDAY MASSES 9:00 AM

BUS (VAN) DRIVERS to pick up our elderly for Mass on Saturday 5:30pm & Sunday 11:00am

CHURCH CLEANING for Vacuuming and Dusting etc.

ALTAR Flower arrangement and cleaning of Altar

TRAINING PROVIDED Volunteer Forms are in the Church Foyer. For further information please contact the Parish on **9359 2369**

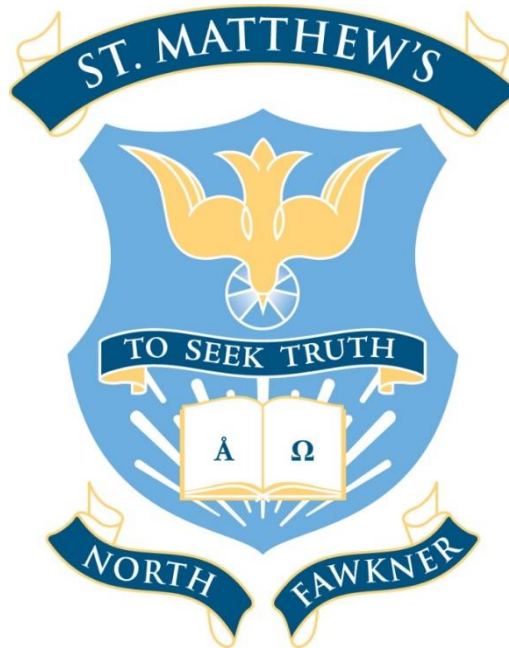
Just when it looked like we were about to experience an early Autumn here comes the warm weather again. Summer is still truly alive. Enjoy!!

Bob Brown – Principal

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



Our Prep Families are invited to the



Grade Prep Welcome Mass

When: Saturday, 24th February at 5:30pm

Where: St Matthew's Parish Church

The focus is on welcoming our Prep families to the Parish and School Community in a faith-filled way that celebrates our Catholic identity. The Mass will follow with food and drinks provided by the school in the Canteen/Concrete Yard.



Parent Protocols for situations that may arise at school.

Always:

- Talk to your child
 - Ask questions of your child
 - Obtain the whole story if possible then, if you deem necessary,
 - Make an appointment with the teacher concerned (via telephone, letter or in person)



Then:

- Talk to the teacher individually
 - Don't make accusations or be aggressive
 - Ask for clarification and find out all the facts
 - Get the big picture so that strategies and processes can be initiated

If the situation continues, make an appointment with the principal. All parties will be present.

- All meetings will be conducted on school grounds at a convenient time to both parties
- Minutes of meetings will be kept. Copies signed and kept by both parties

Never:

- Approach someone else's child regarding an issue
- Approach another parent regarding an issue
- Ask for teachers' contact numbers or personal details

Meetings:

- Always make an appointment
- Prior to the appointment, collect as much information as possible regarding the incident
 - Remember: *"There are always two sides to every story."*
- Tell your child about the appointment
- Stay cool and calm during the meeting - the aim is to find a solution
- Do not make unfounded accusations
- Be patient - investigations take time
- Listen carefully to the steps both you and the school will take
- Arrange for follow up meetings if necessary

STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

Please take the time to read through the following important information and discuss with your child/ren.

BEGINNING SCHOOL ~

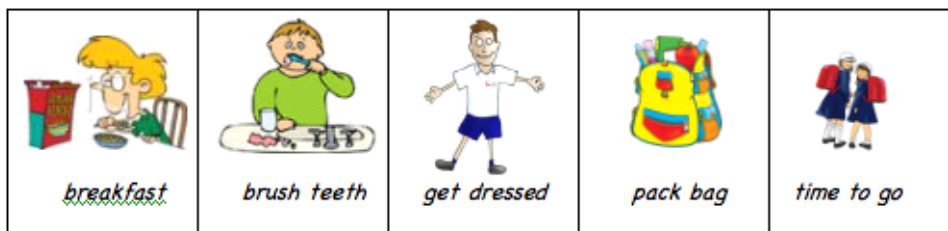


All over Australia recently, many thousands of 4, 5 and 6 year old children began their journey through the school system, one that will likely continue until they are at least 17 years of age. This major life transition brings with it a lot of excitement, anxiety and sometimes tears, and we're not just talking about the children! A good, positive start to school can help to set a child up for a successful school experience with good learning outcomes. **(Some of the following information will apply to children starting back for a new year at school in Years 1-6).**

SURVIVING THE FIRST FEW WEEKS:

Establish clear routines

The more predictable you can make things for your child the less anxiety they will feel. Have a good morning routine for school days that allows you to get out the door in plenty of time without having to rush. Help your child to understand the steps in the routine so they can develop some independence. A visual routine can really help to keep everyone on track. You could stick something like this on the fridge.



More of the same

There is comfort to be found in consistency. Little things like saying the same thing each morning when you say goodbye, always dropping them off in the same place, being in the same place to greet them in the afternoon. When you pick your child up, be on time. A few minutes waiting can seem like an eternity to them.

