

# St Anthony's news



**Edition 1**  
**6 February 2026**

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2026! I have spoken to many of you but to those I haven't I hope you had a wonderful and refreshing summer break. I am thrilled to welcome you to the school year! If how we have begun is an indication of the year ahead, look out, it's going to be a good one! The positive vibe across all aspects of our school community is tangible.

Seeing the smiling faces and hearing the interactions between existing and new students, families and staff, can't help but lift the spirit.

There is so much to share about this year but I will keep this first newsletter to a couple of key items and extend and elaborate each fortnight.

## **Theme**

Our theme this year is 'Together We Can'. Helen Keller once said "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". As a collective we are a force to reckon with, reflecting on the last couple of years and what has been achieved, will be the impetus for the next stages of growth, development and sustained change.

## **Review**

This year we are in the Review phase of our school Improvement cycle. Every four years, Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne undertake a single model of review using the School Improvement Framework Rubric. School Review is used to support deep learning and ongoing monitoring of improvement throughout the four-year continuous improvement process (CIP) within the School Improvement Framework (SIF).

School Review supports schools and the wider system to foster improvement in an ongoing and continuous way, as well as ensuring schools continue to meet external legislative and regulatory requirements.

There are two dimensions of school review which are conducted within the school review process – improvement and compliance.

### *Improvement*

The improvement dimension is overseen by MACS and takes schools through self-assessment and reflection (SAR) and evidence collection, allowing the opportunity for schools to consider and celebrate their school improvement through the four-year continuous improvement process (CIP).

Using the SIF Rubric as the SAR tool, this process supports the development and implementation of a new four-year School Improvement Plan.

### *Compliance*

From 2025 the compliance dimension of school review will be overseen by The Victorian Catholic Education Authority (VCEA).

Through an audit/verification process of the minimum standards and other requirements for registration, Child Safe Standards and other State and Commonwealth requirements for Victorian Catholic schools, both schools and MACS are ensuring that external legislative and regulatory requirements are being met.

The compliance dimension is now in a five year cycle, therefore we anticipate this will take place for us next year.

Stay tuned for ongoing communication and action regarding our review.

52 Austin Street, Alphington 3078

  [stanthonysalphington](https://www.stanthonyalphington.catholic.edu.au)

 [santhony@saalphington.catholic.edu.au](mailto:santhony@saalphington.catholic.edu.au)

 9489 7936

# St Anthony's news



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



## Opening School Mass

This year our Opening School Mass is a little different. It will take place during the Friday morning mass 13 February at 9.15am. At this mass we will commission our student leaders, staff and school community. We would love to have a packed Church to celebrate as a faith filled community.

## Twilight Fair

A highlight of our year is only three weeks away. Today you received a Twilight Fair Newsletter. Please take the time to read it and familiarise yourself with the dates we are collecting items and sign up to assist. Together We Can...achieve a wonderful event showcasing us and our school.

We know that strong family-school partnership is crucial for student success. ***Please ensure your contact information and your child's medical information is updated in the Nforma Parent App. Students will not be able to attend excursions etc until this is complete.***

Have a great weekend.

*Tania Bennett*



### Reminder

For the safety of all, bikes and scooters must not be ridden around or through the school grounds.

Please have a conversation with your child/ren regarding the importance of walking bikes and scooters within the school.

