



**Newsletter Week 3 Term 4
Friday 24th October 2025**

60 Knees Road Park Orchards 3114

Phone: 03 9876 1533

email: principal@saparkorchards.catholic.edu.au

Hours of Supervision of Students:

Mon – Fri 8.30am – 3.40pm

School Office Hours: Mon 8.30am - 4.15pm

Tues – Thurs 8.30am – 5.00pm

Fri 8.30am – 4.00pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Arsenio Tuazon

Ph. 7064 3922

School Principal:

Michael Edmonds:

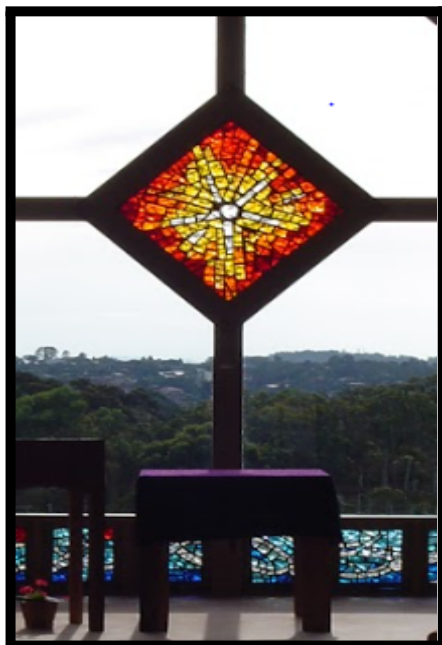
Ph. 9876 1533

St. Anne & St Gerard Parish:

Secretary:

Michelle

Ph.7064 3922



Community Calendar

[Click here to view the
St Anne's Community Calendar](#)

DIARY DATES - 2025

Friday 31st October - Week 4

All Saints' Day Mass - 9.10am

No Assembly

Monday 3rd November - Week 5

School Closure Day - Staff Time in Lieu

Tuesday 4th November

Melbourne Cup Day - Public Holiday

Wednesday 5th November

Prep 2026 Parent Information Night 6.30pm

Friday 7th November

Assembly - 2.30pm (Prayer 1/2M - Show & Tell 1/2P)

Tuesday 11th November - Week 6

Remembrance Day

Thursday 13th November

Water Safety Foundation Students

Friday 14th November

Prep Orientation Session 1 - 9.15am

Water Safety Year 1/2

Assembly - 2.30pm (Prayer 5/6T - Show & Tell Prep D)

Thursday 20th November - Week 7

Prep Orientation Session 2 - 9.15am

Friday 21st November

Assembly - 2.30pm (Prayer 5/6A - Show & Tell 1/2D)

Wednesday 26th November - Week 8

Prep Science Works excursion

Thursday 27th November

Prep Orientation Session 3 - 9.15am

Friday 28th November

Assembly - 2.30pm (Prayer 1/2P - Show & Tell Prep H)

From Principal

ALL SAINTS' DAY MASS - FRIDAY 31 October

Next Friday we will celebrate All Saints' Day with a Mass commencing at 9.10am. Parents are warmly invited to join us for Mass.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY

Thank you to the Parents' Association, Sarah Wiedermann and Fiona Bourke who coordinated a beautiful lunch for all of the staff in recognition of World Teachers Day. The staff were very appreciative and really enjoyed the special spread.

We are grateful to work in a school community where relationships are so highly valued.

WALK TO SCHOOL MORNING

Next Friday Friday 31 October we will have our walk to school morning. Parents are very welcome to join us. Children are invited to meet me outside the milk bar at the Park Orchards shops from 8.20am for a prompt departure at 8.30am.

Student Representative Council (SRC) MEETING

This week the SRC met and decided on several actions. Here is a summary of the decision from the SRC.

- We are going to do a little coin fundraiser closer to Christmas. The SRC brainstormed some charities we could support. Now the Year 6 Community Outreach group will be consulted for a decision. (more information to come)
- On November 28 the children are going to be invited to dress up as their favourite sport. This is optional.
- The SRC are going to conduct uniform checks each day next week as we feel that many children are not wearing the correct uniform by choice. Please send an email to your child's classroom teacher if children are not able to wear the correct uniform as we understand there are also valid reasons for some children and families.
- Closer to Christmas the children will be invited to dress with a dash of Christmas i.e a Santa hat or some tinsel. The Parents' Association will also provide candy canes. A date will be communicated in December.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All children need to come to school wearing the correct uniform including black school shoes on days that are not dedicated sports uniform days.

