



Upcoming Events

Easter Celebration Liturgy at 9:15am

Date: Tuesday 2 April
Venue: The Hall at St
Raphael's School -

Book Club Playgroup 9:15am - 10:30am.

Date: Wednesday 3 April
Venue: The Loft St
Raphael's School - Adelaide

Community Prayer hosted by Reception

Date: Thursday 4 April
Venue: The Hall at St
Raphael's School -

Book Club Playgroup 9:15am - 10:30am.

Date: Wednesday 10 April
Venue: The Loft St
Raphael's School - Adelaide

Community Prayer hosted by Year 1

Date: Thursday 11 April
Venue: The Hall at St
Raphael's School -

Invitation to Contribute to the St Raphael's School Community Cookbook, submissions close 12 April

Date: Friday 12 April
Venue: St Raphael's School
- Parkside

School Assembly

Date: Friday 12 April
Venue: The Hall at St
Raphael's School -

Pupil Free Day

Date: Monday 29 April
Venue: Venue is N/A -

From the Principal

As we approach Holy Week, I invite each of you to join in reflection and celebration. Holy Week holds deep significance for many, as it represents a time of both solemn remembrance and joyous anticipation.

At its core, Holy Week is a journey—a journey of faith, hope, and renewal. It begins with Palm Sunday, a day when we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, greeted with joy and enthusiasm by the crowds. It is a reminder of the power of hope and the promise of new beginnings.

As the week unfolds, we encounter the profound story of Jesus' last days—His teachings, His acts of compassion, and ultimately, His sacrifice on the cross. While this may sound solemn, it's important to recognise that Holy Week is not just about sorrow and sacrifice. It is about love and redemption, about the enduring belief in the possibility of transformation and renewal.

For families, Holy Week offers a unique opportunity to come together, to pause amidst the busyness of life, and to reflect on what truly matters. It is a time to cherish the bonds of family and community, to share stories, traditions, and meals together. Whether through prayer, acts of kindness, or simply spending quality time with loved ones, Holy Week invites us to connect with each other in meaningful ways.

And as we journey through Holy Week, we are reminded of the beauty of new beginnings. The darkness of Good Friday gives way to the dawn of Easter Sunday—the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a day of hope, of joy, and of the promise of new life.

I encourage you all during this time to embrace the spirit of Holy Week. Take this time to reflect on the values of love, compassion, and forgiveness. Let us come together as a community, supporting and uplifting one another as we journey through this sacred time.

May Holy Week be a time of peace, reflection, and renewal for you and your families.

Warm regards, Emma Fowler

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

We are delighted to invite you to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 9th, where we will gather as a community to celebrate our achievements and unveil an exciting new initiative—the launch of our Literacy Strategy.

The AGM provides us with a valuable opportunity to reflect on the past year's accomplishments, share our vision for the future, and engage with you, our valued members of the school community. It is a time for open dialogue, collaboration, and celebration of the journey we have undertaken together.

To add a touch of conviviality to the evening, we will be offering a selection of fine wine and cheese for your enjoyment. This informal setting will foster opportunities for networking, building connections, and strengthening our sense of community.

Central to our AGM agenda is the launch of our new Literacy Strategy, which aims to empower students with essential reading and writing skills that will serve as a foundation for their academic success and lifelong learning. We believe that literacy is not only fundamental to academic achievement but also essential for personal and professional fulfillment.

During the event, we will provide practical tips and resources to help families support their children in developing strong literacy skills at home. From fostering a love of reading to enhancing writing proficiency, our strategy will offer guidance and support tailored to the needs of each child.

We encourage all parents and guardians to attend this informative and engaging evening. Whether you are a seasoned participant in our school community or a newcomer, your presence and participation are invaluable as we work together to nurture the academic and personal growth of our students.

Join us on April 9th for an evening of learning, connection, and celebration. Together, let us embark on this journey of literacy empowerment, equipping our children with the tools they need to flourish in an ever-changing world.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Pupil Free days for 2024

As we are getting closer to the end of Term 1, I am pleased to share with you our schedule of pupil-free days for 2024. These days play a crucial role in our commitment to ongoing professional development and spiritual renewal for our dedicated staff members.

Each year, our staff engage in a range of professional learning opportunities aimed at enhancing their skills, knowledge, and expertise in education. These opportunities enable our teachers and support staff to stay abreast of the latest research, methodologies, and technologies, ensuring that they are equipped to provide the highest quality education to our students.

In 2024, we have scheduled the following pupil-free days for staff professional learning:

Monday, April 29th: An opportunity for staff to further develop our agreed approach to teaching Literacy, as well as deepening their understanding of how to support students using the Positive Behaviour strategies.