52 Austin Street, Alphington 3078

  stanthonysalphington

 santhony@saalphington.catholic.edu.au

 9489 7936

# 2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR—Term 1 and 2

Term 1		
Date	Time	Activity
Mon-Thur 9-12 February		Swimming Lessons-Grades 3-6
Wednesday 11 February		Preps not in
Friday 13 February	9.15am	Opening School Mass—All welcome
Friday 13 February		Swimming Trials –Grades 3-6
Mon—Wed 16-18 February		Grade 5-6 Camp
Wednesday 18 February		Preps not in
Wednesday 18 February	9.15am	Ash Wednesday Mass
Sunday 22 February		Fairfield Traders Fun Day
Tuesday 24 February	7.30pm	School Advisory Meeting
Wednesday 25 February		Preps not in
Friday 27 February	3.30pm	2026 Twilight Fair
Wednesday 4 March	6.30pm	Reconciliation Formation Evening—Grade 3
Wednesday 4 March	9.30	Open Morning
Sunday 8 March	10.30am	Reconciliation Commitment Mass—Grade 3
Monday 9 March		Labour Day public holiday
Tuesday 10 March		School Photo Day
Tuesday 10 March		Learning Conversations
Wednesday 11 March		Naplan commences
Mon-Fri 16-20 March		Catholic Education Week
Friday 20 March		Ride To School Day—City of Darebin
Saturday 21 March		Parish Indian Dinner
Monday 23 March	9.30am	Open Morning
Tuesday 24 March	6.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation—Grade 3
Friday 27 March	7.00pm	Prep Welcome Dinner and Drinks—details to come
Sunday 29 March		Palm Sunday
Tuesday 31 March		Learning Showcases
Thursday 2 April	1pm	Term 1 ends
Friday 3 April		Good Friday

Term 2		
Date	Time	Activity
Monday 20 April		School Closure Day—School Review
Tuesday 21 April		Term 2 begins
Tuesday 21 April	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 27 April	9.30am	Open Morning
Friday 8 May		Mother’s Day Breakfast
Friday 8 May		Mother’s Day Stall
Wednesday 12 May	9.30am	Open Morning
Wednesday 12 May	6.30pm	Eucharist Formation Evening -Grade 4
Friday 15 May	9.15am	Family Week Mass—All welcome
Sunday 17 May	10.30am	Eucharist Commitment Mass -Grade 4
Tuesday 19 May	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 25 May		School Closure Day-report writing
Sunday 31 May	10.30am	Sacrament of Eucharist-Grade 4
Thursday 4 June	9.30am	Open Morning
Monday 8 June		Kings Birthday public holiday
Friday 12 June	9.15am	Feast of the Sacred Heart & St Anthony’s Feast Day Mass
Monday 15 June		School Concert
Tuesday 16 June	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Tuesday 23 June		Learning Conversations
Friday 26 June	1pm	Term 2 ends

## Fairfield Fun Day Volunteers

We still need a couple of parents to volunteer to help at the St Anthony’s stall on Sunday, 22 February.

Please click the link below for details.

[volunteersignup.org/FBDMX](https://volunteersignup.org/FBDMX)

# 2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR—Term 3 and 4

Term 3		
Date	Time	Activity
Monday 13 July		Term 3 begins
Tuesday 21 July	9.30am	Open Morning
Tuesday 21 July	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Tuesday 28 July	6.30pm	Confirmation Formation Evening-Grade 6
Sunday 2 August	10.30am	Confirmation Commitment Mass-Grade 6
Friday 7 August	9.15am	Feast of Mary of the Cross Mass - All welcome
Monday 10 August		School Closure Day— <b>to be confirmed</b>
Wednesday 12 August	9.30am	Open Morning
Friday 14 August	9.15am	Feast of the Assumption Mass—All welcome
Saturday 15 August	3pm	Sacrament of Confirmation-Grade 6
Mon-Fri 24-28 August		Book Week
Friday 4 September		Father's Day Breakfast
Friday 4 September		Father's Day Stall
Tuesday 15 September	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Friday 18 September	1pm	Term 3 ends

Term 4		
Date	Time	Activity
Monday 5 October		Term 4 begins
Tuesday 20 October	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 2 November		School Closure Day—Report Writing
Tuesday 3 November		Melbourne Cup Day
Tuesday 24 November	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Sunday 6 December	2.30pm	Combined Parish Carols including school choirs
Tuesday 8 December	6pm	Gratitude Mass and carols
Tuesday 15 December		Step Into 2027
Tuesday 15 December	1pm	Term 4 ends

## Hat Reminder



We ask that students have their hat at school all year round to comply with the SunSmart policy. The wearing of hats is based on the UV ray indicator. The UV rating can be quite high despite there appearing to be no sun. Please ensure your child has their hat at school each day in every term. Once the UV levels are 3 or above the Education Department requires students to wear hats.