Forewarned is forearmed

If you need to vary the routine then let your child know as early as possible. If your child will be picked up by someone else in the afternoon, make sure they know that well in advance so they don't get worried looking for you. If you know there will be something different happening at school that day like school photos or a special visitor, talk about it with them beforehand. All of this will reduce anxiety.

Label everything, and I mean everything!

Schools are big, busy places and it is easy for things to be misplaced. Make sure anything that gets lost has a better chance of finding its way back to your child with good quality labels. Even shoes should be labeled because occasionally they have to be taken off. Have you ever noticed how school shoes all look the same?

How was your day?

Some kids will be dying to tell you all about their day, while others will need some down time and resent you asking too many questions. Good discussions starters include "What did you learn today?" or "Who did you play with today?" If your child doesn't feel like talking on the way home from school talk over the dinner table or at bedtime.

More routines

Once you get home have another routine. This might include where to put their bag, emptying out any notes and uneaten food, changing out of their uniform, having a snack and later when to do homework. For those first few exhausting weeks try and avoid too many after-school, activities like shopping. Keep as many things as possible very predictable and consistent to reassure your child.

I don't want to go to school today

Don't be surprised if your child is reluctant to go back to school after their first weekend off. That is a very common reaction to the realization that school is not all about playing. You might experience a similar reaction on the first day of Term 2!

Communication is the key

Let the teacher know if there is anything happening in your family that might cause your child to be upset at school. Tell them when you are happy as well as when you are concerned about what is happening at school. Children do best at school when their parents and teachers work together to support them.

Be positive

If you are worried about your child settling in at school, try not to let that show. They will look to you to tell them that everything will be OK. Tell them how confident you are that they will love school and be successful. Focus on the good things that are happening while listening to their concerns. If you believe they will be OK then they will soon start believing that too.

Hope this information was helpful.

Mr Hubbard

Student Wellbeing Leader

REMINDER - MORELAND SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The Moreland School Holiday program brochure will be available for the **April 2018 School Holiday Program from Friday 16 February 2018, 5pm,**

Families are able to make a casual booking via our online booking system by visiting council's website **from Friday 16 February 2018, 5pm. Bookings will close on Friday 2 March 2018.**

Brochures are available from:

- Local Primary Schools in the municipality;
- Council's website and;
- Citizens Services Centres – Monday to Friday between 8.30 am to 5.00 pm.
 - Coburg Offices, 90 Bell Street, Coburg
 - Brunswick Offices, 233 Sydney Road, and
 - Glenroy, 796N Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy

If you have difficulty accessing any information or general queries, please contact Council on Ph: 9240 1111.

Thanks and regards

Regards

Mena Matheas

School Holiday Program Officer

Moreland City Council

90 Bell Street, Coburg 3058 | Locked Bag 10, Moreland 3058

9240 2427 mmatheas@moreland.vic.gov.au





Everyone had a lovely week back at before and after school care! We began our week with a nature focused activity, where we made grass heads. We mixed potting mix and seeds and put it in stockings. We watered them and put them out in the sun and have been waiting patiently for them to grow. We then proceeded with making sock bunnies, we used elastic bands and filled it with rice and cut the socks to make ears, we named our bunnies and we love them so much. We then made our mindfulness rainbow, we stuck coloured paper onto the wall in the shape of a rainbow and cut out little clouds where we wrote kind things about ourselves and others, as well as things we are grateful for. We continued our week by ripping up coloured paper and sticking them in a mosaic way to create rainbow fish. As an extension of our mindfulness rainbow we made rainbow fish, we loved doing this colourful activity. We finished off our week with painting blossom trees. As blossoms are difficult to paint we used soft drink bottles to press into paint and stamp it onto the page. This outline is the perfect shape for blossoms. We really enjoyed all the creative activities we did this week.

*Sarah,
Team Leader*

Our Extend Superstar is...

Naomi De Santos, for being really kind to others, and saying lovely positive things to others. Keep up the great work Naomi!

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 19th February:

Marble art

Tuesday 20th February:

Sock Bunnies

Wednesday 21st February:

Tissue mosaic art

Thursday 22nd February:

Elephants toothpaste

Friday 23rd February:

Jellyfish plates

PARENT PORTAL: [extend.com.au](https://www.extend.com.au)



DISCOVER MERCY **OPEN DAYS**

Thursday 22 February at 9.30am & 6.00pm
Saturday 24 February at 10.00am

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

mercycoburg.catholic.edu.au

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

MERCY COLLEGE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



H₂O



SCIENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

- WHO:** Grade 4 and 5 students (boys and girls)
WHEN: Every Thursday (22 February to 22 March)
4.00pm to 5.00pm
WHERE: Mercy College
760 Sydney Road COBURG NORTH 3058
COST: \$25.00 (\$5.00 per session)
RSVP: Register at www.trybooking.com/UCCR

Looking for a great after school activity? Your child can enjoy afternoons in the Mercy College Science Labs participating in our exciting, hands-on after school program. All sessions are FUN and totally participatory for each student.

If you require further information please contact the College office on 9319 9299.