

Important Dates

Pupil Free Day Public Holiday NAPLAN tests start Reconciliation
Friday 10 March Monday 13 March Wednesday 15 March Meeting

Tuesday 28 March

Good Friday - Easter Monday - Year 5 Camp May 8 Public Holiday
Public Holiday - 10 Monday 12 June
Friday 7 April Monday 10 April Monday 8 May

Introduction

We welcome the year back with heavy machinery, smiling faces and new connections, we welcome new families and staff back, we provide you with a brief building update and we provide you with information about some key procedural changes at our school. Welcome to Week 1 of 2023!

From the Principal



WELCOME BACK:

And just like that, we are back! I do hope that you all enjoyed a great Chrsitmas and holiday break and enjoyed time away from the routines of school. It has been great to see familiar and new faces in our yard and classes, to hear about holiday adventures and to see the genuine smiles as 're-connections' are made between students.

We particularly welcome a large group of students and families who have joined our school community this year. We welcome 72 new Receptions as well as Maisie and Sophie (Y1) and Aryan (Y4) who join our community. I do hope you have a positive and rewarding experience at Stella.

We also welcome a number of new staff to our school. They have all 'hit the ground running' and have mentioned what a great welcome they have already received. Welcome to Tanya Stott (APRIM), Emma Chapman (Inclusive Ed Co-ordinator), Elizabeth Bello (Y1), Tomara Brown (Y5), Cody Kelsh (Y4), Pru Howard (Y5), Carol McNicol (Office) and Julia Roy (ESO).

SCHOOL THEME:

"Act Justly...Walk Humbly" – our 2023 School Theme is beauty! Each year we ensure that we have a point of focus and attention which aligns to our Catholic faith, our Good Samaritan charism and our strong school values.

Our new (Acting) APRIM Tanya Stott does a great job of unpacking this for you in today's newsletter – and I'd encourage you to speak to your child about how they have interpreted what this might mean for them during our 2023 school year.

BUILDING UPDATE:

We begin our 67th year at Stella Maris with great anticipation. We've had a big start to the year as I am sure those who have completed the drop off and pick ups would have seen. Our Admin and Community room is now rubble and the ongoing task of demolition continues in earnest. This week has been particularly 'noisy' with the huge jack hammer completing the noisy and time-consuming job of concrete slab demolition. This is likely to be finished by the end of this week. The next part of the building process is the levelling and civil works of

the space. While I am meeting with our building site supervisor most days, we have a scheduled site meeting with both Architects and Sarah Construction representatives on Monday and I will provide you with a further update after this meeting.

WEEK 1:

If your child is coming home telling you that they "are not doing any work" this week – they are wrong! It is just quite different "work" than they are use to! Here at Stella, we believe that wellbeing - feeling positive, connected and flourishing are essential elements of our learning program. As such, we make a focussed decision to ensure that a vast majority of Week 1 and Week 2 is spent connecting in relationships, having some fun and getting to know classmates and the teachers and ESOs who your child will work with.

During the first couple of weeks students will also complete a class code of conduct, unpack our annual school theme, revise our school values and school expectations about behaviour and let our teachers know what is important about them. By doing this, we are beginning the vital process of ensuring students feel comfortable, safe and positive about coming to school.

PARENT INFORMATION AND MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT:

Information was sent home this week regarding our Parent Information / Meet the Teacher night. As I spoke about in the letter, we weren't able to conduct these last year due to COVID restrictions. The ability to put a face / voice to a name is important – to both teachers and parents and so I strongly encourage you to attend this night. As a reminder, details are as follows:

WHEN: Wednesday 8th February

TIME: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

STRUCTURE: Your child's class teacher will present the same presentation twice on the night – once from 6:00pm – 6:30pm and again from 6:30pm – 7:00pm. You can choose which presentation you attend.

WHAT WILL YOU HEAR: Not only will you have the chance to meet your child's classroom teacher personally, but this will also give you the opportunity to hear about some of our key whole school information and agreements, their philosophy and beliefs about learning, how you can support your child's learning development through the year and of course, the important admin and routine information about the class for 2023.

(If you are unable to attend the Parent Information night, you are invited to request a copy of the PowerPoint / Information presented on the night).

CHILD MINDING: We will have staff on duty in the library space should you require your child to be supervised during the presentations.

