



Important Dates

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 6 March 2024

Pupil Free Day

Friday 8 March 2024

Public Holiday

Monday 11 March 2024

Good Friday - Public Holiday

Friday 29 March 2024

Easter Monday - Public Holiday

Monday 1 April 2024

Principal's Tour @ 9.15am

Wednesday 3 April 2024

Principal's Tour @ 5pm

Thursday 4 April 2024

Term 1 Ends

Friday 12 April 2024

Term 2 Starts

Monday 29 April 2024

Year 5 Camp - 1 May to 3 May

Wednesday 1 May 2024

Pupil Free Day

Friday 7 June 2024

Public Holiday

Monday 10 June 2024

Pupil Free Day

Friday 6 September 2024

Year 6 Camp - Ballarat 17 Sept - 20 Sept

Tuesday 17 September 2024

Public Holiday

Monday 7 October 2024

Year 4 Camp - 21 Oct - 23 Oct

Monday 21 October 2024

Pupil Free Day

Monday 18 November 2024

Term 4 Ends

Wednesday 11 December 2024

School Closure Day

Thursday 12 December 2024

School Closure Day

Friday 13 December 2024

Introduction



As we approach the half way point in the term, let's take a moment to look back on the wonderful and busy start we've had. Read on as we look back on the major happenings of the last four weeks, which includes the appointment of our Year 6 Leaders (as pictured above). Well done and congratulations to William, Karny, Zac, Emilia, Millie M, Darcy, Maddie, Lachie, Noah, Ashlyn, Millie C and Fraser.

From The Leadership Team

Over the last four weeks, we have had the opportunity to gather as a whole school community to welcome a new year, and to look forward to all that the 2024 school year will bring. Our Opening Mass in week 2 set the scene for this, as we focused on our 2024 school theme and committed to a year of sustainability and stewardship in our school community. It was a chance for all of us—students, staff and families—to come together and celebrate the start of a new school year.

The start of the school term has been enriched through not only our Opening Mass, but also through the celebration of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. We enjoyed delicious pancakes (over 400 cooked- thanks team!) and learnt about the origins of Shrove Tuesday, followed by participating in Ash Wednesday liturgies. We acknowledged the beginning of the very important season of Lent. Lent is a period of forty days leading up to Easter. It is a time of prayer and reflection on the way we live our lives and we are challenged to be 'better people'. Traditionally it is a time where we might 'give something up'. This year we are also challenging our students to 'take something on' – something that may make a difference for other people in their lives. Jesus taught us and challenges us to be true peacemakers. This Lent our challenge is to live our life as compassionate peacemakers. What a world we would have if this was our reality.

These significant events for our Catholic community were also an opportunity for students to represent Stella Maris beyond our school. On Shrove Tuesday Kaylee, Jed, Indie, Karny and Miss Clark attended the Project Compassion launch for 2024 at School of the Nativity at Aberfoyle Park. They attended a liturgy and shared a morning tea of pancakes with other guests. Last Monday, our Year 6 classes also attended the annual Caritas Fun Run along with 8 other Catholic Schools in the Southwest Region. Students were encouraged to think about how they could assist with this year's Project Compassion campaign. They have chosen to do this by selling ice blocks to our school community- which I'm sure will be well received by all!



The last few weeks have also involved.....

During week 4, we held Parent Teacher Conversations, with excellent uptake from families. These conversations were held earlier in the term than usual and were a great opportunity for families and teachers to discuss how students have settled in this year and to share any required information, goals, concerns etc. Our teachers certainly enjoyed meeting with families and learning more about your children through you, their first educators!

Over the last few weeks, we have also conducted our 2024 Student Leadership appointment process. This process, as it always is, has been a rigorous one, aimed at ensuring students are provided with an opportunity to showcase their leadership potential in various ways and to prepare them for future leadership and 'real life' positions. This year, we have 4 School Captains and 8 House Captains who will assist in leading our school throughout the year. This year saw 46 students (77%) in the Year 6 cohort apply for one or more positions. The process involved students writing a letter to the leadership team, presenting to either their cohort or the year 3-6 cohort, followed by an interview with the leadership team. All students were remarkably impressive and should be extremely proud of themselves for the way they went about this process, irrespective of the result. We see great potential for all of these students in their leadership journeys.

We are thrilled to announce the following Captains for the 2024 school year:

School Captains: William, Karny, Zac and Emilia

House Captains: Millie and Darcy (Carmel House), Maddie and Lachlan (Sontrop House), Noah and Ashlyn (Polding House), Millie & Fraser (Murphy House).

Yesterday we had the opportunity to present our School Captains and House Captains to the school community at a whole school Community Prayer gathering. We thank our Year 6 Cohort, Miss Moroney, Mr Hill and Miss Penney for their preparation and running of our first Community Prayer. Thank you also to the families who were able to join us.

I'm not sure that this would be an update or a newsletter article without mention of our current building project. As you likely know through James' email updates and works onsite, our major building project is almost complete. I was looking back at previous updates and at this time last year, we were reporting on the start of civil works and the building site looked like a big pile of dirt. We have come so far! It has been a long and challenging project but we are very excited about the upcoming move and to welcome our school community into this beautiful new space. We thank the school community (and our neighbours) for your patience and flexibility over the last 12 months.