Students who do not wear a hat are required to play under shade cloth areas only.

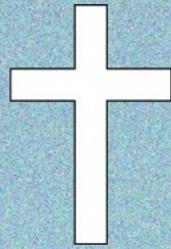
## DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW



[https://www.facebook.com/stanthonysalphington/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/stanthonysalphington/?modal=admin_todo_tour)



<https://www.instagram.com/stanthonysalphington/>



# OPENING SCHOOL MASS

*Commissioning of student leaders,  
staff and school community*

*We invite all families and the community to join  
us for our Opening School Mass*

*Friday, 13 February  
at 9.15am in the Church*

# Staffing 2026

Prep BG-Bianca Giuliano

1/2JB-Joe Bolzonello (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri), Julianne Dynan (Thurs)

3/4MW-Mark Walsh (Mon & Tues) Vince McCafferty (Wed, Thurs & Fri)

4/5MG- Mary Galligan

5/6RL- Rosemary Leiva

Performing Art- Maria Buttifant

Visual Art-Mark Walsh

PE & Future Design-Nick Haddon

Education Support Officer Administration-Rhonda Jones

Education Support Office Bursar- Julia Everest (Mon & Tues)

Education Support Officer Learning-Vince D'Acri

Education Support Officer Learning-Mary Paschalidis (Tues-Fri)

Education Support Officer Learning- Amber Cain (Mon & Wed)

Religious Education- Tania Bennett

Pedagogy & Curriculum- Rosanna Romeo

Data & Assessment- Rosanna Romeo

Learning Diversity- Tania Bennett

Mental Health & Wellbeing-Annie McGinnes

## St Anthony's Primary Alphington



2026 Open Mornings  
9.30am - 10.30am

- TUE 3 FEBRUARY
- MON 27 APRIL
- TUE 21 JULY
- WED 4 MARCH
- TUE 12 MAY
- WED 12 AUG
- MON 23 MARCH
- THUR 4 JUNE

Or book a personal tour with the Principal via our website

**ALL WELCOME**



**A SCHOOL FOR EVERY STUDENT**

9489 7936

santhony@saalphington.catholic.edu.au  
52 Austin Street, Alphington

## Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader

I am incredibly excited to join St Anthony's in the role of Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader. The Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) role supports the wellbeing of our students by helping them build the social and emotional skills they need to thrive. It promotes a whole school approach to building robust mental health, and gives our students the skills to be emotionally literate and resilient, leading to opportunities for social connection and academic success. The framework is evidence based, and since its pilot program in 2020, has led to improved confidence and mental health in students and strengthened relationships between schools and families. This role reflects the heart of our community — nurturing the whole child, promoting connection, and ensuring that every student feels safe, supported and ready to learn in a caring environment that celebrates kindness, leadership and community spirit.



This week I have had the privilege of working within the classrooms, meeting staff and students, and getting to know the wonderful community of St Anthony's. You can keep an eye out for updates in our "Growing Great Kids" section of the newsletter or come and say hello! I look forward to getting to know students and families more closely and working in partnership with our staff to support the wellbeing and growth of every child.

Annie McGinnes



## WELCOME



We are officially back and running both *Before and After school care!*

If you haven't yet use the QR code to book in now!





START YOUR FOOTBALLING JOURNEY TODAY!

