



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

- 12 Family Picnic Night – School Oval
6.30pm-8.30pm
- 15 Tennis Clinics
- 16 Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)
- 17 Ash Wednesday – Mass 9.00am
- 19 Interschool Swimming Carnival

MARCH

- 2 Student Learning Conferences

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

ASSEMBLY

Our next Assembly is on Friday the 12th February for students and staff.

PRAYER

Embracing Father,
You grace each of us with equal measure in your love.

Let us learn to love our neighbours more deeply, so that we can create peaceful and just communities.

Inspire us to use our creative energies to build the structures we need to overcome the obstacles of intolerance and indifference.

May Jesus provide us the example needed and send the Spirit to warm our hearts for the journey.

Amen

—from *Being Neighbour: The Catechism and Social Justice*

ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS TIMES

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

CONFESSION

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| Saturday | 10.00am-11.00am |
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From the Principal

Dear Parents,

I draw on the words in the prayer at the start of the newsletter “let us love our neighbours more deeply, so that we can create peaceful and just communities”. These are more than words, they describe what underpins just relationships and peaceful interactions we have with others on a daily basis. The photos at the end of this newsletter are evident of such relationships and interactions that we see on a daily basis at St Philip’s. As the children share learning and social experiences with one another they are demonstrating their love and care for their neighbour. This is what makes St Philip’s the welcoming community that it is.

It is a pleasure to advise that all our staff positions have now been filled. Today we welcomed to our school Mrs Rachel Mirra who will be teaching in our 4/5 class on Thursdays and Fridays this year. Rachel has taught in other Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of Melbourne and she looks forward to being a part of the 4/5 classroom and the St Philip’s community.

We are in the process of organising our beginning year meetings when parents and teachers will come together to discuss all aspects of the children’s learning and development. The structure will change to one that also involves students from grades 1 – 6. The purpose of a three-way conference allows the children to see parents and teachers working together with them. Students are also able to provide information to clarify what they have learnt and what their future learning needs are. Throughout the conference parents and teachers are encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback. There will also be time available for the parents and teachers to speak alone. Further information regarding booking interview times will be provided early next week. The prep students will not be part of the meetings, these will involve the parents and Miss Ngo only.

This week I met with the Parents and Friends Committee. I appreciated the enthusiasm and commitment of the parents as we discussed and made future plans for St Philip’s.

Our first social gathering is tomorrow night and I know the students are excited about the family picnic where they will be able to share time with family and friends and have some fun. I look forward to seeing many of you tomorrow night.

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. All tennis equipment is provided, students need to wear or bring their runners.

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 began this week.

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.

Learning News

Year 2/3MS have been exploring what *Personal Identity* means.

Connecting this learning to their faith has enabled students to explore how being created in God's image helps to shape a part of their personal identity.

In Genesis 1:27 we read that "So God created humankind in his image, In the image of God, he created them;" and in Psalm 139:14 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."

We discussed how even though we are all unique, we share one common trait; we are all created in God's image.

God sent his son, Jesus, to represent Him. It is through Jesus' life and ministry that we can gain a better understanding of what God is truly like.

Students were asked to draw what they thought God looks like in the centre of a flower template. They wrote personal character traits that they share in connection to God's image on the petals.

We used these to create a display, 'Growing Together in God's Image'.



PE NEWS

Dear families,

On Tuesday 9th February, 17 students accompanied Mrs Lang and Mrs Gallacher to the pool to undergo the swimming trials. Students had the opportunity to swim a lap of Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly and be timed to compete for a place in the St Philip's Swimming Team. All students swam impressively and showed great grit and determination as they met their challenges of the morning.

Congratulations to: Ethan A, Rachel S, Chloe G, Trent G, Tara L, Rachel G, Jack A, Ashley S, Stuart S and Sam M who have all made the team. These students will be representing the school at the District Swimming Carnival on Friday 19th February.

Thanks very much to our parents who helped on the day, Paula Sutherland, Nicole and Andrew George and Matthew McInerney, we couldn't have run the trials without you!

We wish our team the best of luck for next Friday.

Mrs Lang
PE Teacher.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Emily B, Sophie K, Katarina P.



SPORTS COMMITTEE NEWS

Recruitment Drive:

A reminder to all the school families the Sports committee is always looking for new members.

For the new families to the school, the Sports committee plays a number of roles including the organisation of the Annual School Sports Day, assisting in the maintenance of the school grounds and organising social activities for parents to attend.

It's a great opportunity to get to know the other families at the school and a great way to help out and make a contribution to the school community.

If you are interested in getting involved or have any questions please email me on Matthew@mcinerney.tv or contact me on my mobile 0435091 831.

Regards
Matt McInerney

Community News

BLACKBURN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Football is back for 2021! Boys and Girls come and join the Blackburn Junior Football Club. 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

NUNAWADING TENNIS CLUB

Open Day – Sunday 21st February 10.00am – 2.00pm All welcome. 6 Lane Street, Nunawading.

Free tennis trials & activities - Win Full membership for 12 months.
20% off membership fee - Use the Ball machine - Test your Serve speed.
Contact Joe on 0409 585 319 for enquiries.
On arrival, scan the QRCode at the front gate
Face masks must be worn in the clubroom.
Clubrooms can only be used to wash hands & use of toilet

OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE

Open Day – Tuesday 16th March 2.15pm-6.30pm

Our Lady of Sion College warmly invites you to come and see how your daughter will embrace life at Sion. We look forward to welcoming you to our College.

Please visit our website to book. www.sion.catholic.edu.au

DAILY LIFE AT ST PHILIP'S

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

