

Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School

Principal: Shane Byrne A: 94-112 Woodland St, Strathmore E: info@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au **P:** 9379 5723 **F:** 9374 2389

W: www.strathmore.catholic.edu.au



Reflection



On Tuesday 4th and Thursday 6th March our Year 3 students will receive the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation). The Sacrament of Penance is a Sacrament in which the priest, as the agent of God, forgives sins committed after Baptism, when the person is heartily sorry for their wrongdoing, sincerely confesses them, and is willing to make satisfaction for them.

The students will be involved in preparation for the Sacrament of Penance, by:

- Identifying the five stages of forgiveness
- Defining the keywords that connect with the Sacrament of Reconciliation (choice, free will, sacrament, forgiveness, absolution, conscious)
- Explaining examples of forgiveness through stories from the Gospel and novels
- Explaining examples of forgiveness in the students own experiences
- Compare and contrast the student's own life experiences to the messages in the stories of Jesus, as a model of forgiveness

It is also a time of reflection for us all about how we are living our lives and some questions that can help guide these thoughts include:

- Am I kind to others?
- Do I share with others?
- Am I helpful towards others?
- Am I respectful towards others?
- Do I forgive and forget when someone does something bad to me?
- Do I think of others, or is my focus only on myself?
- Do I tell the truth?

These questions help us to think about our lives and turn back to God so that we, too, can be in a right relationship with ourselves and God.

Act of Contrition:

O my God, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, because you are so good and with Your help, I will try not to sin again. Amen.

As the Year 3 students prepare for this important Sacrament, we are thinking about how we can support them on their faith journey.

We offer this prayer for our Year 3 students:

Lord, we ask for Your guidance as our Year 3 students prepare for the Sacrament of Penance. As they prepare to reflect on their choices and ways to be the best version of themselves, be with them and support them as they journey through this space. We ask this through our Lord, the forgiver. Amen.

Principal: Shane Byrne Email: principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Rev Anthony J Doran Email: strathmore@cam.org.au Website: www.cam.org.au/strathmore **PARISH OFFICE**

22 Robinson Street Moonee Ponds 3039 **Telephone:** 9370 5035

Principal's Message

It was great to see the school community gather to celebrate the beginning of the school year mass last Thursday. It was also an opportunity to recognise those student leaders of the school in their variety of roles including SRC, House Captains and School Captains. At the mass we also reminded the children that the four House colours are named after the four Sisters of Charity who were the first teachers at the school - Parker, Donovan, O'Shea and Walsh.

PREP & YEAR 6 FAMILY PICNIC

On Tuesday, February 25, we invite all Prep and Year 6 families to a picnic in the Senior Yard. This is an opportunity to welcome the Prep children to the school and for the Year 6 and Prep families to meet their buddy's family. The picnic begins at 6:00pm and finishes at 8:00pm. The Parents Association will be providing sausages with salad/coleslaw for parents and children. It is a BYO event for everything else including drinks and picnic rugs/chairs. We look forward to seeing all our Prep and Year 6 families attend this event which will be held in the Senior Yard.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

This week the School advisory Council will meet for the first time this year. The following is an extract from the Terms of Reference which the council operates under.

The School Advisory Council provides a forum for discussion and discernment, where the parent/guardian voice and perspective are available to inform and support the decisions made by the principal and parish priest for the good of school and parish where the wellbeing and outcomes for students is paramount.

Together with Fr. Tony, Laura Petrie and myself the following parents will be members of the council for 2025:

- Leeanne Sands
- Lachlan Hastings
- Maree Mendelo
- Stephen Drill
- Erin Armstrong
- Tom Sheppard
- Deb Nolan

We thank them in advance for the work they will be doing in this role and look forward to their input and the discussions this will generate.

RECONCILIATION INFORMATION NIGHT

This term the children in Year 3 will be making the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As part of their preparation the children and their parents will be participating in the Reconciliation Information Evening on February 20 beginning at 7:00pm. The session will run for approximately an hour and families will be provided with details of the sacrament celebration. We look forward to seeing parents and the Year 3 children at the meeting.