**WITH FOOTBALL STAR ACADEMY**

**EXPERT COACHING FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES**

**ORGANISE A FREE TRIAL TODAY**

- MESSAGE COACH LUKE AT 0431 217 998
- ST ANTHONYS PRIMARY
- AFTER SCHOOL WEDNESDAYS 3:45-4:45
- SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE DETAILS!

SSA **MORE THAN SPORT**

FOOTBALL STAR ACADEMY

### MUSIC LESSONS AT ST ANTHONYS PS

*\*\* MUSIC TUITION INCREASES CONFIDENCE, SELF ESTEEM AND HELPS TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SUBJECTS – MATHS, LITERACY, SCIENCE, READING ETC \*\**

**ST ANTHONYS** Primary School in association with Metro Music School is now offering Music Lessons to students who are interested in learning an instrument at school every week. Lessons are held during school hours (30 mins/once per week) at suitable times. (Prep to Gr 6) Enquiries are welcome on 9460 4818 (Metro Music School).

Lessons Offered: **KEYBOARD PIANO GUITAR** – (subject to sufficient enrolments)

Discount Hiring and Purchase also available. Contact us for details or visit our online shop at [www.metromusic.net.au](http://www.metromusic.net.au)

Please enrol online at the above website address.





## Hip hop Dance at Saint Anthony's School

We are excited to be continuing our Hip hop dance group again at Saint Anthony's School. The classes are friendly, fun and focused.

**McKillop Room Friday Lunchtimes starting this week!**

You can book a free trial early in Term 1 (booking is a must) but your place is not confirmed until your fees are submitted. Places will go to whoever has completed term fee payment first.

The groups will perform at events such as the school Twilight Fair and are invited to participate in the Stageworks Academy Annual Staged Concert (2pm to 3:30pm Sunday November 29th). There will be a rehearsal at the theatre on the concert day morning and also 1 extra full dress rehearsal 2 weeks prior in Alphington on a Sunday afternoon 2pm to 5pm. Costumes are provided for hire. Parents will not need to sew. The concert is extremely child friendly and fun viewing for the whole family. Saint Anthony Students enjoyed performing in the role of werewolves in 2023.

### How to Book the free trial class



There are **15** class places available per group. To book your free trial, please visit [www.StageworksAcademy.au](http://www.StageworksAcademy.au). On the landing page select **ENROL IN A FREE TRIAL**

or you can use this direct link  
<https://dancestudio-pro.com/online/stageworksacademy>

You will be directed to create a **Dancestudio-pro account**. Read and sign the waivers, select **SAS Dance** and "**choose a drop in time**". This will be free. You must then scroll down and "Save". (This is easily missed if using a smartphone rather than a computer). Please add [kat@stageworksacademy.au](mailto:kat@stageworksacademy.au) to your address book to ensure messages do not go to spam. You will need to

access your DSP account each term so please save the link and your password. Please add a different adult as the emergency contact so that we have 2 numbers.

### Class Description

Stageworks Academy adheres to Child Safe, inclusive policy. Classes focus on enjoyment, nurturing confidence and developing performance skills in a positive, caring environment. Our vibrant, fun and productive classes are structured with a warm up, stretches, centre work, travelling steps, turning and elevation practice. Students will learn routines and polish them for performances. Creativity is nurtured through short, small group improvisation and choreographic activities. Children are encouraged to contribute ideas during reflections and creative processes. Most importantly, classes should feel fun, safe and rewarding.

Quotes from existing parents at our other school programs:

"I am amazed by how much my son's dancing has improved! He is really confident with performing now too. Loves it!"

"So convenient. No after school driving and they are with their friends learning great moves"



### Introducing Katrina Post



Kat, owner and lead teacher of Stageworks Academy is a passionate choreographer, teacher, singer and violinist. She trained at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School where she received the Victorian Premier's award for VCE Dance and was Dux of the school. She completed her Bachelor of Dance Degree at the VCA and worked as a Contemporary and ballet dancer before completing a Teaching Degree. Kat has worked at many government and independent schools across Melbourne as a VCE Dance, Performing Arts teacher and guest choreographer for graduations, musicals, and concerts. Kat is also a passionate musician. She teaches choirs, preschool music programs and performs as a violinist and singer with Moonlight Touring. Her goal is to share her joy of the Performing Arts with the next generation, helping them to find confidence, creativity, and a strong sense of self.

