

St Anthony's news



Edition 4
19 March 2026

This week is Catholic Education Week, an opportunity for all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate their Catholic identity, the pivotal role they play within their local community and the strength of the sector. The week provides an opportunity to reflect on the choice of a Catholic School, for staff, educators and parents.

I had an unplanned discussion with two parents about this very thing on Wednesday morning. Both parents did not identify as Catholic but strongly identified that they wanted their children to receive an education which supported them to be 'good people'. To be young people of conviction, who lived a life entrenched with values for the common good not just self.

A Catholic Education is intertwined with the gospel values and at the foundation of these values is the dignity of the individual. Everyone is welcome. Catholic schools recognise that every child is special and unique and make every effort to cater for individual needs. A meeting on Tuesday with an external therapist, teacher and parent reaffirmed to me that this is exactly what we do at St Anthony's. We aim to meet each student at their point of need and learning; emotionally, socially, physically, spiritually and academically.

I proudly work within the Catholic sector and hope you are affirmed in your decision to send your child/children to our inclusive Catholic school.

Catholic Education Art Exhibition

Again I congratulate Cruz (Year 2), Edie (Year 4) and Xavier (2025 Year 6) who had art pieces selected for display out of hundreds of entries in the Catholic Education Week Art Exhibition. I had the pleasure of attending the Art Exhibition with 1/2JB yesterday. We were all amazed at the incredible talent on display. It was so engaging that we spent over an hour there wandering around viewing and reviewing the works. The exhibition is open to the public and free of charge. I highly recommend a visit if you have the time. More information can be found at <https://melbournecatholic.org/events/catholic-education-week-creative-arts-exhibition>

MACSEYE OSH Club

The first day of Term 2, Monday 20 April, is a school closure day. MACSEYE OSH club will run if we have the numbers. If you are planning to utilize the program, please book in early so that we can confirm the day is going ahead.

Additionally we are excited to (finally) be offering our own Holiday Program for the Term 2 school holidays onsite through our OSH Club.

The program will run both weeks Tuesday - Thursday. It will be open to other local Catholic Schools. Everyone who uses our program knows what an incredible experience it is for our students, the care, range of activities and fun had is second to none. The future of our Holiday Program will be dependent on numbers so again please book early to secure not only your place but the program.

52 Austin Street, Alphington 3078

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 9489 7936

St Anthony's news



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



VU Pop Up Play

I have engaged Victoria University to run a program with us in Term 2 called Pop Up Play. The sessions will be utilized by our students, particularly the juniors, while also being advertised to pre-schoolers. We currently have one child care centre/kinder who will be attending sessions. The program involves Victoria University Pre School and Primary School preservice teachers bringing in a range of different objects to use in play. Objects could include things like cardboard boxes, old machines, fabric or cardboard tubes. The students then engage in creative play with a focus on exploring creativity and curiosity, while building oral language, intra and interpersonal capabilities and skills. Our data for the last couple of years has identified we have room to grow our students' development in these areas. The beauty of the program is that it can engage students (and adults) of any age, so we may well run some sessions with older students as mentors and role models. A flyer will be available shortly to register for sessions if you have pre-schoolers who may like to attend.

Enrolment

If you have a sibling joining us in 2027 or 2028 please head to our website and lodge your enrolment forms, it assists with our strategic planning. If you know people exploring their options for prep or other levels, suggest they attend an open morning or book a personal tour, again all done through our website. <https://www.saalphington.catholic.edu.au>

Tania Bennett

52 Austin Street, Alphington 3078

  stanthonysalphington

 santhony@saalphington.catholic.edu.au

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2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