Thursday, June 6th: This day is tentatively allocated for moving, pending the handover date of the keys to our new building. As we anticipate the move into our new facilities, this day will be crucial for staff to move furniture and resources into the new environment to ensure the space is ready for the students to return to school after the long weekend.

Friday, June 7th: A focus on the Catholic traditions and deepening our understanding of Jesus' mission.

Monday, July 22nd: Staff will attend the inaugural CESA Eastern region conference. A teacher led event focussed on student agency.

Thursday and Friday, December 12th and 13th: The final days of the school year will be dedicated to wrapping up administrative tasks, reflecting on the year that has passed, and planning for the year ahead.

It's important to note that while we have tentatively scheduled June 6th as a pupil-free day, this date may change depending on the handover date of the keys to our new building. We anticipate that the handover could occur anywhere from May 9th to June 6th. We will communicate any updates regarding this pupil-free day as soon as we have more information.

We understand that pupil-free days may require alternative arrangements for childcare, and we appreciate your understanding and support in this matter. These days are vital for the continued growth and development of our staff, ultimately benefiting the educational experience of our students.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership as we work together to provide the best possible education for our students.

Warm regards, Emma Fowler

From the APRIM

Dear families and friends,

This week we have been blessed with a rich array of Holy Week experiences, focusing on Palm Sunday, the Last Supper and the Stations of the Cross.

On Tuesday when we return after the extended long weekend, we will be gathering at 9.15am in the hall for an Easter Celebration Liturgy. Families, you are warmly invited to join us!

I will leave you all with an Easter Prayer...

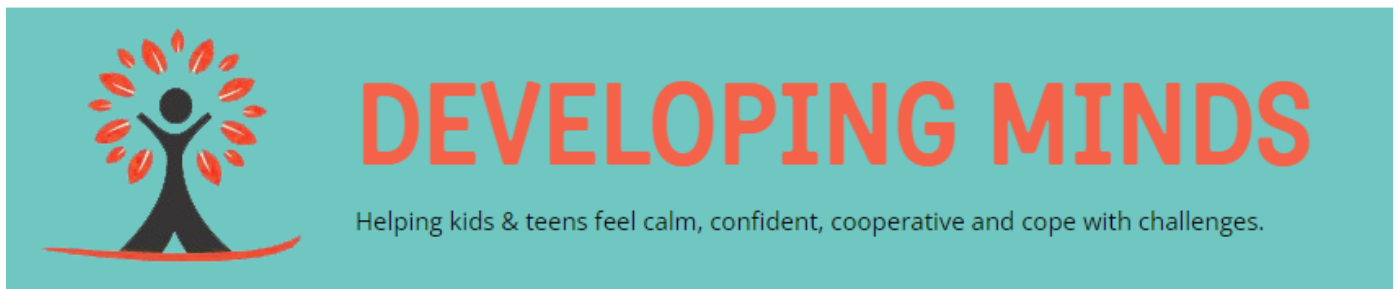
Loving God, We thank you for the gift of each other, especially our families and friends. We thank you for the gift of a safe and comfortable home. We thank you for the gift of nature - the animals, plants, sky, earth, rain, wind and sun. We thank you for the gift of food, so we can grow strong and healthy. We thank you for the gift of loving communities that care for and support us. And ... especially at Easter, we thank you for the gift of Jesus. Amen.

Please enjoy the many beautiful photos of our Stations of the Cross at St Raphael's School.

Easter blessings to you all, Tanya



From the School Counsellor



Here is the link to a parent article on how to help their child who is sad. Hopefully this will be a suitable addition to the next newsletter.

If you ask parents what they most want for their child, many will say something like this: "I just want my child to be happy". Whilst most of us know, at a logical level, that we can't make this happen, seeing our children frequently or deeply sad, is very confronting. (Developing Minds)

The following link has some helpful tips on how to support your child when they are experiencing regular sadness. [Help, my child is always sad: tearfulness, sadness and depression in young people — Developing Minds](#)

Kind Regards

Sarah Byrnes, School Counsellor

St Louis Aged Care Facility in Parkside

On Monday 25th March the Year 2 class and Mrs Hamilton's year 5/6 class went to spread Easter cheer at St Louis Aged Care Facility in Parkside. We were welcomed by Wendy their Social Coordinator who took us to meet the centres pet chickens. Students loved hearing about the chickens, touching and holding them. We then went and visited many residents and gave them Easter cards designed by Mila and Ethan. Wendy told us a bout each resident we visited, how old they were, some were in their late 90's and even 100 and what they did before they came to live at the residence. We had a lovely lady Jenni join us for the walk around the centre. Jenni was a teacher and loved seeing all the students and the cheer they were spreading to the other residents. Students and residents loved the interactions.