TIMETABLE CHANGES:

We have had some minor changes to our school timetable this year. These have occurred for a variety of reasons and may require ongoing consideration:

Gates open - 8:15am

Classrooms open at 8.35am

Morning bell- 8.45am

Year 3-6	Reception - Year
Lesson 1- 9.00- 9:45	Lesson 1- 8:45- 9:30
Lesson 2- 9:45- 10:30	Lesson 2- 9:30- 10:15
Recess- 10:30- 11:00	Lesson 3- 10:15- 11:00
Lesson 3- 11:00- 11:45	Recess- 11:00- 11:30
Lesson 4- 11:45- 12:30	Lesson 4- 11:30- 12:15
Lunch eating- 12:30- 12:45	Lesson 5- 12:15- 1:00
Lunch play- 12:45- 1:15	Lunch eating- 1:00-1:15
Lesson 5- 1:15- 2:00	Lunch play- 1:15- 1:45
Lesson 6- 2:00- 2:45	Lesson 6- 1:45-2:30

Dismissal-3pm

PARKING, KISS AND DROP:

At the beginning of the year it is always important to reiterate and remind parents of important procedures and processes at school. This will occur over the next few weeks, with today's reminders focussed on Parking and Kiss and Drop expectations.

No doubt, trying to exit 400 odd students out of a school which is land locked is difficult. However, there are some key expectations and requirements which when followed by all community members will make things as smooth as possible.

Next week, we will be providing a letter in email and hard copy from (by handing it to all parents who use the Kiss and Drop zone). It outlines the essential, key elements of how we can work together to ensure as safe, smooth and easy drop off and pick up as we can. We want to ensure that these messages and expectations are read and understood by all community members who do pick ups - be it Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles or friends so we will provide these to people using the kiss and drop over the coming week. If you would like a copy of this letter in another language to support your understanding of them, then please let us know in the office and we will arrange this for you.

As always, I thank you for your ongoing support in this matter.

Take care,

James

Parent Information Night

At Stella Maris, we value a strong home-school relationship and see this as a vital element in the growth of your child.

We share information with you in a variety of ways and for a variety of purposes. We are also aware that a 'face to face' connection is an important element of this home-school relationship. We are very pleased to welcome all families to a face -face Parent Information night. Details are as follows:

WHEN: Wednesday, February 8 TIME: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

STRUCTURE: Your child's class teacher will present the same presentation twice on the night, once from 6:00pm – 6:30pm and again from 6:30pm – 7:00pm. You can choose which presentation you attend.

WHAT WILL YOU HEAR: Not only will you have the chance to meet your child's classroom teacher personally, but this will also give you the opportunity to hear about some of our key whole school information and agreements, their philosophy and beliefs about learning, how you can support your child's learning development through the year and of course, the important admin and routine information about the class for 2023.

(If you are unable to attend the Parent Information night, you are invited to request a copy of the PowerPoint / Information presented on the night).

CHILD MINDING: We will have staff on duty in the library space should you require your child to be supervised during the presentations.

This is a great opportunity for you to see your child's classroom and meet your child's teacher/s. As the time frame for the meetings will be tight, there will not necessarily be an opportunity to speak individually to the teacher about your child. Should you wish to do this, you are invited to make an alternative time to do so, knowing the following will also occur:

WEEK 4/5: Parents of students who have a Personalised Plan for Learning will be invited to meet with their child's teacher for an initial meeting about the development of the PPL.

WEEK 9: Monday, March 27 to Thursday, March 30 – Compulsory Parent-Teacher Conversations. These conversations will provide an opportunity for a face to face, individualised conversation about your child and the year ahead and initial observations from the class teacher about how your child has settled into the year. It will also provide an opportunity to discuss goals and future areas of focus.

Please feel free to contact us here at school if you have any questions about this.

From the APRIM



Dear families and friends,

I feel so very blessed!

Stella Maris is such a welcoming, vibrant community with a culture and mindset of inclusion that is tangible from the moment you step through the doors. Let me introduce myself...- my name is Tanya Stott and for 2023, I am your APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission) while Paula Clark is at *Immaculate Heart of Mary School*. In time, I hope to get to know your children and eventually you – their families and carers.

Act Justly, Walk Humbly - 2023 School Focus Theme

Micah 6:8, is the inspiration for this year's whole school theme...

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God."