As we come to an end of week 5, and we say goodbye to Summer and hello to Autumn, we are grateful for many things that have come our way already this year. Although it has been a busy start to the term, our commitment to the learning and overall wellbeing of our students, and partnerships with families remains a part of who we are at Stella Maris. It is a special place to be and we look forward to continuing to work as a community to ensure that Stella Maris continues to be a place where we can all thrive.

We thank you for your ongoing support of our school and welcome you to contact us any time something arises that you would like to discuss.

Kindest Regards

the Leadership Team

Be You

Dear School Community,

I'd like to introduce myself as Pastoral Care Worker here at Stella Maris. Mental Health and Wellbeing is deeply embedded in our School's Identity and is an integral part of who we are and how we play, work and learn at Stella Maris. I am a qualified Social Worker and am available Monday to Wednesday for all Parents, Teachers and Students. You are welcome to email me at the address below if you'd like to find out more. We are in for a very exciting year at Stella Maris - New Building, new staff, new students and families, new garden and new adventures!

Emily Hughes

Emily.Hughes@smps.catholic.edu.au

School Fees - First Term Instalment

A reminder to all families that have elected to pay their 2024 school fees in 3 instalments, the first instalment of payment of fees is due Friday 1st March.

Please email kathy.groat@smps.catholic.edu.au if you require any further information.



HAPPY Easter

IT'S RAFFLE TIME!!!

Last easter we were able to raise \$2486 from raffle sales and we couldn't have done this without all your generous donations!!!

**ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL GO
TOWARDS IMPROVING THE PLAY
SPACE AT THE SCHOOL**

We would love your support to make this a success. If you are able to donate any Easter chocolates/gifts/crafts to your child's classroom. All classes will have collection baskets.

Tickets go on sale 4th March 2024.

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

on 22nd March 2024

Donations will be collected until



Uniform Shop



Belgravia Apparel

10 Newton Rd,
Campbelltown SA 5074

UNIFORM SHOP - Belgravia Apparel

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

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

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: kirralee.philips@smps.catholic.edu.au our volunteer coordinator for more information. Kirralee is available most afternoons from 2pm onwards to complete the onsite induction.



ourpatch

Outside School Hours Care

at Stella Maris Parish School!

Open from 7am – 6pm
Book now for Before & After School Care,
and Holiday Programs!

Contact us to find out more!

ph: 1300 018 310
e: info@ourpatch.education
www.ourpatch.education



a patch for every child to GROW

Hello to all the families at Stella Maris,

I hope you have all had a smooth transition back into the school year. As you know the OSHC service has changed providers this year, I apologise for the issues many families had in setting up their account and acquiring the booking needed to support your work commitment, I understand most issues have been sorted, and the number of children the space is licenced for continued to limit some families. However, moving forward, the OSHC service will soon move into the new building, this should allow us to increase our licenced capacity to cater to all families need, I ask that you bear with me while we wait for this space to be approved and licenced so we can offer space for everyone needing or wanting to use the service.

I am excited to inform you all that each term we will be offering an incursion experience at no extra cost, this term we have been running a dance program, children have enjoyed learning dance routines to popular songs and performing with great skill and timing at the end of each session. Each term we will be offering different incursion so if you or your | child/children have any interest we can support please let me know.

Our Patch continues to support all children to explore, learn, develop, and grow through active play, exploration, creative and social play that extends from each individual child's interest and development level, please don't hesitate to reach out to your OSHC staff if we can support your child in any interests or developmental needs while attending OSHC. Our Patch continues to stock the service with educational, fun and interactive resources and will be conducting a meet and greet morning to provide families with information and an opportunity to come and see the new premises when we move into the new building. We will keep you updated on the date this will occur.



Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable week.
From your friendly OSHC staff Linda, Benjamin, [John](#) and Harrison

Next Generation Taekwondo



STRENGTHEN THEIR MINDS



TO BE THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW



*Impacting the lives of individuals today,
to create the leaders of tomorrow!*



Next Generation Taekwondo specialize in school-based Self-defence & Character Development programs, specifically designed for toddlers through to secondary students.

With over 30 years' experience in educating students, we have been successful in formulating dynamic, fun and highly effective curriculum which communicates a true understanding of Martial Arts and the development of key life skills and values.

The Next Generation Taekwondo program focuses on 6 key traits of Character Development, **RESPECT, COURAGE, TEAMWORK, HONESTY, TOLERANCE** and **KINDNESS**. Not only does the program enrich the lives of the individual, it also aids in reducing bullying behaviour by promoting acceptance and tolerance of one another.

Our programs are designed to suit you!

Our program coordinator's structure programs to specifically meet the requests of the school community. Whether it is a single session or an 8 week certificate course, mixed or age specific, short or long term, the Next Generation Taekwondo program will be tailored to meet your requests.

Next Generation Taekwondo programs empower every individual and leaves them with a set of skills for life!



Variety Abilities Unleashed Kids



Presented by



Variety Abilities Unleashed Kids

A fun and inclusive day connecting children with disabilities to local sport and active recreation opportunities.

Thursday 14 March, 2024
10 am - 1 pm
Thebarton Community Centre
Corner South Rd and Ashwin
Parade, Torrensville SA 5031

Click here
or scan the
QR code
to register:



Contact: Max Reilly | max@sports.org.au | +61 2 8736 1221



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@belgrviasports.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@smpps.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
