



**Newsletter Week 4 Term 4
Friday 31st 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:

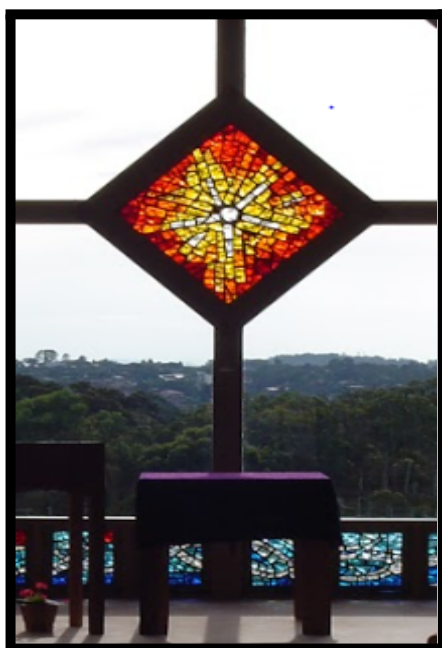
Ph. 9876 1533

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

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)

Wednesday 3rd December - Week 9

Year 6 Big Day Out

Friday 5th December

Assembly - 2.30pm

From Principal

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY MONDAY

This coming Monday 3 November is a student-free day. This is an approved day for time in lieu for teachers as per the current certified agreement. Time in lieu is used to acquit additional hours that teachers are required for school activities such as camps, parent-teacher interviews etc.

FINAL DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR FOR CHILDREN

The final day of the school year for the children will be Tuesday 16 December. This has been approved by the Melbourne Archdiocese for Catholic schools and was ratified by the 2024 School Advisory Council when setting the dates for 2025. The teachers will be on-site on Wednesday 17 December. This day will be dedicated to finishing off 2025 and preparing for the 2026 school year.

STAFFING NEWS

I am pleased to announce that we have completed the employment process for two classroom teachers to fill the roles of Hannah Dalrymple and Sarah Hodgson.

Sophie Gilmore will join our staff. Sophie completed her studies in Perth in 2024 and has done casual relief teaching for 6 months in Perth and 6 months in Melbourne this year and is relocating to Melbourne. We are really delighted to have Sophie joining us. She comes as a graduate teacher with a year of casual relief teaching experience and will bring a very calm, nurturing and professional manner to St Anne's. Her references were impeccable and she will be a great teacher and member of our school community.

Clare Smith will also join our teaching team. Clare will work 4 days a week in 2026. Clare is an experienced teacher who is currently working at St Joseph's Primary School in Malvern. Clare has leadership experience and comes recommended as an outstanding teacher. She will bring leadership, passion and outstanding experience to the St Anne's community.

Both Sophie and Clare place significant value on building relationships and I believe will be perfect appointments for our school community.

The final component of our staffing is to appoint a few part-time staff to ensure our leadership team members for 2026 have their release time. We hope to finalise this and the 2026 class structures in the next few weeks. Once finalised, I will communicate these structures in a future newsletter.

ALL SAINTS' DAY MASS

Tomorrow is All Saints' Day. Today we celebrated a school Mass for All Saints' Day commencing at 9.10am. Once again the children participated in the Mass with beautiful reverence for the occasion. All Saints' Day is a feast day observing the lives of the many saints for whom there is no specific feast day during the year. Sunday marks All Souls Day. This is a day of prayer and remembrance for those who have died. We offer our prayers and thoughts for any families who are experiencing sadness or grief at this time.

WALK TO SCHOOL MORNING

This morning we had great support for our return to 'Walk to School Day'. We had **118** children join the walk. There was great excitement and community spirit and a great way to start the day. Thank you to all the parents who came along for the walk to help supervise and ensure the children arrived safely. Congratulations to Riley Holland for taking the initiative to email me and request we bring this event back. We will do another one before the end of the term.





This week all parents will have received an invitation to access a platform called Seesaw. This is a platform where students and teachers can share learning. The initial purpose of using this platform is to extend a window into some of the learning that is happening in the school. We accidentally left the parent comment function on for the first post, however have switched this off for now as the teachers need to read and approve these which is not the current purpose of the platform. For the remainder of 2025 the focus will be on sharing some learning in each year level rather than dialogue about the posted work. Every student will have a post shared with their parents on the following dates;

7th November, 21st November, 5th December, 12th December.

I have been liaising with the School Advisory Council on parent engagement in learning and this is one tool we are adopting in our strategy to enable parents and students to engage in learning dialogue together.