### Getting started:

Students eat lunch in their classroom and are then called via the loudspeaker to the McKillop room. They bring a bag with their shoes, t-shirt and bike-shorts and change ready for class. Missing students are collected by helpers. Students are given drink and bathroom breaks when needed during class.

### What to wear

For the **trial lesson**, students are asked to wear clothing that is suitable for activity. Leggings or track pants and a t-shirt work well. **Once enrolled**, Students need to wear the following **uniform** during class: Purple Stageworks Academy T-Shirt (\$20) Black, slip on jazz shoes to protect feet (\$50). Please add black or navy leggings, bike shorts, shorts or track pants from home. Long hair should be styled off the face. Uniform shoes and shirts can be retained year to year.

### Fees

To avoid disruptions, yearly enrolment is expected and the Enrolment and Tuition fees are **non-refundable**. Please choose carefully. If joining during a term, please ask for the pro-rata price.

Places are subject to availability. Your place is confirmed once fees are submitted and waivers are signed. **\*GST is added to all costs**

1. **Tuition fee:** The Term fee is \$20 per lesson multiplied by the number of weeks in term. Term 1 will be 9 weeks = **\$180 plus GST**
2. **Enrolment Fee:** There is a yearly **\$70 plus GST** Enrolment fee which covers insurance, enrolment, prop and costume hire & design for the year. It is paid upon enrolment per group per year.
3. **Uniform fee:** Children require the uniform T-shirt **\$20** and **black slip on jazz shoes \$50** \*please send in cash to the lesson and they will be fitted during eating time or you can buy shoes matching this type at a dance shop. Uniform and shoes can be retained from the prior year. No need to re-purchase if they still fit.
4. There are **discounts** for multiple family classes. 5% deduction from the 2<sup>nd</sup> class fee, 10% for the third etc. These apply to family members at school and any classes attended at our studio at 7 Adams St Alphington where we offer ballet, acro hip hop, jazz, contemporary, song&Dance for toddlers to late teens.

### Administration and Contact

All payments, correspondence and documentation is **directly via Stageworks Academy** NOT Saint Anthony's School.

**Katrina Post** School of Performing Arts PostGrad BA Teaching Primary and Secondary, Performing Arts Specialist and Generalist Classroom Teacher, BA Dance (VCA), VIT registered, Associate Music Diploma (AMEB), Kodaly & Mini Maestros Teacher qualifications



Email: [kat@stageworksacademy.au](mailto:kat@stageworksacademy.au)

Phone: 0403156920

[www.StageworksAcademy.au](http://www.StageworksAcademy.au)



ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT GROUP ALPHINGTON,  
FAIRFIELD, NORTHCOTE AND THORNBURY  
PRESENTS....

# *A Taste of India*

Fundraising Dinner for Asylum Seekers

21 March 2026, 7-11PM | Holy Spirit Parish Hall  
197 Clarendon St. Thornbury East

TICKET  
PRICE

**\$75**

PER PERSON

**TICKETS ON SALE  
NOW!  
LIMITED PLACES  
AVAILABLE**



Scan for tickets



- Indian Buffet by Silver Platter
- Glass of bubbly upon arrival
- BYO Drinks
- Please bring cash for fundraising games



## *Entertainment*

**Jhoom Bollywood  
Dance Company**

**Introducing Eve  
Watt, Comedian**

Tickets available via Humanitix:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/indiandinner>

Enquiries: 9484 2907

# 2026 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

**Auskick**      **Girls**  
**Boys**      **Under 8s - U18s**

**PARKSIDE JFC**  
ALPHINGTON

Join a team, a club,  
and a community

Enquiries: [secretary@pjfc.com.au](mailto:secretary@pjfc.com.au)

Community Bank East Heathcote | Bendigo Bank | Neighbourly | Jellis Craig

Location: Gillies St. car park (back of Station St.)