YEAR 3 FAMILY MASS

On February 22 the first of our school family masses will be celebrated. All Year 3 families are invited to attend the Saturday evening mass which begins at 6:00pm. We look forward to families supporting their children's preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation by attending the mass.

REMINDERS

Now that the children have been at school for a couple of weeks, a few reminders to ensure that everyone is clear about the expectations:

- Ensure that your child is clear about pick up arrangements before they start the school day. Late changes to the arrangements can cause the children to be distressed. Office staff are not expected to pass on messages for changed arrangements.
- When dropping off/picking up in the pink zone please do not leave your car unattended.
- The school gates open at 8:30am and this is when children are supervised.
- After school the children are supervised until 3:30. Any children who have not been picked up are moved to the office area.
- Children riding to school need to be wearing helmets and travel in a safe manner.

PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

Attached with today's newsletter is the Parent/Carer Code of Conduct was developed to clearly outline the acceptable behaviours to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all in our community. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with its contents.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

As many of you are aware staff are committed to supporting the children in their learning both inside and outside the classroom. Communication with families is an important part of that support and something we encourage. Staff are not able to respond to telephone calls and emails instantaneously because they are with the children throughout the day and meeting after school on a number of evenings. They will endeavour to attend to all correspondence within a reasonable timeframe. Parents are also reminded that a response to communication should not be expected outside normal working hours or during school holidays unless it is an emergency.

YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY

The first school assembly will be held on Friday February 21 beginning at 2:30pm. This will be hosted by the Year 6 children who will also be presented with their leadership badges and Bomber jackets. We look forward to seeing parents who are available attend this event.

<u>ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND</u>

At the end of last year the Senior Adventure Playground was installed. This was only possible after the fundraising efforts of the Parents Association. The playground was designed in consultation with the SRC and judging by the excitement and use by the children it has been a very successful choice. The shade structure will be installed in the coming weeks.

Shane Byrne PRINCIPAL

"St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience."

Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

For the past few years, we have followed The Resilience Project as part of our wellbeing lessons. The focus on GEM - Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness has greatly benefited our entire school community and we are grateful for the learning we have made.

This year, we have redirected our focus for wellbeing to target the needs of the students and we have engaged with 4 different programs to direct our learning.

Firstly, students from Prep to Year 4 will be utilising the Zones of Regulation. The Zones of Regulation is an empowering instructional tool to build safe, supportive environments that foster learning and wellbeing for all. The program allows students to have increased self awareness and social and emotional skills which are vital at this young age.



We are aiming for the children to be in the optimal 'Green Zone' for the majority of their day to ensure learning is successful.

In Years Prep-4 we are also using the Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships Program which extends the Zones of Regulation further by looking at positive relationship skills. Lessons cover the topics of emotional literacy, personal and cultural strengths, positive coping, problem solving, stress management and help seeking.

In Years 3-4, the children will also be exploring the Friendly Schools Program which focuses on critical social and emotional skills and creating positive learning environments with a focus on bullying behaviour and what this looks like. The focus of these sessions is self awareness, self management, social awareness, relationship skills and social decision making.

Our Year 5-6 students will focus on mental health by exploring Open Parachute. Open Parachute has a series of lessons based around documentary videos which showcase Australian youth sharing their own experiences of overcoming struggle. Peer role modelling is clinically proven to help students develop resilience, whilst also creating a sense of safety in the classroom, enabling students to explore their own experiences of struggle.

The scope and sequence for each year level has been carefully thought out and we look forward to sharing our learning with you in future newsletters and via Seesaw.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Rebecca Glenton Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leader

Speech Pathology for School

How Oral Language supports emotional wellbeing

Research shows that children with stronger language skills in Year 1 are more likely to develop better emotional regulation by Year 6. This means that building your child's language skills from an early age can help them manage their emotions, navigate challenges, and develop resilience.

Talking about past experiences, future events, and emotions helps children develop vocabulary and thinking skills needed to understand their feelings and the feelings of others.

These conversations also help children make sense of the world, reflect on their experiences, and build resilience by learning how to express and process emotions.