It builds upon 'With our own two hands', as we endeavour to discern, reinterpret for our context and authentically act in a just and humble manner. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is well known for her motto..."Never see a need without doing something about it." She was concerned with ensuring and promoting equity, fairness and inclusivity especially for the most vulnerable members of society.

Walking humbly, is a more challenging concept. We are called to learn from the teachings and actions of Jesus and be aware of and open to God's grace working through us. It is about being of service to others, being other-centred and working quietly for the common good.

Beginning of Year Mass – 9.15am Wednesday February 15

We warmly invite you all to join us as we celebrate the beginning of the 2023 school year, welcome those new to our community and farewell Cathy Lainio, with mass at Holy Spirit Church.

I will leave you with some words of wisdom from Audrey Hepburn....

"For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness; and for poise, walk with the knowledge that you are never alone."

Many blessings,

Tanya Stott

A note from Paula Clark

Dear Stella Staff, Students and Families,

I just wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to you all for the support and friendship you have shown to me in my two years at Stella Maris.

The Stella community is a truly welcoming and supportive community and it has been an absolute pleasure working alongside each and everyone of you.

Unfortunately at the end of last year I was unable to say a proper 'it's goodbye for now and 'I'll see you again in 2024', due to my late appointment to the role of Acting APRIM at Immaculate Heart of Mary at Brompton for 2023. This change came about very unexpectedly at the very end of last year as I was asked if I would step in to support the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) School community for this year as the Principal at IHM was seconded into the Catholic Education Office and in turn their APRIM was asked to take on the role of Acting Principal for the year. As a result of these changes the leadership team at IHM contacted me to see if I was willing to take on the acting role as they felt it was important to have an experienced APRIM to support the Acting Principal. It was therefore with very mixed emotions that I agreed to apply for and take on this role for 2023. This decision was however made much easier knowing that I had the full support of James and Ella and knowing that I could return to Stella in 2024.

As a school community we were then very fortunate to secure the appointment of Tanya Stott to the role of Acting APRIM for this year. Tanya brings to the school community many years of experience in the APRIM role and I know that she will be a fantastic asset to the school community.

As I finish this letter I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for this year and to say that I look forward to working with you again in 2024.

Kind regards, Paula Clark

Community News

KIDS TAEKWONDO

Resilience, Confidence, Fitness, Respect.

Brighton Training Centre.

Church of Christ Hall, 65 Sturt Road. Brighton SA 5048

Wednesdays at 6.00 pm

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GROUP COACHING TERM 1



MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SUN

RED BALL FOR AGES 4-6 3:45-4:30PM ORANGE BALL FOR AGES 7+ 4:30-5:30PM GREEN BALL FOR AGES 7+ 4:30-5:30PM JUNIOR CLUB TRAINING 5-6PM

CARDIO TENNIS ADULT GROUP COACHING AND EXERCISE TO MUSIC 6:30PM-7:30PM SUPPLIMENT
PRACTICE
COACHING
4-5PM
(PARENT
INTERACTIVE)
*SEE BELOW

RED BALL
AGES 3-5
9-9:30 AM
AGES 6-7
9:30-10 AM
ORANGE BALL
GREEN BALL
AGES 8-12
10-11 AM

COACHING IS CONDUCTED BY A TENNIS AUSTRALIA CLUB PROFESSIONAL JUSTIN TREDWELL
**ADDITIONAL PRACTICE SESSION FOR A COACHING PROGRAM PARTICIPANT WHICH IS PARENT
AND COACH INTERACTIVE-CONTACT JUSTIN FOR FURTHER INFORMATION











HTTPS://PLAY.TENNIS.COM.AU/MARIONTENNISCLUB



Fastbreak Academy is a family based academy operating in the Flagstaff Hill/Aberfoyle park area.

We invite you to join our

Term 1 Mini-Breakers Program

Suitable for beginner basketballers aged 5-10 years

When: Every Thursday from 4-5pm

Dates: February 9 to March 30

Where: Hub Rec Centre, Aberfoyle Park

Cost:

\$88 for the 8 week term

Register now at:

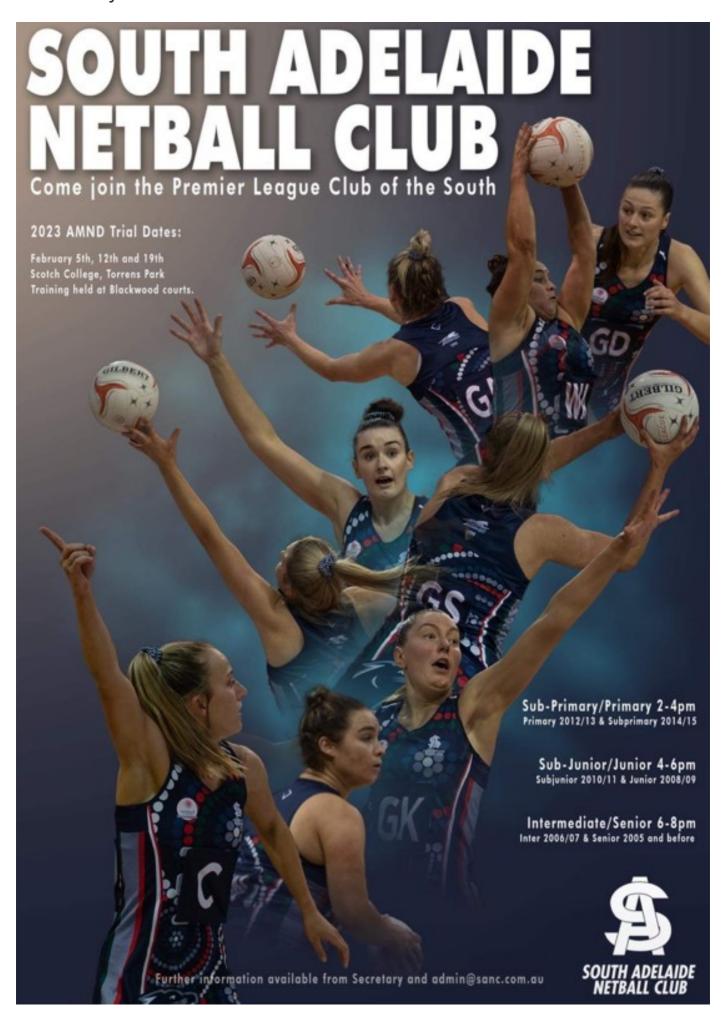
https://www.trybooking.com/CFIJE

More information:

Facebook page: Fastbreak Academy

Website: www.fastbreakacademy.com.au





Community News

WE WANT YOU JOIN OUR TEAM











ALTONA ROOSTERS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB FEMALES

U6 - SENIORS

✓ QUALIFIED STAFF

All our staff are fully qualified with NRL VIC including an abundance of Senior Club

TEAM BONDING

Team mates are there to laugh with, they are there to motivate you that's what

✓ FAMILY ORIENTATED

We are stronger together, when we are physically apart, it is important to stay together

SEND YOUR ENQUIRIES TO

Te Anahera Rejoice Female Co Ordinator Secretary

CONTACT

altona.roostersrlc@gmail.com

Student Absence Notification

Please use one of the following three options to notify the school that your child will be absent:

Absentee Text Line: 0408 279 478

Absentee Phone Message: 8306 4888

Absentee Email: contact@smps.catholic.edu.au

Uniform Information



The school uniform can be fitted (by appointment only) and ordered at our offsite uniform shop:

https://www.belgravia apparel schools.com/pages/shop-campbell town-schools

Their uniform warehouse is located at 10 Newton Road Campbelltown

phone: 0451 725 600

email: campbelltown@belgraviasports.com.au

The full range of uniforms and sizes are available for fittings at SMPS. Please contact Tony in the office to make an appointment time.

WHS Inductions for Volunteers

These are conducted at 2:30pm on Tuesday afternoons and 9am on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Tony or Cathy in the Office to make an appointment time.

Holy Spirit Church

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 9am - 2pm

Phone: 08 8298 1044

Email: stannparish@adam.com.au

Address: 24A Ramsay Ave Seacombe Gardens SA 5047

PARISH MASS TIMES:

St Bernadette's Church:

Sunday 10:45am

Wednesday & Friday 12 noon

Holy Spirit Church:

Saturday 6pm

Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am

Music Tutors

Guitar - Chris Larsson

Mobile: 0424 241 040

Email: chrislarsson01@gmail.com

Piano - Patricia Heller

Mobile: 0403 645 271

Email: patricianheller@gmail.com

Singing - Hallmark Music Studio

Email: kylie@hallmarkmusicstudio.com.au

Violin - Jenny McDonald

Mobile: 0410 441 947

Email: jenjen7@outlook.com

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