If you need to purchase some leather school shoes they can be purchased from a range of outlets including Target for \$35 - \$40. I do appreciate that they will not have all sizes so finding shoes could be more challenging for some families at this time of the year and the school will be understanding.

Link; <https://www.target.com.au/c/school/school-shoes/W95947>

Wearing runners is not an option for a full term. If towards the end of the year it is not feasible for a family to purchase new shoes then we ask that your teacher is emailed so they are aware of the children who have a reason for having the incorrect shoes on. Children are expected to wear the correct coloured socks all year round and children who have hair past their shoulders need to have it tied up.

Finally, some children are wearing black performance runners as school shoes. Next year all children will need to have shoes for non-sports days rather than runners. I will provide examples later in the year in preparation for 2026 as there are many comfortable options available that are not performance runners.

Occasionally, we offer casual clothes day. One rationale for having a uniform is to eliminate any stress or anxiety for children to feel the need to keep up with current fashions and potential peer pressure associated with this.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty in meeting the above requirements, please make contact with me and this will be handled confidentially and sensitively without placing any undue stress on anyone. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with the above requests.

Below is a repeat copy of the current summer uniform;

	Boys	Girls
Summer Terms 1 & 4	· Grey shorts with school light blue polo shirt · School windcheater · Grey socks · Black shoes · Maroon hat – slouch, surf or bucket	· Check dress blue/maroon · Navy shorts with light blue polo shirt · School windcheater · Navy blue socks · Black shoes · Maroon hat – slouch, surf or bucket
Sports	· Maroon shorts (summer) · School light blue polo shirt or sublimated sports polo · Plain white sports socks · Runners	· Maroon shorts/maroon wrap pleated skirt (summer) · School light blue polo shirt or sublimated sports polo · Plain white sports socks · Runners

REGIONAL ATHLETICS RESULTS

Congratulations to Bella McGregor, Sienna Ireson and Vincent Gilbert who represented St Anne’s on Thursday at the Eastern Metropolitan Region Athletics. Bella finished 5th in the hurdles, Sienna finished 8th in the 800m and Vincent finished 4th in High Jump. We are so proud of our athletes.



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL - POSITIONS VACANT for 2026/2027

We have up to 4 positions available for parents to join the School Advisory Council (SAC) for a minimum 2-year tenure commencing next year.

The SAC plays a significant role in school improvement at St Anne's. If you are interested in supporting school improvement, please complete the form in the link at the bottom of this article and return it to me as soon as possible, and no later than Tuesday 11 November.

It can be sent to the following email address;

principal@saparkorchards.catholic.edu.au

The SAC meets once per term and this is normally on a Tuesday evening at 7.00pm. We also meet in November for our Annual General Meeting.

The following are some ways the School Advisory Council supports the School and the Principal:

- Promoting the school's Catholic ethos and culture
- Articulating and enacting the School's vision and mission
- Capital resource planning and maintenance
- Implementing School policies as required
- Supporting and communicating School and parish matters, including the School annual report
- Giving advice on issues such as enrolments, School improvement plans and enrolment trends
- Engaging in discussion about the annual School budget and other financial matters

The following is a list of some of the key qualities and skills for members of the School Advisory Council:

- commitment to Catholic education in the Parish and School
- an understanding of the role of Parish Priest, Principal and Council members
- willingness to ask questions and seek clarification
- ability to think strategically
- willingness to support the contributions of other Council members
- capacity to listen in an active and meaningful way
- willingness to work cooperatively with others
- commitment to maintaining confidentiality at all times.

[Link to Nomination](#)

[SAC Nomination Form](#) (please note you can nominate yourself)

[Link to Full Terms of Reference](#)

[Terms of Reference](#)

SCHOOL FEES 2025

Up-to-date fee and levy statements were emailed this week. As outlined in our 'Fee and Levy Policy' we aim to collect all fees before the end of October. We do however understand some families need more time to settle their fees and levies. Thank you to the families who have reached out to me to communicate a payment plan. This assists with ongoing planning and budget forecasts.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, I urge you to make time to meet with me so that we can develop a personalised payment plan for you as well as ensure the school remains financially responsible.

PREP ORIENTATION - REPEAT

It is exciting that we will be welcoming our 2026 Preps to St Anne's next month. For our current families with children starting school at St Anne's below is an outline of the orientation dates and times.

Information Evening:

Wednesday 5th November in the school hall from 6.30 pm – 7.45 pm.