—Terms 1 and 2

Term 1		
Date	Time	Activity
Monday 23 March	9.30am	Open Morning
Tuesday 24 March	6.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation—Grade 3
Friday 27 March	3.15pm	Palm Sunday Liturgy—All welcome
Sunday 29 March		Palm Sunday
Tuesday 31 March	3.00pm-4.45pm	Learning Showcases
Tuesday 31 March	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Thursday 2 April	9.00am 12.30pm	Holy Thursday Liturgy Good Friday Liturgy All welcome
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	9.00am	Easter Bonnet Parade
Tuesday 21 April	3.00pm	Alleluia Prayer and assembly
Tuesday 21 April	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 27 April	9.00-11.00am	VU Pop Up Play Session
Monday 27 April	9.30am	Open Morning
Monday 27 April	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Friday 1 May		Mum's Night Out—details to come
Monday 4 May	9.00-11.00am	VU Pop Up Play Session
Friday 8 May	7.30am-9.30am	Mother's Day Breakfast and class visits
Friday 8 May		Mother's Day Stall
Tuesday 12 May	9.30am	Open Morning
Tuesday 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
Monday 18 May	9.00-11.00am	VU Pop Up Play Session
Monday 18 May	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
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
Monday 1 June	9.00-11.00am	VU Pop Up Play Session
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—details to come
Tuesday 16 June	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 22 June	9.00-11.00am	VU Pop Up Play Session
Monday 22 June	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Tuesday 23 June		Learning Conversations
Friday 26 June	1pm	Term 2 ends & St Anthony's Feast Day celebrations

Learning Showcase Afternoon

Tuesday, 31 March-3.00 - 4.45pm

During the scheduled time, you are invited to pop in and spend time in your child/children's classroom to experience their learning over the term.

Students will have work on display which they can discuss with you.

We love seeing parents, siblings, grandparents and special others celebrating the achievements of our students.



2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR—Terms 3 and 4

Term 3		
Date	Time	Activity
Monday 13 July		Term 3 begins
Monday 20 July	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
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— to be confirmed
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
Monday 24 August	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Mon-Fri 24-28 August		Book Week
Friday 4 September		Father's Day Breakfast
Friday 4 September		Father's Day Stall
Monday 14 September	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
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
Monday 12 October	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Tuesday 20 October	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Monday 2 November		School Closure Day—Report Writing
Tuesday 3 November		Melbourne Cup Day
Monday 16 November	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Tuesday 24 November	7.30pm	School Advisory Council
Sunday 6 December	2.30pm	Combined Parish Carols including school choirs
Monday 7 December	7.30pm	Parents & Friends meeting
Tuesday 8 December	6pm	Gratitude Mass and carols
Tuesday 15 December		Step Into 2027
Tuesday 15 December	1pm	Term 4 ends

St Anthony's Primary Alphington



2026 Open Mornings
9.30am - 10.30am

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

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

MACSEYE

PUPIL FREE DAY

April 20th



Holiday Activities

- ✓ Cooking
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Crafts
- ✓ Games

7am - 6pm

Book via Xplor
Contact us on 0491 117 427
for assistance



GROWING GREAT KIDS!

In week 4, we spoke about nine habits that go towards building happy, healthy brains and this week we're talking about two of the most simple habits of them all – sunshine and time in nature! While we always need to be sun smart, sunshine plays an important part in producing the chemicals in our brains that we need to function well.

Last week we covered how early morning sunshine and low evening sunlight help our body's circadian rhythm, but sunshine also promotes the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter that contributes to a positive mood, as well as many other functions in our body.

The beautiful part of having sunshine and time in nature as one of your daily habits is the way it naturally leads to physical exercise, mindfulness and connection for our kids. Spending time in nature by going for a walk, a bike ride or having a kick of the footy means we naturally slow down, we talk to each other, we laugh together. So take advantage of our Autumn days, and get outside with each other as often as you can, remembering how beneficial this simple act will be to creating kids who are happy, healthy and have the skills to build positive relationships wherever they go.

Once Winter comes, and the sun disappears, just spending time in nature, looking at green spaces has been shown to improve mood. So when in doubt, get outside with the people you love, move your body and have some fun!

