



NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER NO: 2

THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2021



St. Philip's Vision - Modelling the teachings of Christ, St Philip's Catholic School community aspires to be a place of welcome that provides many learning environments to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world.

CALENDAR DATES

FEBRUARY

5	Family Picnic Night – School Oval POSTPONED
8 & 15th	Tennis Clinics
9	Swimming Trials
12	Family Picnic Night – School Oval
16	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)
17	Ash Wednesday – Mass 9.00am
19	Interschool Swimming Carnival

PLEASE NOTE: SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS IS BETWEEN 8.40AM TO 3.45PM ON SCHOOL DAYS.

ASSEMBLY

Our next Assembly is on Friday the 5th February for students and staff.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Lord,
as daylight fills the sky,
fill us with your holy light.
May our lives mirror our love for you
whose wisdom has brought us into being,
and whose care guides us on our way.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening	7.00pm Vigil
Sunday Morning	8.30am & 10.30am
Monday-Friday	9.00am

CONFESSION

Saturday	10.00am-11.00am
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From the Principal

For all of the staff at St Philip's, the return of the children on Monday was a very special day. It was a privilege to see the students and staff reconnecting and it was wonderful to see the children learning, laughing and playing together. We also welcomed our prep students on Monday and our new families who have joined our community this year. We look forward to getting to know them all.

An important part of school life at St Philip's is our commitment to our faith and we are blessed to be supported in this by Fr Dillon. Last Sunday the staff joined the St Philip's parish community to celebrate Mass and were commissioned and received a special blessing from Fr Dillon for the coming school year. On Tuesday we celebrated our opening School Mass with Fr Dillon and the parish community, and yesterday Fr Dillon visited the classes to engage with the students and to bless all of the classrooms. We appreciate Fr Dillon's ongoing support of the school and his contribution to our faith and spiritual development.

Our new Learning and Teaching Leader, Mrs. Veronica Maguire commenced her employment with us this week. Veronica will support teachers in all areas of teaching and learning and curriculum planning. I am also pleased to announce that Mrs. Jeanette Corrigan has been appointed as our STEM teacher. Some of you may know Jeanette as she has worked here previously as a classroom teacher and school leader, and in more recent times as an emergency classroom teacher. Jeanette has a science background and is excited about sharing her passion for science with the students in STEM classes as part of our specialist program.

During our staff meeting last night we began discussing the data that was collected during last week's assessment days. The teachers will use this data to plan for the future learning and teaching of all children.

Thank you to the parents who attended our welcome assembly on Monday. This was an opportunity to welcome the new school year, introduce our new students and school leaders, and to present the Year Six students with their school jumpers. Our School Captains, Sam M and Molly M led our assembly with confidence and enthusiasm. I look forward to working with Sam and Molly throughout the year. Our weekly assemblies will continue on Friday afternoons, commencing tomorrow. At this point in time, due to Covid restrictions, only students and staff may attend these.

As you would know the Victorian Government has mandated the wearing of masks again while indoors and when social distancing is not possible. Thank you to you all for adhering to these restrictions while on site. As previously advised, parents who need to enter the school buildings for longer than 15 minutes are required to sign in. Our Covid Safe Plan is regularly monitored and updated to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community. Please contact me if you have any concerns or queries regarding this.

Unfortunately, the Family Picnic Night that was scheduled for tomorrow night has been postponed until next Friday, 12th February. Tomorrow's weather forecast does not look good, with heavy rain and possible thunderstorms predicted, not conducive to outdoor events. The picnic night is an important community event for St Philip's and I trust you understand the need to postpone and hope families will be able to make it next week.

Wishing you all a relaxing and safe weekend.

Warm regards,

Michelle Worcester
Acting Principal

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup for 2020 will take place every Monday during the term from 9:00am-12:00pm in the Fr Arnold Centre (School Hall). All families with pre-school children are most welcome.

SKOOLBAG APP

All relevant school related dates and newsletters can be accessed via the St Philip's Skoolbag App. If you have not accessed the app to this point it is available for all devices and is free. Simply go to the App store or Google Play and search for the Skoolbag app. Once the app is set up you will then be able to search on the app for St Philip's Primary School.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is away from school for any reason could you, please either ring the school on the morning of the absence or alternatively notify the school via the Skoolbag App. On the home page of the app press eforms. From this menu select Absentee Form. Fill in the form and sign at the bottom using your finger. Press 'Submit eForm'. The school office will receive a copy of this form which will be passed on to the relevant teacher.

Based on government attendance guidelines and our school policies on attendance we must advise parents/guardians of unexplained absences, on the same day as soon as practicable.

TENNIS CLINICS

Free tennis clinics for all students from Prep-Yr 6 will be taking place on Monday 8th February and Monday 15th February at the Nunawading Tennis Club behind the school. A permission form has gone out to all students, please return to school by tomorrow 5th February. All tennis equipment is provided at these clinics.