Self-talk - the internal dialogue we all have - also plays an important role in emotional regulation. Children with strong language skills are better equipped to use self-talk to calm themselves, think through challenges, and problem-solve when faced with difficult situations.

You can help strengthen your child's language and emotional skills through simple, everyday interactions:

- Explain how and why things happen e.g., "We need to leave now because your brother isn't feeling well."
- Make connections to past experiences e.g., "We're flying to visit Aunt Kate. Remember when we took a plane to Sydney last year?"
- **Encourage your child to predict what might happen** e.g., "I wonder what games they'll play at the birthday party?"
- Brainstorm solutions to problems together e.g., "Oh no, we ran out of bread. What else could we use for a sandwich?"
- Talk about emotions—yours and theirs e.g., "I'm feeling a little sad today because I miss Grandad."
- Help your child understand other people's feelings e.g., "I think that boy is upset because someone took his toy."

Download PDF

St Bernard's Old Collegians Football Club



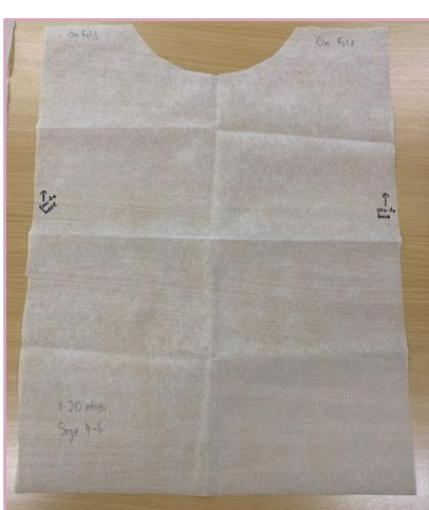
HELP NEEDED: Do you, or someone you know, sew?

We are looking for simple costumes to be made for this year's Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross is a wonderful event on the calendar, which has had a long history at St. Vincent de Paul Primary School, whereby the children take part in recreating the events during Holy Week.



The costumes would require a basic straight stitch up both sides of the material. The material and pattern will be provided. Please see the images below:





The costumes would need to be completed by Friday 21st March, as the Stations of the Cross will be held on Wednesday 2nd April.

If you are interested in helping with making the costumes, please contact Laura Petrie (lpetrie@systrathmore.catholic.edu.au)
Thank you. Your support is very much appreciated.

Laura Petrie
Deputy Principal/Religious Education Leader

Sport News

A reminder that the Auskick program begins on Thursday 20th February. This is an opportunity for children who are interested in participating in 5 sessions at school on a Thursday from 3:30-4:30pm. See flyer or link below for information on how to register for the sessions.

https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/e458d5

Daniel Igoe Sports / PE Co-ordinator



2025 Term Dates

TERM 1

Wednesday 29th January (Prep)
Friday 31st January (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Friday 4th April
(Note: Easter 18th - 21st April)

TERM 2

Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 4th July

TERM 3

Monday 21st July – Friday 19th September

TERM 4

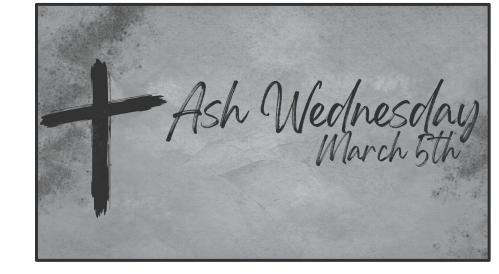
Monday 6th October – Tuesday 16th December

2025 School Closure Days

- Monday 3rd March
- Tuesday 1st April (Learning Conferences)
- Wednesday 21st May
- Thursday 31st July
- Wednesday 17th September (Learning Conferences)
- Monday 3rd November
- Thursday 4th December

Ash Wednesday Mass and Para-liturgy





On Wednesday 5th March the Year 3-6 students will be attending the Parish Mass at 10am for Ash Wednesday. We are inviting all parents/grandparents to attend the Parish Mass on this day.

Also, on Wednesday 5th March the Prep-Year 2 students will be attending a Para-liturgy at 2:30pm in the School Hall. It would be fantastic if parents/grandparents were able to attend this important event.

