

#### Important Dates

Sports Day

Monday 4 December 2023

End of Year School Mass 9am

Wednesday 6 December 2023

Carols in the Reserve - Christmas Carols

Thursday 7 December 2023

Year 6 Graduation Liturgy 7pm

Tuesday 12 December 2023

Final Day of the School Year

Wednesday 13 December 2023

Pupil Free Day

Thursday 14 December 2023

Pupil Free Day

Friday 15 December 2023

#### Introduction

This Sunday, 3rd December will mark the beginning of Advent, a time of reflection, anticipation, and spiritual preparation. At this time of year we are preparing for many things- the end of another school year, the end of the primary school journey for our Year 6s, Christmas within our families and all that this entails- it is a busy time of year! Advent reminds us that this season is not merely a countdown to Christmas but an opportunity to cultivate hope, peace, joy, and love in our hearts. It is a time for us to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and the way this can permeate through our words and actions. As a school community, we have been celebrating the season of Advent in many ways, including through prayer and liturgy and classroom activities. We speak to children about the way they can bring hope and joy at Christmas time through the way they treat others and by helping to make Christmas special for those in our community for whom Christmas is a difficult time. The Advent Giving Tree has became a symbol of this, thanks to the overwhelming support of our Stella community. I encourage you to read on, as Tanya unpacks this further below.

#### From The Deputy Principal

#### Stella Express

Well done to our school band 'Stella Express' who competed in the Marion Council's Battle of the Bands on Sunday! An outstanding effort to be selected and then to perform in front of a large crowd alongside bands who have much more experience than us – we were the youngest group who won a spot in the main comp. They sure did do Stella proud! A big thank you and well done to Victoria Traeger for her leadership, support and organisation of the Band through the process. Well done!

#### **Reception Transition**

Last Thursday was the last session of our Reception Transition program for those students who will begin with us next year. We welcomed 46 new Receptions and their families, which includes 29 families who will be joining the Stella Community for the first time. Our new students will join with our current mid-year group to form our three Reception classes for 2024. Although done a little differently this

year with two groups split over two days, these transition sessions have been hugely successful and have provided students and parents with a great lead in to beginning school with us next year. I'd like to thank Michelle Thomson, Jane Button, Kara Wodson and our ESO team for their organisation and support of these students and ensuring that the transitions were the success they have been. I know you will join us in welcoming our new students and families into the Stella community.

#### **End Of Year Reports**

We are in the final stages of finalising students' end of year reports and these will be sent home with your child on Tuesday, 12th December. We encourage you to read these alongside the curriculum letters, which outline the content areas covered within each subject area. On Tuesday 12th December, students will also take part in a Transition morning, whereby they will spend some time in their 2024 classes. Further information will be shared about this next week.

#### 2024 Staffing

We look forward to sharing with you our 2024 Staffing structure including information about who is teaching in specific year levels, and where each class will be located. Families can expect an email from James in week 8 outlining this important information.

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The end of term 4 is fast approaching, yet we're certainly not slowing down! With a number of whole school events along with class excursions occurring in the next week and a half, I thought the following reminders would be helpful!

#### **Sports Day**

Please refer to the email sent today re: the changes to our Sports Day planned for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at Scarborough Reserve. The weather has certainly been against us this term, however we are confident that the planned changes will allow for a great experience for all!

#### **End of Year Mass**

Our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass will occur next Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> December. The Mass will be an opportunity to thank God for the year we have had together as a community. Parents are more than welcome to join us for this mass, but to ensure that we have enough space for parents who wish to join us, we would ask that you rsvp via filling in this form: https://forms.office.com/r/qL7qtY5cHb

#### **Community Carols**

On Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> we will hold our Community Carols night. This will take place at Ramsey Avenue Reserve. Parents and students are invited to arrive from 5:00pm where we will have some activities and food trucks available. Parents/family and friends are invited to bring a picnic dinner and chairs for the night. The carols will begin at around 6:00pm and last for about an hour and a half. All students are expected to be here for the night.

Thank you once again for the ongoing support and partnership. I look forward to a busy end to term, as we come together as a school community to celebrate another successful year at Stella Maris.

Kind Regards

Ella Kirkham

#### From the APRIM



Dear families and friends,

This Sunday is the official start to the Season of Advent, with the fourth and final week concluding on Christmas Eve this year. We have as you know been celebrating Advent earlier than this, due to its timing in the school year. On Thursday we gathered for Community Prayer...

