



Newsletter

Term 1 | Week 5, Friday 28th February 2025

Annunciation Catholic Primary School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent in the Christian calendar. It is a day of reflection, repentance, and prayer. The tradition of receiving ashes on the forehead symbolises our mortality and reminds us of the need for repentance. The ashes are made from the palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday, which are burned to signify renewal and spiritual preparation. As we enter this 40-day journey towards Easter, Ash Wednesday calls us to turn our hearts towards God, reflect on our actions, and seek to grow in faith and love.

Lenten Prayer

Dear God,

As we journey through this season of Lent, we thank You for the opportunity to grow closer to You. Help us to reflect on our actions, be kind to others, and show love and compassion just as Jesus taught us. Guide us to be better friends, students, and people who live with kindness in our hearts. May this time be a time of prayer, learning, and sharing, as we prepare for the joy of Easter.

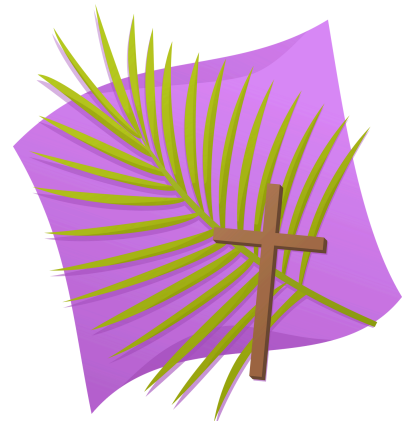
Amen.

May this season of Lent bring peace, hope, and love to each of you.

Please join us for Ash Wednesday Mass next week at 11:45 am – Wednesday March 5th.

Take care,

Anna



DATES TO NOTE...

Day/Date/Month	Event
Monday 3rd March	Yr F/1 Inform & Empower Cybersafety Session
Tuesday 5th March	Shrove Tuesday Yrs 3–6 Life Saving Excursion – Altona Beach 7:00 pm – Reconciliation Workshop at Annunciation (Community Room)
Wednesday 6th March	11:45 am – Ash Wednesday Mass (All invited)
Friday 7th March	Cross Country Trials 3:00 pm – Assembly (All invited)
Monday 10th March	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – No School
Tuesday 11th March	Yr 4 Experience at Emmanuel College
Wednesday 12th March	NAPLAN for Yr 3 & Yr 5 students (Writing)
Thursday 13th March	NAPLAN for Yr 3 & Yr 5 students (Reading)
Friday 14th March	Cross Country Trials 3:00 pm – Assembly (All invited) Newsletter Published

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Thank you so much to those who attended last week's P&F meeting. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaged and sharing your ideas for the continued growth of our school community. We look forward to working together to make this year a success!

This year, our fundraising efforts will go towards a bike rack/storage area, new pads for the basketball court area and some general maintenance improvements throughout the school.

Keep an eye out in the next newsletter regarding information about the upcoming Easter Egg drive.

FIRST RECONCILIATION FAMILY WORKSHOP

Facilitator: Samantha O'Dwyer (A Sacramental Formation and Religious Education Consultant)

Date and Time: Tuesday 4th March – 7:00 pm at Annunciation

Location: (Community Room)

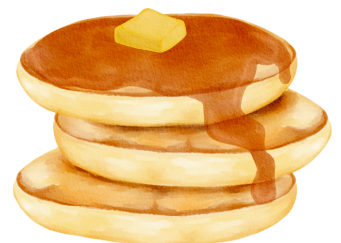
Who attends: Parent/s and child receiving the sacrament



SHROVE (PANCAKE) TUESDAY – TUESDAY 4TH MARCH

Staff will make pancakes using pre-mixed pancake shakes that can be purchased from the supermarket and just add water on the day or they will be made from scratch (depending on the teacher). They will use margarine or oil to cook on electric frypans and toasty makers.

Your child is asked to bring a small amount of their favourite topping in a container, to put on their pancakes. Please send these with your child to school on Tuesday. For safety reasons, please refrain from sending any nut products. To keep safe, there will be no sharing of food/toppings. All other cutlery and cooking materials will be provided.



SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE

It has been decided that with the new winter tunic, navy blue tights or navy blue socks are to be worn.

Also they will wear either a pale blue peter pan collar blouse or pale blue skivvy.

ALTONA BEACH LIFESAVING EXCURSION – TUESDAY 4TH MARCH

The Year 3–6 students will be taking part in a lifesaving excursion on Tuesday 4th March at Alton Beach. The students are to wear their sports uniform to and from the venue. They can wear their bathers to the life-saving club but will need to have dry underwear to change into after the program.