In 2025, like in every year, Ash Wednesday is the first day of the liturgical season of Lent. It always falls six and half weeks before Easter, beginning the Lenten season of preparation for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

We look forward to seeing you on Ash Wednesday!

Mrs. Petrie Deputy Principal/Religious Education Leader





Audiri - Update your Group for 2025

The Audiri app is one of the main methods of communication from the school to parents. Could all parents please ensure that they have selected their child's **new year level group for 2025** on the Audiri app. Just go to the 'Resources' tab located on the bottom right hand side of the app and then select 'Groups' then add or remove the relevant year level/s.

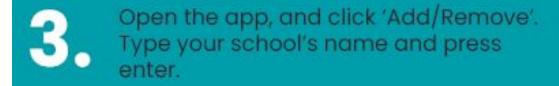
Install the App in 4 easy steps!

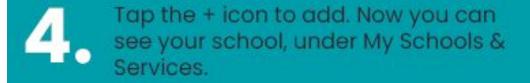


The free Audiri school app offers parents a convenient way to stay up-to-date with the school calendar, last-minute forms, newsletters, all school communications, and even make cashless payments. With Audiri, you can get started in just a few minutes by following these simple steps:

- Open the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store and search for 'Audiri'. Install the app.
- Create an account and follow the prompts. Click 'Sign up'. Enter your email address, create a password and click on 'Sign up'. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your account.

 Open the confirmation email and confirm your account.

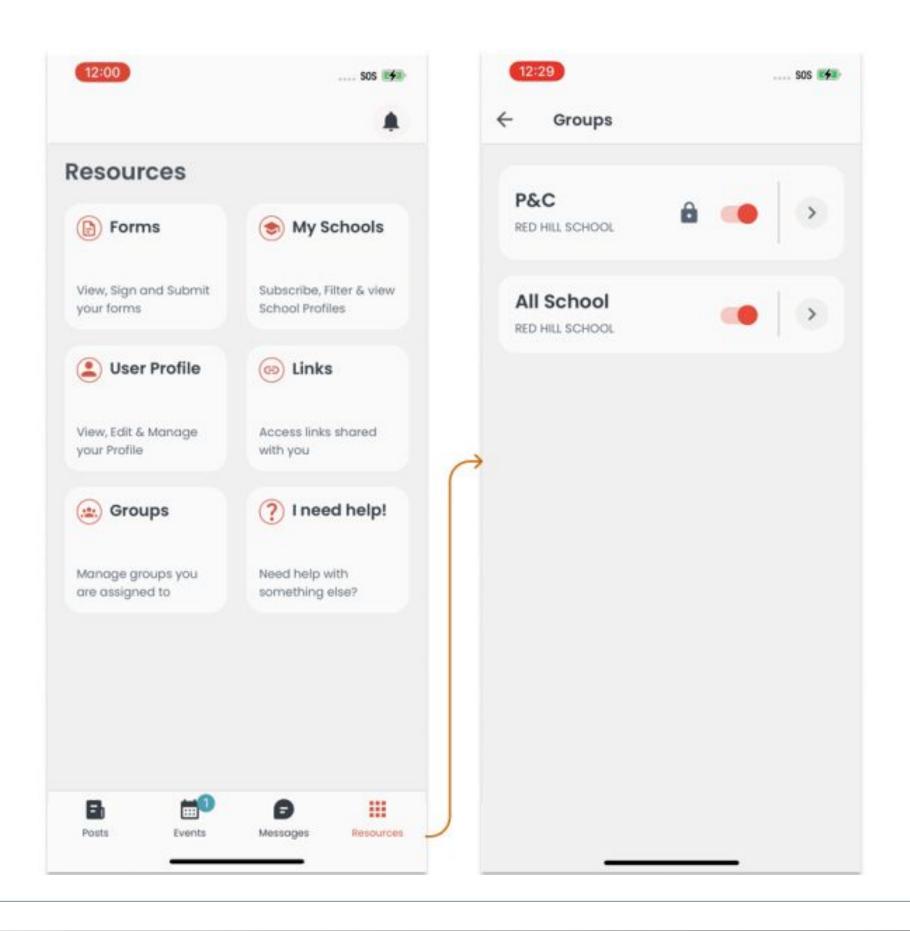






How do I subscribe or unsubscribe from a Group?