Ukulele Club



Photograph: 'Hanging Out at Recess' Taken by Mrs. Flynn (L-R) Anna, Reggie and Maria.

We are thrilled to share that the Ukulele Club will now be a continuous extra-curricular activity for our Year 5/6 students, as well as the musicians in Mr. Uzzell's Years 3/4 class.

Over the past two weeks, we have happily welcomed back our returning members and greeted new students who have embarked on their musical journeys with us.

As an Arts Educator, there is nothing more fulfilling than seeing the growth, camaraderie, and talent development of our young musicians on a weekly basis. Moments that stand out include Madelyn's generosity in aiding new students with instrument tuning during Week 8 and Emily's dedication since joining us in Term 1. Emily has progressed to playing various beginner songs like 'The Itsy Bitsy Spider', 'Do You Wanna Build A Snowman?', and 'This Little Light of Mine'. These milestones bring immense joy.

Special Thank You: David Hunt

Over the last four weeks, our Year 3/4 learners have become acquainted with an assortment of first nations musical instruments and popular artists. Learning activities have included learning how to sing the celebrated Kauna Land song titled 'Grandfather, Grandfather' and creating short compositions with rhythm sticks.

During Week 8, students also had the opportunity to see a real didgeridoo up close, courtesy of David Hunt (Daniel Hunt's Grandfather) who kindly loaned us the instrument.

For many children, this was their first experience seeing and touching a didgeridoo up close. Some brave students were also eager to see if they could produce proper sound (after cleaning it between each use).

Moreover, I will definitely not be pursuing a career as a didgeridoo artist anytime soon (the children found my attempts quite amusing!), but I must acknowledge James in Mr Uzzell's class (who is originally from South Korea), who impressed us all with his skilful first attempt

at playing the instrument.

Parents and Friends Committee News

Parents and Friends Committee



P&F fundraiser through Drakes

Our school has signed up to part of Drakes Community Dollars program. By scanning the barcode on the physical tag given out at last Sunday's Picnic, our school will receive 1c for every two dollars you spend. These tags are available from our front office or download the Drake's app and choose our school to scan the barcode at checkout.

P&F Whole School Playdate Invitation

Last Sunday afternoon, the community came together for a wonderful gathering. The food was being passed around, and smiles were abundant as everyone enjoyed each other's company. Thank you to everyone who made it!

Cookbook photos request

If you have any photos of you and your family eating either at the dinner table, in the kitchen, at a park, playground or the beach, please send them through for possible inclusion in the cookbook - be sure to state your family's surname with each photo please.

ALSO the submission deadline for sending in recipes for inclusion to the cookbook has been pushed to the end of this term.

Please send all materials to Katrina at ktucker@raph.catholc.edu.au

Best regards,

The Parents and Friends Committee

School Picnic



OSHC NEWS

Hello OSHC Families, We hope you are all doing well.

This upcoming Pupil Free Day on the 29th of April. We are excited to announce that we have the fantastic Bop Till You Drop Entertainment Company joining us in OSHC. A professional entertainer will come and conduct a fun filled Disco. The entertainer will also teach the children funky dance moves and encourage their own freestyle dancing, to trending songs. The day will also be filled with exciting, planned activities and a special movie afternoon. There will also be plenty of opportunities for cool prizes to be won throughout the day!

Bookings can be made via Fully Booked. If you are booking, we please request that children bring their own recess. Lunch and afternoon snack will be provided. The day will run from 8:30am till 5:30pm.

So come Bop Till You Drop this Pupil Free Day!

We look forward to seeing you.

From The OSHC Team

Corn Fritter OSHC Recipe



In the OSHC kitchen we are always cooking up an assortment of healthy snacks! Our new Corn Fritters with Salsa was an absolute hit with the children! The recipe is so simple and healthy we wanted to share it with you.

Mixture

2 x 420g Cans of Corn

2 x Tablespoons of Sweet Chilli Sauce

3 x Tablespoons of Dried Italian Herbs

4 x Cups of Plain Flour

3 x Cups of water Salt and Pepper to taste

Olive Oil Spray Oil

To add on top

1 x Jar of Plain Mild Salsa

Optional: Grated cheese (Measure with your heart)

Or even upgrade the meal with some freshly chopped avocado.

Method

1. Begin by draining the corn.
2. Combine all the ingredients together.
3. If the consistency is too runny or too thick add flour or more water till the batter is to your liking.
4. Heat frying pan to medium-high heat
5. Spoon just over a tablespoon of batter per fritter into the frying pan
6. Cook for about 2-3 mins, until golden brown underneath, then turn and cook the other side. Repeat with the spray oil and fritter mixture.
7. Serve with salsa and toppings of your choice!

Book Club Playgroup - every Wednesday in term 9:15am - 10:30am