All students will be going into the water so they will need to bring the following: Bathers, lightweight long sleeve shirt, wide brimmed hat (school hats are ideal), warm clothing and spare towel in case of cool weather, **enclosed shoes that can be worn in and out of the water** (please make sure they are not expensive shoes as this is salt water and they may get damaged), sunscreen, sunglasses, comb/hairbrush and rash vest if they have one.

It is important that they bring a snack in a clearly labelled plastic bag. It is also important that they have a clearly labelled drink bottle. The students will have their lunch before departing at 11.45am.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a national literacy & numeracy assessment that students at Annunciation in Yr 3 & Yr 5 sit each year. The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 12th March and finishes on Monday 24th March 2025.

Students will sit a series of assessments throughout the fortnight. Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar, punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. Results will be provided to families later in the year. If you have any queries, please see your child's classroom teacher.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Children who turn 5 years of age by 30th April 2026 are eligible to enrol in Foundation 2026.

If you know of anyone who has a child that is eligible to start school next year, let them know about our upcoming Open Days.

They can register for the open days, through Enquiry Tracker, found on the school website under enrolments.

Monday 24th March
Wednesday 14th May
Thursday 5th June

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Congratulations to all of these students pictured below.

They each received a student of the week award in Week 3 and 4 of Term 1.

These students have been recognised by their classroom teachers for having a positive mindset, being kind, working hard in class and a variety of other great reasons.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



Congratulations to this student for receiving a Principal's Award.

This student has demonstrated a positive attitude and has gone out of his way to support our school community.

BROOKLYN STORIES ART PROJECT

This week, we were lucky to have two local artists, Geoffrey Ricardo and Heidi Weatherald visit our students to work on a community art project called 'Brooklyn Stories'. Brooklyn Stories is a collaboration between Hobsons Bay City Council and Deakin Motion Lab (DML), aiming to bring to light some of the hidden histories of Brooklyn, through an innovative blend of Augmented Reality (AR) technologies and participatory storytelling/creative art workshops.

Annunciation students were tasked with imagining the stories and characters of Brooklyn's future. During a fun-packed two-hour workshop, they had opportunities to dramatise the history of Brooklyn's development, and then use painting and sculpture to create characters they imagine inhabiting Brooklyn in the future.

Geoffrey and Heidi will be back to work with the students and finish their creations on Tuesday 1st April. After that, their designs and ideas may then be used by Deakin Motion Lab to create digital avatars that will be accessed using QR codes placed around the Brooklyn community.



GARDENING CLUB

Who likes potatoes?

Last week the gardening crew planted two big tubs of potatoes. Hopefully in 15 weeks we will have a harvest for all the students to enjoy. We also planted trays of Pak Choi seeds and Australian wild flowers which will be transferred to the veggie garden in the coming weeks. A baby gecko was also found in the worm farm – a highlight of the day!



Take a guess at how many seeds are on the Annunciation sunflower for your chance to win a gardening club prize.

Write your guess on the chart at the office and in the library.

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY GARDEN

The students have started visiting our allotments at Brooklyn Community Garden. As you can see from the photos, and maybe tasted from the goodie bags the students brought home, there are lots of delicious fruits and vegies to be harvested.

Who knows what the rest of the year will bring...



ANNUNCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

4-14 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn 3012 PO Box 431 Altona North 3025 Ph: (03) 9314 6271
Web: www.asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au Email: office@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au



MHIPS - Mental Health in Primary Schools

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a fantastic break over the Summer. I have just come back from Long Service Leave where I had the opportunity to go overseas and reconnect with my parent's homeland of Malta, but it's wonderful to be back here at Annunciation for another year.

I continue in my role as Mental Health Leader this year, supporting students and staff in looking after their own mental health and wellbeing.

I will be offering the Peaceful Kids Program again in Term 2. This is a positive psychology program that helps children manage their anxiety and introduces strategies such as mindfulness and helps to build their emotional resilience. Children are selected for this program by the child's classroom teacher and the Wellbeing Leader.



I have qualified in Initiatic Art Therapy and Clay Field Therapy for children. Art Therapy supports children in regulating their nervous system and helps them to release trauma and tension that they may carry in their bodies.

I will be supporting individual students using Initiatic Art Therapy and Clay Field Therapy. This will be introduced later in the second semester.