6.30 pm gather and nibbles / 7.00 - 7.45 pm, Information Session

Orientation Mornings

Session #1 Friday 14th November - Orientation #1 9.15am - 10.00am

Session #2 Thursday 20th November - Orientation #2 9.15am - 10.00am

Session #3 Thursday 27th November - Meet Classroom Teacher and Buddies - 9.15am - 10.30am

The Prep teachers will be commencing kindergarten visits shortly in preparation for the orientation program.

Andrea D'Alberto and Rebecca Hyde will be teaching Prep in 2026. They are excited to be working together again in the Prep level and bring much experience, enthusiasm and care.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - REPEAT

Our Parents' Association (PA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 12 November at 7.30pm

Please refer to the PA section for more information about all the opportunities.

Parents have to be involved in school life at St Anne's.

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN - FINAL

The teachers will begin placing the children in their 2026 class groupings in the coming weeks. Teachers are aware of children's relationships and will make every effort to take these into consideration.

- Each child will be asked to nominate five friends that they would like to have in their class group for the following year. Every attempt will be made to place children with at least one of these children. The Learning Diversity Leader (Jane Weekes) in consultation with the classroom teacher will liaise with parents if discretion is required for a child to nominate less than 5 children based on concerns around the child and their progress in building social relationships.
- Parent requests for placing children with specific friends will not be considered
- Parent requests for children to be placed together, separated, with/without a specific teacher will not be considered

(I can only fairly and consistently implement the above if I make it a school-based process)

'Placement of Children Forms' must be submitted to Michael by **Tuesday 28 October**. In fairness to all, forms after this date cannot be accepted. Please note that forms should not be submitted to teachers or Level Leaders, i.e. any previous discussions with your child's teacher/s or letters, need to be redirected to the Principal. Please read the 'Placement of Children' policy before submitting a form to ensure any requests for consideration are consistent with the implementation steps of the policy. The policy can be located on the school website under the School Community tab. <http://www.saparkorchards.catholic.edu.au/>

Teacher judgement and professionalism need to be trusted in making a decision that is in each child's best interest.

Placement of Children

Child's Name:.....

Current Class:.....

Current Teacher:.....

Relevant Information regarding the placement of your child:(i.e. academic, behavioural, physical, social factors)

.....

.....

.....

Please note that the submission of this pro forma does not guarantee the request, however, the information contained will certainly be considered.

Have a great weekend.

Michael

FIRST EUCHARIST

On Sunday 19th October our final three candidates received the sacrament of First Eucharist during the parish Mass at St Anne’s. Congratulations to Mia Harris, Ernest Awad and Ethan Cullen. The children looked fabulous and did a great job participating throughout the ceremony. Many thanks goes to the parishioners who made the children feel very special and to their teachers for preparing them so beautifully.

Carrie Arbuthnot



YR 5 / 6 IMAX AND MUSEUM EXCURSION

Hi everybody! The Year 5/6 level went on an excursion on Monday the 20th, to I-Max and the museum, as part of our Inquiry topic this term.

We learnt about natural disasters, with a movie about glaciers, bushfires and tornadoes. We found that the glaciers in Alaska are melting the fastest they ever have, which is contributing to sea levels rising, and that the average tornado lasts no more than 7 minutes. There were people in the movie whose job was to research these extreme weather events so that we can understand them better.

After that, we split into two major groups and saw some exhibits, including dinosaurs, all about the Earth and one about the different sections of the Earth. The Melbourne Museum is home to the world's most complete triceratops fossil, which is 80% authentic, and it was the only dinosaur that could intimidate the Tyrannosaurus Rex. Also there were lots of minerals including gold, amethyst, diamonds and quartz. We also found out that the moon moves further and further away from the Earth each year. 4.4 billion years ago the Earth was just molten rock. In the Forest Gallery we saw different native animals including a water dragon, a turtle and different birds.

Thank you to the parents and teachers who gave up their time to help out. We had heaps of fun, and learnt a lot, and that couldn't have been without them all coming!



Student of the Week - 2025

Week 3 - Term 4

Prep D	Roman Lucarelli
Prep H	Hattie Rickerby
1/2 D	George Roberts
1/2 M	Olivia Tily
1/2 P	Esmeralda Hannan
3/4 BD	Ruby De Angelis
3/4 D	Mira Hani
3/4 P	Georgie Arthur
5/6 A	Riley Holland
5/6 J	Alex Ingrosso
5/6 T	Lawson Wheatley



St Anne's Playgroup **The Ark, St Anne's Primary School**

Playgroup has recommenced on
Wednesday Mornings 9-11am in the Ark

We are eager to welcome new families and old,
pre-schoolers, babies, parents and grandparents,
to our happy playgroup.