- To subscribe or unsubscribe from a Group, navigate to your Groups list from the Resources screen.
- From there, you can scroll through the list of available Groups and toggle each
 Group on or off as required.



2025 School photos - Wednesday 19th March

School photos will be taken on Wednesday 19th March at St. Vincent de Paul Primary School. Please note that your child is required to come to school in their **full Summer school uniform**. If your child has Physical Education on this day, please place their runners into their school bag for them to change into.

Please see the information below on how to order your child's school photos.

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au enter code: DY9 RG7 NXP







scan to order

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

Chess for Schools - Term 1, 2025



TERM 1, 2025 - REGISTER NOW @ CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU

SPECIALISED CHESS COACHING

Since 2002, we have been providing our popular Chess For Schools program in schools throughout Melbourne and Greater Geelong





'I am thrilled with the tremendous success of the chess program run by Chess for Schools. The students' adoration for the program is evident as they eagerly anticipate lunchtime on Tuesdays, bursting with excitement. The instructors' dedication, patience and attentiveness foster an engaging and nurturing learning environment, igniting the children's passion for chess as their skills flourish'.

Jessica Ward, Teacher - Loreto Toorak.

HOW CAN CHESS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD?

Educational: Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.

Social: Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.

Emotional: Confidence, self-esteem, resilience through winning and losing games.

CLASS STRUCTURE:

Different lessons are taught each week from a structured syllabus ranging from tactics, strategies, master openings, traps & special moves. After the lesson children are paired up in a fun tournament play off. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.





<u>CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU</u>

CLASS DETAILS - ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY

DAY

TIME

LOCATION

Library

DATES

COST

Mondays

1:40pm - 2:20pm

03 February to 24 March

\$145 per child per term

2025 Concessional School Fee Policy

Please continue reading to understand if you are eligible for discounted school fees under the 2025 Concessional School Fee Policy (including Health Care Card holders).

CONCESSIONAL SCHOOL FEE POLICY – 2025

1 child family \$780 per annum
2 child family \$1,196 per annum
3+ child family \$1,560 per annum
(Excluding any camp charges)

The following families are encouraged to apply for concessional school fees as outlined in the newly introduced MACS Concessional School Fee Policy contained on our website under: Concessional Fee Policy.

- Any family holding a Health Care Card and eligible for Camps,
 Sports and Excursions (CSEF)
- Any family of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage
- Any family experiencing **severe** financial hardship
- Any family holding a DVA Gold Card
- Any family identified as refugees and holding an ImmiCard Families who meet one of the above criteria are required to return the below documentation to the office:
- Concessional Fee Application Form
- A completed direct debit request service agreement
- A copy of the government concession card (if applicable)
- A completed Camps, Sports and Excursions (CSEF) application form (if applicable)

2025 Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the cost of school trips, camp and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested <u>CONCESSION CARD</u> or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

\$150 per primary school student (please note the amount is still to be confirmed by the Department of Education).

We would encourage all parents who do have a concession card to apply for this benefit as, apart from receiving the CSEF payment, it also impacts on the school student funding.

For more information you can visit the CSEF website: CSEF Information

If you have applied, or would like to apply, please advise the school office (info@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au).

2025 School Fees

SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL FEES AND LEVIES FOR 2025

\$3630 PER Annum FAMILY FEE

(Billed over 3 Terms)

Term 1 \$890
Term 2 \$890
Term 3 \$890
Maintenance Levy \$210
Capital Levy \$750

This equates to an increase of \$1.95 per school day **per family** over the year.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT LEVY

(Covers classroom requisites and excursions)

Prep	\$570
Year One	\$570
Year Two	\$570
Year Three	\$570
Year Four	\$570
Year Five	\$570
Year Six	\$620

If you have any concerns about your financial situation and are experiencing hardship, please contact Mr Shane Byrne (principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au), so that a confidential financial arrangement can be discussed.