For more information on why playing outside is such an important part of growing great kids, you can check out the Harvard Health website –

<https://www.health.harvard.edu>



HOLY WEEK



FRIDAY 27 MARCH

3.15PM

PALM SUNDAY -PREP BG

THURSDAY 2 APRIL

9.00AM

HOLY THURSDAY -3/4MW

THURSDAY 2 APRIL

12.30PM

GOOD FRIDAY -4/5MG & 5/6RL

All welcome



Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and St Anthony's is excited to be participating. This is a fantastic reading initiative run by the Victorian Government to promote a love for literature and is a wonderful opportunity for students to engage in reading during the school term as well as the school holidays. This year's theme is "Stories to discover. Stories to tell"

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by **4th September 2026**. Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers (*'experiencing' a book can include a range of home activities such as a shared reading, listening and reading along with a text and being read to*). Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books. Home readers can be counted towards the amount of books read.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

For more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: <https://www.vic.gov.au/school-student-and-parents-taking-part-premiers-reading-challenge>

If you would like to participate, please email me with your child's full name and class at romeo@saalphington.catholic.edu.au so that I can provide you with your login details.

Kind regards

Rosanna Romeo

(Pedagogy and Curriculum Leader)



CKA STUDIO

woodards 



GOLD SPONSOR

SILVER SPONSORS

Choose Chocolate Free from Labour Exploitation This Easter

Children, men and women are too often forced to work in exploitative conditions to bring us chocolate in Australia. This Easter, you can help by choosing more ethical options. Use the **Chocolate Scorecard** to see if your preferred brand is doing the right thing. You can read the *Poster A Sweet Solution* at the back of the church or view it on the school display board or scan the QR code below to learn what you can do. Alternatively look for the Fairtrade symbol or Rainforest Alliance given below on the chocolate you buy.

Supported by the *Earthcare Working Group in Alphington, Northcote and Thornbury Mission parishes*



A Sweet Solution

Choose Chocolate Free from Labour Exploitation this Easter

Choose wisely before purchasing your chocolate eggs. Behind much of the chocolate sold in Australia is a bitter truth: forced labour and the worst forms of child labour still plague the cocoa industry in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, West Africa, where approximately 60% of the world's cocoa is grown.

Children, men, and women are too often forced to work in exploitative conditions to bring us our chocolate.

ACT NOW: Here is a list of FIVE suggested Sweet Solutions you can easily tick off in support of our campaign. Select one, or all of them

ACT 1: Read

Check the Chocolate Scorecard: www.chocolatescorecard.com.
Is your favourite brand ethical? Each year, companies are scored on sustainability and labour practices. Make a better choice!

ACT 2: Look

Look for certifications: Rainforest Alliance & Fairtrade labels mean chocolate is made with social, economic, and environmental care.

ACT 3: Sign

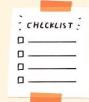
Demand cocoa transparency from Mondelez: makers of Cadbury, Oreo, Milka, Toblerone, and Green & Black: www.freedomunited.org/advocate/mondelez-cocoa-transparency/

ACT 4: Advocate

Order your FREE Fair Chocolate Postcard from Baptist World Aid calling on our Federal Government to make policy changes that better protect children against child labour and ensure farmers earn a fair wage: <https://baptistworldaid.org.au/product/fair-chocolate-postcard/>


ACT 5: Watch

The harsh truth about chocolate. Aziz's story in Côte d'Ivoire:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtBOj2gZsVc>






Together, we can make a change!


Join ACRATH's Easter Campaign – spread the word!
Make every choice count this Easter. www.acrath.org.au
For more resources and stats, scan the QR



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale



SCAN ME



GED & KAT'S

big easter egg hunt

**Saturday
28th March
Arrive at
10:00AM for
a 10:30AM
hunt**

**All
Nations Park
Playground
Parking: Back of
Northcote Plaza,
off Separation
Street**

**Get a
photo
with
Easter
Bunny**

**Free entry,
gold coin
donation to
Royal Children's
Hospital**



**REGISTER FOR
CHILDREN UNDER 12**



Authorised by Ged Kearney, ALP, 159 High Street, Preston, VIC 3072

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

Please enrol online at the above website address.





AUSTRALIA'S #1 NON-COMPETITIVE SOCCER PROGRAM

**TERM 2, 2026
SOCCER FUN
FOR GIRLS &
BOYS AGED 2-12!**

STARTING FROM 1ST MAY

Free FIRST 30 NEW ENROLMENTS RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY SHIRT AND SHORTS!