I am here at Annunciation every Wednesday & Thursday, if you ever need to get in touch with me or just want to say 'Hi'.

I look forward to meeting parents around the school and at school events.

Lucy Vassallo
Mental Health Leader



MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES
[Kids Help Line](#) - a place where children can reach out for help & support.



Emmanuel College Latest News

Congratulations to all participants in the 2025 Athletics Carnivals! Over the past two weeks, it was fantastic to see so many students cheering each other on and giving their best in events such as relays, long jump, discus, shot put, and individual track events. Your enthusiasm and sportsmanship truly made the carnivals special.

A huge well done Winters House at St Paul's and McCluskey House at Notre Dame for taking out the 2025 Athletics Carnival championship titles. Your dedication and teamwork were outstanding. Thank you to everyone—athletes, staff, and supporters—who contributed to making this event a success.

We invite you to discover what makes our College special by attending our Open Evenings and College Experiences at each campus throughout the year. This is a fantastic opportunity to: Hear from our College Principal, Dr. Janine Biggin

Open Evening & College Experience – Registrations Now Open

- Learn about our diverse curriculum
- Meet our passionate teaching staff
- Take part in interactive activities
- Enjoy a guided tour led by our student ambassadors

Open Evening - St Paul's Campus Monday 17 March 4:00 – 7:30pm
Open Evening - Notre Dame Campus Monday 24 March 4:00 – 7:30pm

Open Evening and College Experience Registration

- Registration is essential for all College Experiences and Tours.
- Secure your spot here: [_____](#)

Year 7 2027 Enrolments Now Open!

Is your child currently in Year 5? Applications for Year 7 in 2027 are now open and will close on Friday, 15 August 2025. Even if you already have a child attending or enrolled for Year 7 in 2026, you must submit an application for Year 7 in 2027. Applications are now submitted online via our College website. Apply here:

[Application Form](#)

If you have any enrolment enquiries, please contact:

Ms. Donna Grech, College Registrar - 8325 5100 | enrolments@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au We look

forward to welcoming you to our College.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Hendricks
Community Engagement Officer



Pursuing personal best ★

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BOOK CLUB ISSUE 2

The book club catalogue for Issue 2 was sent home with your child today. The final ordering day for Issue 2 is 24th March.

No cash payments will be accepted at school. All orders need to be done via LOOP orders on Scholastic. Instructions are in the catalogue.

There is a current promotion for LOOP orders for Issue 3, more information in the catalogue



Every
**Book Club
LOOP order**
earns a

\$5 PROMO CODE
Included with order confirmation

**to spend on our
next Issue.**

Conditions apply. LOOP orders only. Redeemable once per Issue when you spend \$19.50.



THE ACADEMY @ UAC WEST

What The Academy offers:

- Strength and Conditioning sessions, focusing on conditioning your body for optimum performance on the court
- Elite basketball skills sessions, hosted by our premier coaches, aimed to build confidence on the court and develop a high IQ.
- Flexible class options. A choice of x20 sessions available throughout the week and the ability to pick and choose your own schedule (eg, x3 S&C and x1 skills session, x2 S&C and x2 skills sessions, etc).
- Classes divided into Ages 8-13, and Ages 14+
- Mixture of morning, afternoon, midweek and weekend sessions

What The Academy offers:

- No sign-up fee, No lock-in terms, No cancellation fees!
- Weekly Direct debit
- Self-managed schedule/booking system through the GymMaster app

Session priced per week as follows:

1 Session for \$45
2 Sessions for \$65
3 Sessions for \$85
4 Sessions for \$100

What to do next:

- Come try out a back-to-back Basketball and Strength & Conditioning session. The first one is on us!

SIGN UP NOW

Address: 2/236 Fairbairn Road, Sunshine West
Mobile: 0449 609 036
Email: uacwest@universalathletecentre.com.au

**UAC
UNIVERSAL ATHLETE
CENTRE**

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Got a bit of time next month? Time to give blood and change lives?
1 in 3 people in Williamstown will need blood, and they need people like you to give
it. We're popping up in town from 10 to 27 March.
Don't forget to pre-book your spot at lifeblood.com.au, on our app or on 13 14 95



We're coming to town

Give life. Give blood in Williamstown.
10 to 27 March



We're popping up in Williamstown:
Williamstown Town Hall
104 Ferguson St,
Williamstown 3016
See website for opening hours

Book your donation now



13 14 95
give blood