Scholastic Book Club



The latest Book Club catalogue was distributed to all students last week. If you would like to place an order, it will need to be submitted online by **Monday 17th February.**

All orders are to be completed online. The school office will not be accepting any orders.

Once the books have been delivered to the school, they will be sorted and distributed to the students for them to bring home.

Keyboard and Guitar Lessons

This year we are very fortunate to again have Laura O'Connell conducting guitar and keyboard lessons at St Vincent de Paul Primary School.

The ½ hour group lessons are every

Friday during class time. Guitar lessons are offered to students in Year 4 and above only. Keyboard lessons are offered to students in Year 1 and above only. The cost is \$25 per lesson. If you wish to register your interest, please email Laura at: loconnellellie@hotmail.com

Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on FRIDAY 21st February at 2:25 pm in the hall.

PREP BLUE	Tommy Hawken Estelle Stattrop	THREE GREEN	Connor Cronin Milana Nguyen
PREP GOLD	Oscar Sullivan Matilda Whaley	FOUR BLUE	Sienna Godino Levi Bugryn
PREP GREEN	Havana Batticciotto Tom Shannon	FOUR GOLD	Ivy Makarucha Daniel Hastings
ONE BLUE	Peter Randels Mila Di Natale	FOUR GREEN	Saige Morrell Henry Giardina
ONE GOLD	Hugh Watson Madeline Mckinley	FIVE BLUE	Sienna Mazza Christian Stattrop
TWO BLUE	Cole Layton Eleanor Anderson	FIVE GOLD	Luke Hale Kirra Bristow
TWO GOLD	Olivia Giansiracusa William Guardabascio	FIVE GREEN	Noah Nguyen Evie Anderson
THREE BLUE	Zoe Macheda Zak Robinson	SIX BLUE	Luca Karamicov Haythi Shein
THREE GOLD	Harper Pali Harry Shannon	SIX GOLD	Vivien Wheaton Lucas Ponte

Strathmore Netball Club

Strathmore Netball Club's "Come & Play" FREE Day! 🧡 💜



- Monday, 24 February 2025
- Aberfeldie Primary School (Ramsay St entrance)
- For girls & boys aged 5–10
- Register now via link <u>REGISTER FOR COME TRY DAY HERE</u>

Interested in playing netball but not sure where to start? Experience the fun of Woolworths NetSetGO, Australia's official netball starter program!

Learn the basics, build confidence, and have a blast with our friendly coaches.

The "Come & Play" FREE day is the perfect opportunity to sample the joy of netball and see what the Net tier has to offer before committing to the full 10-week program starting the following week.

