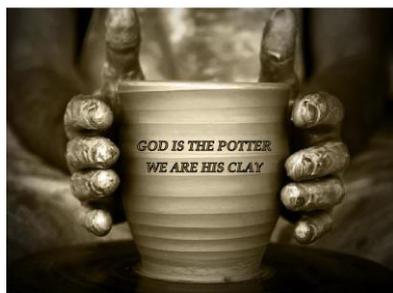




ST ANTHONY'S

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Week 1
Term 1
2018**



School Website

www.stanthonys.act.edu.au

The newsletter can be viewed
each week on this website

Email

office@stanthonys.cg.catholic.edu.au

Phone

6231 4022

OOSCA

Phone: 6296 2261

St Anthony's Early Learning Centre

6231 0491

Mobile (Emergency Only)

0413 905 557

St Anthony's is a NUT FREE School

Fr Lachlan Coll
St Anthony's Parish Presbytery
Sternberg Cres
Wanniassa ACT 2903

Phone/Fax
6231 7310

Masses
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am & 5:30pm

<http://grapevine.com.au/~stanthonys/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back for the 2018 school year at St Anthony's. It is always exciting to start a new school year, even though students may have a few nerves about starting a new challenge. The staff have been working together over the past couple of weeks to prepare for the students return. The first 3 days have gone smoothly and everyone appears to be settling in well.

I would like to welcome a number of new staff and returning staff in 2018. This year we have some new staff due to maternity leave and long service entitlements. There have also been a few staff leaving the school due to retirement and changing sectors. The school has recruited new staff or released existing staff to carry out important roles to support students. Some of our 2018 funding from Catholic Education is discretionary and it has been allocated thoughtfully in line with our strategic initiatives.

We are implementing new programs and strategies that will continue to support the needs of all students. With this in mind, you may find that your child's teacher has extra time release from class duties. It is often not possible to recruit staff from outside the school for some of these roles, particularly because a rapport with our current students is important. I thank you for your understanding of how our staff roles are organised across the school. I can assure you that the school uses all available student data throughout the year to strive for improved practice and performance.

In 2018 we have an excellent staff group with a good balance of experience. I would like to highlight the following staff members and staff changes:

Welcome to our New Primary Staff

Romy Batista



Miss Romy Batista is joining St Anthony's teaching staff in 2018 and will be teaching Year 2. Miss Batista is an ACU Graduate teacher who has also worked at St Anthony's OOSCA since 2014. Many students and families will know Miss Batista and I welcome her to our staff.

Vanessa Miller



Mrs Vanessa Miller is joining St Anthony's teaching staffing in 2018 and will be teaching part-time on Year 1 with Mrs Naylor. Mrs Miller is an experienced teacher who has worked on Year 1 and other year levels at St Clare of Assisi. She has also worked for a number of years at Trinity Christian School. I welcome Mrs Miller to our staff.

Lisa Daly

Mrs Lisa Daly will teach Year 2 Lisbon in 2018. Mrs Daly is an experienced teacher who has taught in Catholic schools for approximately 30 years. Lisa is familiar with the school as she has been a long-standing parent at St Anthony's, with her youngest child graduating from Year 6 last year. Lisa has taught at St Anthony's in the past but most recently was at Holy Family Gowrie. I welcome Mrs Daly to our staff.



Simon Bugden

Mr Simon Bugden is joining St Anthony's teaching staff in 2018 in a part-time capacity. Mr Bugden is an experienced teacher who has worked for a number of years at St Clare of Assisi Conder and Holy Trinity Curtin. I welcome Mr Bugden to our teaching staff.



Paul McGregor

Mr McGregor will be teaching Year 4 Lisbon on Wednesday each week and also carrying out some casual teaching as required. Mr McGregor is an experienced teacher working in various schools over 28 years including Rosary Primary School and Orana School.



Katie Akers

Mrs Akers will be our finance officer for Term 1 while Mrs Mead is on LSL. Mrs Akers has a background working in finance. Mrs Akers will also help with school administration tasks as required in the front office. Katie is familiar with the school as she has two children attending at St Anthony's, Reece in Kinder and Hayley in Year 5. I wish Mrs Akers good luck in her role.



Nicole Diggle

Mrs Diggle will be working as a Classroom Support Assistant this year. Mrs Diggle has experience in disability education working in a number of different sectors. Mrs Diggle also is familiar with the school as her daughter Grace is in Year 1 this year. I welcome Mrs Diggle to our staff.



Lea-Anne Blanch

Mrs Blanch will be working as a Classroom Support Assistant this year. Mrs Blanch spent a number of weeks working at St Anthony's in 2017 as is very familiar with the students and staff. I welcome back Mrs Blanch to this role again in 2018.



Welcome New ELC Staff

I offer a warm welcome to all of our new Early Learning Centre staff. There is a wonderful team with a variety of skills and experience. Parents with children in the ELC classes will be introduced more formally to these new staff.