Each time you receive a post you can simply ask your children to tell you about the pieces of work they have posted.

I will work collaboratively with the teachers and School Advisory Council next year to review the strengths and opportunities Seesaw can offer in 2026.

STATIONERY LISTS

We are in the process of finalising stationery lists. They will be sent home on Wednesday next week. On Friday next week, the teachers will send home any excess stationery the Year 1-6 children have.

The Preps collate their stationery and have a nominal amount of additional supplies that will be retained for 2026 and removed from the book list if they have excess stationery items.

This will enable you to audit what you require when placing orders for 2026. Please send a separate bag such as a shopping bag with your child next Friday.

PREP INFORMATION EVENING

Next Wednesday we will celebrate our Prep Information Evening.

The evening will commence with refreshments and cheese and crackers at 6.30pm and will then be followed by an information session from 7.00pm - 7.45 pm.

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. We have 3 outgoing members;

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](#)

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN

Thank you to the families who submitted a formal Placement of Children form for consideration. We will now begin placing the children in their 2026 class groupings. This task requires many considerations and will require discernment from classroom teachers, leaders along with consideration of parent input through formal notification.

The children will find out their classroom teacher on Thursday 11 December and will also visit their new class and teacher on this day.

Have a great weekend.

Michael

Inform and Empower

This week the Year 3 / 4 students participated in a Webinar titled Inform and Empower. The students learnt about being safe online. They discussed what personal information should not be shared online. This was the fourth session for the year.



Scarlett - The kahoot was fun because it reminded us of our last session.

Paige - It taught us to be safe online.

Mason - I learnt the difference between a scammer and a hacker.

Charlie - I enjoyed the fun questions in the kahoot.

Miniboss Science Incursion

Here is Sienna's reflection from the year 5/6 incursion...

Yesterday the Year 5/6 students and teachers welcomed Sammy and Ruth from Miniboss Incursions. They were a funny and engaging pair and we had lots of fun with them.

It was a day full of hypotheses, perfumed bath bombs, fun and engaging reactions, and interesting information. They taught us a lot and were very knowledgeable.

Sammy (the main scientist) shared many interesting facts. We learnt all about the Periodic Table, and how some substances can blow up in water! The periodic table is a table of elements, with a whole range of different chemicals, that react to different things. We also learnt that H_2O is water and H_2O_2 is an acid called Hydrogen peroxide, that you can't drink.

Some students were lucky enough to try the PTC test. This test is used to determine if people can taste a compound chemical (phenylthiocarbamide). It's known to give a sour or bitter sensation to some people, while others taste nothing.

Another favourite was the foam dome. We had to guess an approximate amount of citric acid and bicarb soda to add to water and detergent. We came close to getting it right, but unfortunately most of the time it overflowed! A few other elements we added to the plastic container: The students also learnt that H_2O is water and H_2O_2 is an acid called Hydrogen peroxide, that you can't drink.

We learnt so much and had the best time! We thank Mrs Hodgson for organising the special day! Thanks again to Sammy and Ruth for coming out to teach us!





St Anne's Parents Association

Join the St Anne's Parents Association!

Help shape a thriving school community in 2026

We need YOU!

Nominations are now open for the 2026 PA team. To keep the PA running, we must fill key roles:

President, Secretary, Treasurer

- ✓ These roles can be shared—team up with a friend!
- ✓ All other committee roles also need volunteers.
- ✓ No task is too big—many hands make light work!

Can't attend the AGM on Nov 12th at 7pm?

No problem—you can still nominate using the sign-up schedule.

Why join?

- Be part of a supportive, friendly team
- Make a real difference in our school community
- Bring fresh ideas and energy—new members welcome!

All PA members are well supported. You won't be left on your own!

Let's build something great together.

Join the PA team for 2026!



★
**THANK
YOU**
★



*A shout out, a word of gratitude, an opportunity to emphasise,
To the Riella Family for their generosity and thoughtfulness.*

*Who quietly donated the Footy Fun Day pies,
For this, St Anne's and the PA are full of thankfulness!*



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*



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

**WELCOME PACK FOR ALL
NEW U8 - U12 PLAYERS
INCLUDES SHORTS,
SOCKS & FOOTY!**

**SEASON
2026**



SHARKS

U8 - Youth Boys and Girls

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

1st NOVEMBER 2025

PARK ORCHARDS NORTH RINGWOOD
PARISH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

sharksjfc.org.au



**\$25 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
DURING NOVEMBER ONLY!!**





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](https://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'.