FOR A **FREE TRIAL** P: 0422 738 494



MITE-E SOCCER (2-3YO)

A great introduction to Soccer! Children work with their parents to learn new soccer skills and develop their motor skills! Lots of fun games in a non-competitive environment!

35 MINUTE CLASSES
\$180 FOR 8 WEEKS



PINT SIZE SOCCER (4-5YO)

Children take their first kicks in soccer! They'll be introduced to shooting, dribbling, goal keeping and more. Children get to play lots of fun, skill based games. Grasshoppers get introduced to Pint Size 1v1 Big Game!

50 MINUTE CLASSES
\$185 FOR 8 WEEKS



INTRO TO MICRO (5-6YO) MICRO (6-8YO)

The ultimate challenge for young soccer players! They'll learn the rules of the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game and develop their skills in passing, dribbling, shooting and more!

INTRO - 60 MINS \$195 FOR 8 WEEKS
MICRO - 60 MINS \$195 FOR 8 WEEKS



MICRO PLUS (8-12YO)

This program focuses on skill development and teamwork in preparation for club soccer. Children will enjoy all the favourite soccer based games, fine tune their skills as well as play the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game!

60 MINUTE CLASSES
\$195 FOR 8 WEEKS



M: 0422 738 494 | E: melbournecentral@grasshoppersoccer.com.au

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SCAN ME!



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

DRAMA CLASSES

Anne has been a therapeutic theatre maker for more than 13 years, collaborating with young actors to write performances based on personal narratives. As a drama teacher, Anne allows children the ability to tap into their imagination, and express it through play. There is no expectation for them to "perform". Simply, to explore and enjoy the process. These classes aim to build students' confidence, enhance their imagination and encourage creative expression. While also developing skills such as problem-solving, adaptability, collaboration and emotional intelligence.



Location St Anthony's Primary School Alphington
 Wednesday 4.30 - 5.30 for 9 - 12 year old
 Thursday 4.00 - 5.00 for 6 - 8 year old

CONTACT
ANNE GOLLAN e annegollan@gmail.com
 m 0410064320



APRIL HOLIDAYS

TAG
 HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

ALPHINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL • 8:30AM - 3:30PM • AGES 5-12

PROGRAM DATES
 Mix & match days!

WEEK 1
**TUE 7 -
 FRI 10 APRIL**

WEEK 2
**TUE 14 -
 FRI 17 APRIL**

EARLY BIRD - BOOK NOW & SAVE
 Limited spots available - don't miss out!

SAVE 15%
 BOOK BEFORE 23 MARCH

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE



NERF WAR



FOOTY



SOCCER



BASKETBALL



POKÉMON HUNT

+ Dodgeball Battle · Lego Masters · Mini Golf · Super Mario · Ninja Warrior & more

www.tagholidayprograms.com.au

0402 711 444

2026 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN



Auskick

Girls

Boys

Under 8s -
 U18s

Join a team, a club,
 and a community

Enquiries: secretary@pjfc.com.au



The grass stains you get playing as a kid stay with you your whole life. So for fun, friendship, and getting your hands dirty, it's gotta be NAB AFL Auskick.

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

ALPHINGTON FAIRFIELD AUSKICK CENTRE

FRIDAYS | 5:30PM - 6:30PM

SATURDAYS | 9AM - 10AM

SEASON STARTS MAY 1 2026

PITCHER PARK, ALPHINGTON



FIND YOUR CENTRE

Thornbury High School

BOOK HERE

OPEN NIGHT



19th March 2026
7:00pm - 8:30pm

- Outstanding VCE results
- Innovative and engaging curriculum
- Renowned music program
- Wide-ranging sporting opportunities

ACHIEVING, CONNECTING & ENGAGING



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
@THORNBURYHIGH

St Anthony's Primary Alphington



Enrolling Now for
2026 and 2027

Book a personal tour with
our Principal via the website

ALL WELCOME



A SCHOOL FOR EVERY STUDENT

9489 7936

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

Applications for
Year 7 2028
Now Open

Take the first step,
book a tour today.



olmc.vic.edu.au
A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd



OLMC
Heidelberg
Empowered together



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



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.