HATS

Just a reminder to families that school hats will need to be worn by students outside throughout Term 1 as part of our school Sunsmart Policy.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

Our specialist classes in 2021 are Physical Education, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Italian and Music/Performing Arts. These classes will begin in the third week of term from Tuesday 9th February.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The Before and After School Care program at St Philip's run by Youth Leadership Victoria begins for 2021 this Monday 1st February. Before School Care is from 7:00am-8:40am and After School Care is from 3:30pm-6:00pm. Parent Information Packs on the program are available from the school office. Bookings from 2020 do not roll over to 2021. To assist with rostering could you please go online to <https://ylv.com.au/online-oshc-> and make your booking for 2021 ASAP.

PREP FAMILIES

A reminder to families with children in Prep that once classes begin for the school year the Preps will not attend school on Wednesdays until Wednesday 10th March which is the first Wednesday after the Labour Day Public Holiday on Monday 8th March.

PREPARATION OF CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

The preparation and celebration of sacraments is an important part of your child/ren's faith development. If your child was to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Sacrament of Eucharist in 2020 and was unable to do so because of Covid, you are encouraged to contact Fr Dillon to make arrangements for their preparation and celebration during this term. This would involve students currently in Years 4 and 5.

Further details regarding the preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Grade 3 students; Sacrament of Eucharist for Grade 4 students; and Sacrament of Confirmation for Grade 6 students will be forwarded when available.

SWIMMING TRIALS

Dear Families,

Students in the U/9 - U/12 sporting age groups have been offered the opportunity to participate in swimming trials to be held in the first 2 sessions on Tuesday. This is an optional event. The fastest students across each stroke - Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly will be selected to represent the school at the Interschool Sports on 19th February.

Forms have been given out to interested students with more detailed information. Please discuss with your child their suitability for the trials and if they wish to participate, please return the permission form and payment by Friday this week 5/2/21.

We are also after parent volunteers to assist with timing the students on Tuesday morning. Please make contact with Michelle Worcester or myself if you can be of assistance.

Apologies for the short time frame, Interschool Swimming Sports is only 2 weeks away and we need to select the teams.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lang

klang@stphilipbbn.catholic.edu.au

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Thomas M, Evan C, Vanessa L, Lily R,
Aria C, Kushampreet G, Eilidh Z.



Parents & Friends



VIP Car Park

Do you want that front row parking? Tickets have been sent via the blue wallets. Extra tickets will be available at the Family Picnic night. If Picnic night is postponed due to weather, it will be drawn at the next scheduled date.

P&F Meeting

Our first P&F meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th February @ 7pm**. It will be held in the school hall to meet social distancing requirements. We invite all families to attend, this is not just for those elected in the committee. We love to hear ideas and would love to get our events planning underway.

Cake Raffle

The cake raffle is back, but it will be a bit different this year. Parents **WILL NOT** be allowed to attend assembly, but the children can still purchase tickets via their classrooms on Friday mornings. Tickets are 20c each.

Parents, you can still volunteer to bake a cake/slice etc. We will now have an online volunteer form that you can register from. Follow this link to register <https://volunteersignup.org/73WCL>
Cakes need to be delivered to the school office on the **Friday morning**.
Please include your family name and ingredients.



Shrove Tuesday

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Shrove Tuesday will be held on **Tuesday 16th February**. Our organisers Paula Sutherland and Ashley Mitcham are currently planning this event. Forms will go out shortly requesting helpers.



Entertainment books are still available all year round. Enjoy a full 12 months of savings to your favourite restaurant, activity or get discounted vouchers.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/9a27151>

If you have any questions, please email me pandf@stphilipbbn.catholic.edu.au or you can call Maria Ferrara on 0411 255 176.

2021 P&F Committee:

P&F Co-ordinator	Maria Ferrara pandf@stphilipbbn.catholic.edu.au – 0411 255 176
Secretary	Tanya Dennis
Class Reps	P/1 – Simone Bell 2/3 – Tanya Dennis 4/5 – Carlie Huppatz 5/6 – Theresa Breen
Sports Committee Leader	Matt McInerney
Shrove Tuesday	Paula Sutherland and Ashely Mitcham
Easter Raffle	Bridget Poole and Simone Bell
Tuckshop Leaders	Nicole George and Fiona McInerney

Community News

BLACKBURN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Football is back for 2021! Boys and Girls come and join the Blackburn Junior Football Club. Registration – Sunday the 7th February 11:00am-2:00pm – Morton Park Blackburn
Blackburn Football Club, the family club is one of the largest clubs in the EFL, with over 500 girls and boys playing football from Under 8 for Boys (Born 2013) and Under 10 for Girls (Born 2012). To Register to play in 2021: <https://blackburnfc.com.au/bjfc-registrations-now-open/>: or please email us at registrar.junior@blackburnfc.com.au

PHOTOS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Thank you to Mrs. Margot Gallacher, our resident photographer.