**FAIRFIELD VILLAGE**

# FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 22nd Feb 2026 | 10AM to 3PM

Petting Zoo | Rides | Face Painting | Food Stalls

**FAIRFIELD VILLAGE**

Pre purchase your \$15 wrist bands for unlimited rides by scanning the QR code.

We're going low-waste! Bring your own cup, container, and bags if you can.

# Applications for Year 7 2028 Now Open

Take the first step,  
book a tour today.

**OLMC Heidelberg**  
Empowered together

[olmc.vic.edu.au](http://olmc.vic.edu.au)  
A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd

**SANTA MARIA COLLEGE**  
A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

# OPEN DAY | 19 MARCH 2026

2PM-6.30PM

Discover the Santa Spirit at Santa Maria College

Explore our:

- **IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)** the only Catholic all-girls school in the North providing this global curriculum framework.
- **Award-winning Duke of Edinburgh Program** shaping young women through leadership, service & adventure.
- **Holistic wellbeing** through our **Three Villages, One Community** model.
- **New Year 9 & 10 Village** inspiring bold thinking, big dreams and strong, compassionate leaders.

An all-girls education empowers young women to step into the world ready to lead and succeed.

REGISTER ONLINE OR SCAN QR CODE

Year 7 2027 & 2028 Applications **NOW OPEN**

DAREBINBASKETBALL.COM.AU/PROGRAMS

DAREBIN BASKETBALL TERM 1  
**PROGRAMS**  
NOW OPEN

**BEGINNER** **DEVELOPMENT**

Ford Bayford Ford aussie hoops

DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT  
GET SKILLED. GET SMART.

PHOENIX ACADEMY  
PBCO HIGGS HILLS

D-LEAGUE

# CASTING CALL

**We're searching for:**  
**KIDS AGED 10 - 12 YEARS OLD**

To play the leads in a new ABC kids series, in association with the ACTF and the team behind shows such as:

Little Lunch, The InBESTigators and Dear Life.

**MUST BE BASED IN/AROUND MELBOURNE**

Production for this project will run from March to September 2026.  
Must have good availability across this period.

## THESE ARE PAID ROLES

**NO ACTING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

Parents/guardians - please follow the link below for more project and application information.

[www.nathanlloyd.com.au/gristmill](http://www.nathanlloyd.com.au/gristmill)

Nathan Lloyd Casting have cast such projects as:  
Do Not Watch This Show, Knee High Spies, The InBESTigators, Little Lunch, Love Me, Surviving Summer & Safe Home.

NLC NLC

A WORLD OF

**PARADE COLLEGE**  
**PARADE**  
TENETE TRADITIONES

# OPEN DAY

Sunday 22 February 2026

St Anthony's Parents & Friends  
extend our sincere thanks to our  
2025 Sponsors.

## JellisCraig



Courtney & Patterson Ford

GOLD SPONSORS



ALPHINGTON  
DENTAL CARE



ben coltery  
architects

SILVER SPONSORS



Creating Solutions for  
all your Finance Needs!

BRONZE SPONSORS

## Sponsor Incentives

### JellisCraig

GOLD SPONSOR

Jellis Craig will donate \$500 of the sales commission or \$350 of the rental fee to St Anthony's Primary School if a family or staff member appoints a Jellis Craig Inner North Agent to sell or lease their home.



Courtney & Patterson Ford

GOLD SPONSOR

Courtney & Patterson Ford will donate \$400 to St Anthony's Primary School if a family or staff member mentions St Anthony's Primary School as their referral when making a purchase.



All students attending St Anthony's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.