We light the second purple candle, known as the Bethlehem Candle. It reminds us of the long and arduous journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, travelled by Mary and Joseph. This second candle represents 'Faith'

#### Local St Vinnie's representatives visit the Stella Giving Tree

Jane and Rosemary who are hard-working Seacombe Gardens St Vinnie's volunteers, have both recently popped into our school to visit the *Stella Giving Tree*. They were absolutely delighted with how beautiful it looked in the library, surrounded with gifts! They have asked me to pass on their heartfelt thanks for the amazing generosity and thoughtfulness of our community. Each week, Vinnie's are receiving more requests for support at Christmas and your donations will make a big difference – so thank you all!!!!!! We have until Friday December 8 to donate, before the gifts are delivered to the Parish Hall.

#### End of Year Mass – Together we Thrive – 9.15am on Wednesday December 6

Just a reminder of the date and time for our final whole school mass of the year. If you would like to join us, please RSVP so that we have an idea of numbers – many thanks!

I will leave you with some wisdom from Pope Benedict XVI...

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

Through your words and actions this Advent, prepare your hearts for the joy of Christmas!

Many blessings,

Tanya

#### Volunteering at Stella Maris

#### To volunteer at Stella Maris there are 3 steps to take:

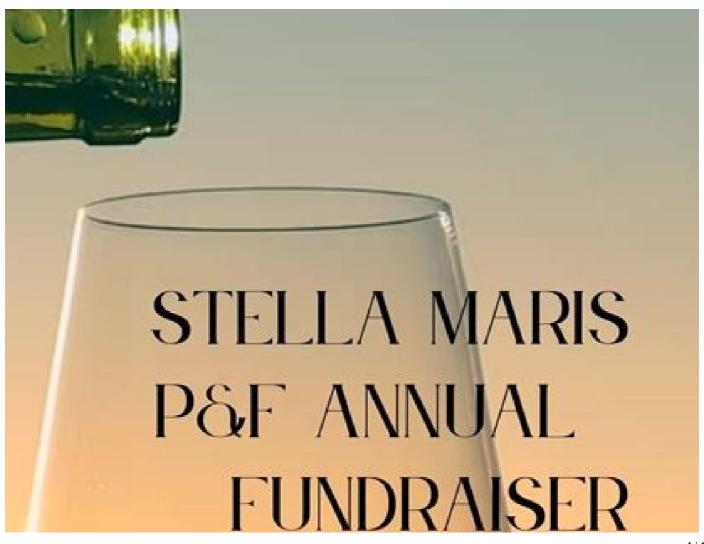
- 1. Complete the online RRAHN training (see flyer) and forward the completed certificate to Kirralee Philips
- 2. To have your catholic Working with Children Check (WWCC)
- 3. To complete the onsite induction and fill out the necessary forms

To obtain your **WWCC** you can bring **100 points of identification** to the school office, and we can start the process for you.

If you have a **DHS** clearance, you can provide your certificate and we can forward it to obtain a catholic clearance.

Please contact **Kirralee Philips** E: <u>kirralee.philips@smps.catholic.edu.au</u> our volunteer coordinator for more information. Kirralee is available most afternoons from 2pm onwards to complete the onsite induction.

#### P & F Wine Fundraiser & Christmas Raffle





Wine will be available for pick up on MONDAY 11th December 2023 from the Office.

Please ensure you try and arrange pick up on this day - if you cannot - contact Kylie Bowman to arrange an alternative pick up.

Please share this with your family and friends, we thankyou for supporting our school and hope you find some good bargains.



Uniform Shop



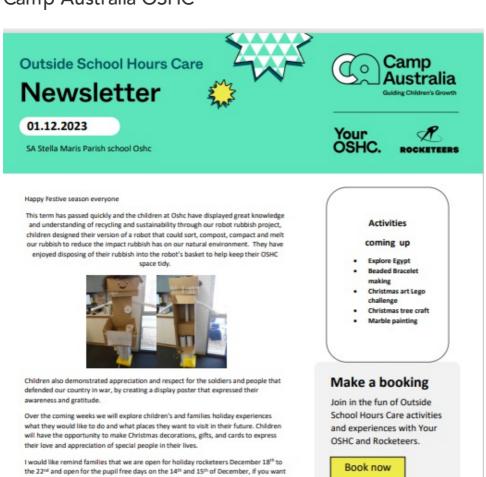
Stella Maris is one of the many online schools we cater for at Belgravia Apparel Campbeltown meaning that school stock is held in the back storeroom and <u>not on display</u>.