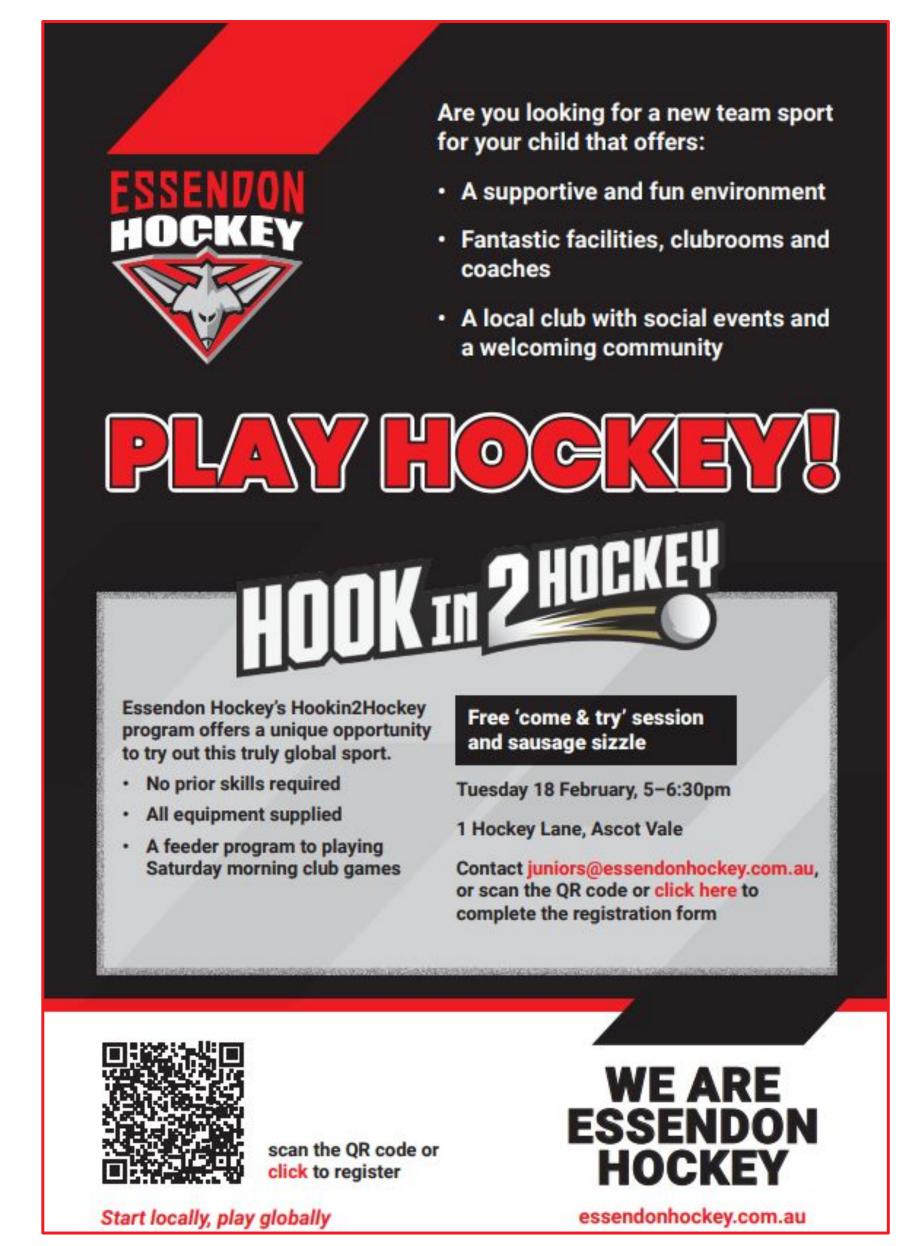
See flyer for more details!



Strathmore Football Club



Essendon Hockey



VACCA Foster Care Program



St Bernard's 2025 Auskick Program



Important Dates

FEBRUARY 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Opening School Mass 10am	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 School Advisory Council Meeting	14 Zooper Dooper Day	15	16
17	18	19	20 Year 3 Reconciliation Info Evening 7pm	21 Zooper Dooper Day Year 6 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	22 Yr 3 Family Mass 6pm	23
24 PA Meeting 7:00pm Online	25 Prep/Year 6 BBQ 6-8pm	26	27 Whole School Swimming Sports	28 Zooper Dooper Day Gala Day 1 (Year 5)		

MARCH 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3 School Closure Day	4 Walk to School begins Yr 3 Reconciliation 3:30-5:30pm	5 Ash Wednesday - Mass 10am Yr 3-6 - Paraliturgy 2:30pm Prep-Yr 2 (School Hall)	6 Yr 3 Reconciliation 3:30-5:30pm	7 Zooper Dooper Day Gala Day 2 (Year 5) Year 4 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	8	9
10 Labour Day Holiday	11 Yr 6 Camp Prep Information & Parent Helper Workshop	12 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5)	13 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) School Advisory Council Meeting	14 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) Zooper Dooper Day	15	16
17 NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) Second Hand Uniform Sale	18	19 School Photo Day	20	21 Zooper Dooper Day Year 5 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	22	23
24	25	26 Year 6 Mass 10am	27	28 Hot Food Day	29	30
31						

APRIL 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 Learning Conferences (School Closure Day)	2 Stations of the Cross	3	4 Easter Raffle 12 noon Last day of Term 1 1:30pm finish	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday	19 Easter Saturday	20 Easter Sunday
21 Easter Monday	22 Term 2 Begins	23 Year 5 Mass 10am	24 ANZAC Day Ceremony	25 ANZAC Day	26	27
28	29	30 Year 4 Mass 10am				