We have loads of toys and puzzles, good coffee
and good company so come and join the fun on
Wednesdays 9-11am in the Ark!

Enquiries to Ellen 0404 357 023

10.30am Sunday Mass Celebrations

The Third Sunday of Each Month:

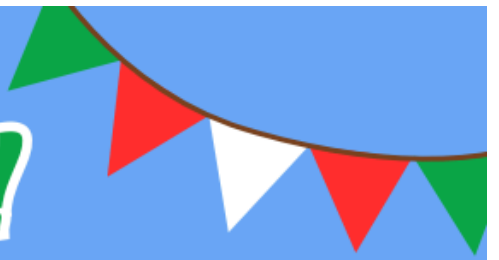
10.30am Sunday Mass at *St Anne's Church Park Orchards*

All Other Sundays

10.30am Sunday Mass at *St Gerard's Church Warrandyte*



Molto Grazie!



Last week the children enjoyed a wonderful lunch to compliment Italian Day festivities. A very special thank you to the Event Planners **Sarah Skillern** and **Nadia Holland** for organising the pizza and gelato as well as all the logistics for getting lunch served on time.

A big thanks to the team of parent helpers who supported them on the day:
Mari Van Leeuwen, Jess Khoury, Natalie Arena, Stephanie Fellows, Carla Vita and **Cass Locke**.

TIME FOR A CHANGE – JOIN THE PA COMMITTEE!

After a couple of wonderful years, the current PA Executive Committee is ready to pass the baton to a new team.

Over time, we've simplified the PA's structure to make it easier to manage, and many tasks and events are now shared across the school community.

The PA's role is to ensure key events are booked, planners are in place to organise them, and outcomes are promoted to the wider school community. It's a rewarding opportunity to contribute to our school and help create memorable experiences for our children.

If you or a group are interested in taking on any of the PA roles, we'd love to hear from you! Please get in touch via email, or come along to the upcoming AGM, where we'll be selecting the new committee for 2026. Rest assured, the current committee isn't disappearing — we'll be here to support the transition and help the new team settle in smoothly.

We look forward to putting together the 2026 PA team and working to make next year a fantastic one for our children!

AGM - WEDNESDAY 12th November - 7pm

World Teacher's Day.



On Sunday October 5th, teachers all around the world were acknowledged for the amazing work they do in their professional roles. This past Tuesday, the PA were able to show gratitude to the staff at St Anne's by providing a beautiful lunch of gourmet sandwiches, fruit and sweet treats.

A very special thank you to **Sarah Wiedermann** and **Fiona Bourke** for undertaking the Event Planning.

[Parents Association sign up link](#)



Strawberry fair 2026

Strawberry Fair 2026 - Sunday 1st March

We have started looking for sponsorship and donations for raffle and auction again.

If there are any families who have businesses or work for businesses that would be interested in sponsorship or donating, please see the link below to the Sponsorship Proposal and it would be great if you could get in touch if you would like to be a Sponsor or donate to the 2026 Strawberry Fair. We are also looking for help with stall holders especially in the weeks leading up and on the

day. There will be lots of stalls and rolls that will need people taking over in 2027 so it's now time to start thinking about stalls you love. Emma Harris Stannesstrawberryfair@gmail.com



1ST MARCH 2026 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Wow! That came around quickly didn't it! Spring is here, the days are longer and registrations for The Community Bank Run Warrandyte 2026 event are NOW OPEN. All your favourite events will be back on **Sunday 1st March**. From the kids gallop, to the 5k crowd favourite and of course, our calf burning 21k, we've got you covered.

The village will be in full swing with music and stalls, medals and smiles, and let's be honest, how good is one of the egg and bacon rolls and a hot coffee after a big run.

RW25 saw our biggest turn out yet, with some amazing runs and quality times. Dust off those winter sneakers, set yourself some goals, rope in your best mate and pop the date in your calendar. Let's make RW26 our biggest and best yet.

We can't wait to share the day with you again.

REGISTER NOW



Have your say on Manningham's budget priorities

We deliver more than 100 services, from waste collection and libraries to community programs and infrastructure. All are important, but we want to know: **If you had to prioritise spending, where would you like to see more?**

Share your insights and ideas by completing our short survey by **9 November 2025**.

Your responses will help shape the draft 2026-27 Budget and draft 10-Year Financial Plan.



yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/2026-27-budget



Interpreter service **9840 9355**
普通话 廣東話 Ελληνικά Italiano العربية



'St Anne's Primary School supports the promotion of non-profit and learning focused community groups, however is not responsible for the performance or service of these groups'.