To avoid long waits and disruptions to other customers who have appointments we ask that you please book for an appointment on the below link.

https://www.belgraviaapparelschools.com/collections/stella-maris-parish-school

Thank you

#### Camp Australia OSHC



#### Register free and book in 24/7 via our app

information on other Camp Australia service for January there are flyers available in

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at <u>pp.campaustralia.com.au</u> or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



Your Friendly Oshc Staff, Linda. Ben and Paige

the Oshc office space Happy December,





Find out more and book now at www.campaustralia.com.au



	20 October 2023	Week I	9:00am - 10:00am
			First Playgroup for Term 4, 2023 😊
	27 October 2023	Week 2	9:00am - 10:00am
	3 November 2023	Week 3	9:00am - 10:00am
	10 November 2023	Week 4	9:00am - 10:00am
	17 November 2023	Week 5	9:00am - 10:00am
	24 November 2023	Week 6	9:00am - 10:00am
	l December 2023	Week 7	9:00am - 10:00am
			Christmas Craft 🎄
			9:00am - 10:00am
	8 December 2023	Week 8	Last playgroup for 2023
			Christmas Craft 🗑



#### Battle of the Bands



A group of ten Year 6 students competed last Sunday in the 'Battle of the Bands' at the Marion Cultural Centre. They were the youngest group to ever perform in this competition and "blew the audience away" with their legendary talent and enthusiasm. Prior to entering the competition as part of the application process, the group needed to write a biography which we share with you – it is well worth reading!

#### **STELLA EXPRESS**

Stella Express is a 9-piece Pop/Rock band from Stella Maris Parish School, Seacombe Gardens, South Australia. We are all 12 years old, in Year 6, our final year of primary school.

We love playing music together and that joy shines through us collectively. We jam at recess and lunch in the yard bringing our own instruments, just to play music with each other every day.

Our music is classic pop, rock powered by us with passion and energy. Our music is engaging, raw and fun.

We love making pop songs come alive with our own style and arrangements, that will make you want to smile.

We have performed for family and friends at school events, having a blast, supporting each other to be the best we can be.

Here are some of the reasons why we want to play for you in November....

Because music is my life. - Levi

We are Year 6 students from Stella Maris Parish School who have a big love for music. - Amelie

We want to bring the joy of music to people. -Zuri

Every time we play, we get closer and closer to magic and success. - Charlie

Music is special, is in my heart. - Michael

Music puts a smile on my face every time. -Hudson

Music is my passion. -James

Music gives me a great sense of calm. -Cian

Singing and overall, music, just makes me happy. -Tildy

Altogether, music to us is like the first wish of a shooting star. We hope and wish for our music to be heard, for people to understand and enjoy our music. We wish for it to open the blinds of the hearts of those who's happiness was sealed away from the world. Since this is our last year at our school, we want to make the most of it by creating as much music together as a band before our year ends, as we are all going our separate ways.

School, out of school activities and many other paths in our lives keep us busy, especially as we are turning into teenagers.

However, if there is one thing we know for sure, it's that music will always be that safe, comfortable place where we can be ourselves.

No matter what struggle or disappointment, no matter what horror or trouble, music will always be our happy place.

Thank you for acknowledging us.

Victoria Traeger



# Stella's COMMUNITY CAROLS

in the Reserve

### **THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 2023**

5:00PM - STALLS & GAMES

THANK YOU TO THE P&F FOR ORGANISING THE STALLS

6:00PM - CAROLS

FOR A 6:15PM START

BYO PICNIC OR FOOD TRUCKS ARE AVAILABLE



RAMSAY AVENUE RESERVE (NEXT TO SCHOOL)



## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 11am - 1pm

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR ALL, SO DON'T BE SHY!
BRING A FRIEND OR 2 TO HAVE A LOOK THROUGH OUR FANTASTIC
FACILITIES, HAVE A KICK IF YOU LIKE & REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
FOR THE 2024 SEASON - IN ANY OF THE BELOW AGE-GROUPS

**AUSKICK** (GIRLS ONLY SESSIONS) PLUS... U/8 - U/10 - U/12 - U/14 - U/16

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT DARRYL ON: 0431 580 219 OR EMAIL US AT: MPFC.JUNIORS@HOTMAIL.COM

DIVISION 1 PREMIERS 2023



18 PLAYERS GONE ON TO PLAY AFLW

#### Student Absence Notification

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

Select Option 1 when calling telephone 8306 4888 to advise absentee information

Absentee Text Line: 0408 279 478

#### **Uniform Information**



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

https://www.belgraviaapparelschools.com/pages/shop-campbelltown-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

Please contact Kirralee Philips to arrange a time.

E: kirralee.philips@smps.catholic.edu,au

P: 8306 4888

#### 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 441 974

Email: jenjen7@outlook.com

Drums - Gianni Pedicini

Contact Kylie - Hallmark Studios

Ph. 8277 8656

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