Gowri Dissanayake

Gowri has been appointed as the Bilbies ELC teacher, working the start of the week part-time class. Gowri joins us with great experience teaching preschool programs at centres in the ACT and Western Australia.

Jenny Morison

Jenny will be our After School Educator, working with children in the afternoon program.

Thushari Sumanvaweera

Thushari will be working as a classroom educator with the students.

Barbara Nell

Barbara is a specialist teacher joining the ELC staff. Barbara will be teaching music and art with all classes which will add another dimension to the creativity of the children's experiences.

Welcome Back to Returning Primary Staff

Miss Nicole Ptycia

Miss Ptycia has returned from 12 months teaching in Canada. Miss Ptycia said she learned a lot from the experience and is very excited about coming back home and teaching at St Anthony's. Miss Ptycia is teaching Year 3 Padua.

Mrs Orla Rutledge

Mrs Rutledge is returning from Maternity Leave 2 days per week in 2018. On 1-day week Mrs Rutledge will focus on Religious Education, a role she will share this year with Mrs Lehmensich. On the other day Mrs Rutledge will be teaching in the area of Classroom Support.

Vanessa Phipps Term 2 Return

Mrs Phipps will be returning part-time from her Maternity Leave Mid Term 2. Mrs Phipps will join the learning support team at this time. I will provide more details closer to this time.

Thank you Ms Johanna Barling

A couple of weeks ago Ms Barling accepted a teaching position for 2018 in the ACT Government school system. This was a sudden change and as you can see above the position has now been filled by an experienced teacher.

Miss Barling worked at St Anthony's from between 2015 - 2017, teaching a number of classes from Kindergarten to Year 3. I would like to thank her for her contributions to the school as a teacher and for the extra roles she undertook including Seasons for Growth Coordinator and Aboriginal Contact Teacher. I wish Johanna good luck in her new school.

Good Luck to Staff on Leave Term One 2018

Mr Angus Quantrill is taking Long Service Leave from his executive position and his Year 4 teaching role for Term One. I wish Mr Quantrill a restful break from the demands of school life and hope that he has an opportunity spend time on other endeavours.

Mrs Judy Mead is taking Long Service Leave from her Finance Officer position for Term One. I wish Mrs Mead a peaceful break from the 'busyness' of her office role and hope she has time to spend on other endeavours.

Primary Staff in New Roles

Beth Lehmensich - Wellbeing Teacher

Miss Lehmensich has a new role in 2018 which includes the equivalent of 3 days as a designated Wellbeing Teacher. Miss Lehmensich is passionate about wellbeing and it is an area in which she has expertise. This is a totally new role for St Anthony's and one which I believe will enhance the existing programs in place and build on the efforts by our staff to support students. The role has been designed to meet various focus areas and goals in 2018 and I look forward to sharing these with you in coming weeks. This week the focus is on helping students settle back into school after the long break and to support staff and students establish their relationships.

Miss Lehmensich will actually be off class this year as she will also have one day release for her Religious Education Role and one day for Learning Support. I am confident Miss Lehmensich will be able to undertake these important roles in the school and be able to be very visible around the school during the week.

Kelly Mara - Acting Curriculum Coordinator Term 1

Mrs Kelly Mara will be a primary coordinator for Term 1 2018 whilst Mr Quantrill is on Long Service Leave and will also be teaching Year 4. Mrs Mara has been at St Anthony's for many years and is an experienced teacher. Most recently she has been working in the numeracy intervention role. Mrs Mara has an excellent knowledge of curriculum and pedagogy and I am sure that she will be able to actively contribute to our curriculum initiatives to start the 2018 year.

Greg Rick - Rock and Water Coordinator

Mr Greg Rick will continue the work he started in 2017 by coordinating the Rock and water program within the school. Mr Rick is one of four teachers that were trained in this program last year. In January 2018 all of our teaching staff attended a full day training workshop on the program too. The Rock and water Program is internationally acclaimed and taught in hundreds of schools. A comprehensive description of the program and how it will be implemented will be provided early in the term. Essentially it is a personal development program for students (and adults) that combines the elements of healthy body, mind and heart. It assists people develop self-confidence, resilience, positive interactions and wellbeing. It is an educational program that has age appropriate activities that actually teach essential elements that keep us healthy, that we sometimes take for granted we all know. It involves a lot of movement, breathing, stretching, games, relaxation and thinking. I believe Rock and Water will add to the work we are already doing with student wellbeing and I will let Mr Rick explain it in more detail to the school community soon.

Disabled Persons Car Parks

An extra disabled park has been added outside the Early Learning Centre, making a total of 3 in the school surrounds. These parks are only for people with a disabled park pass which is displayed in the car window. Please do not use these parks at any time if you do not have a pass. These parks are essential for a number of parents and caregivers in our community who need close access to the school.

Thank you for your support with this.

Parent Nominations for 2018 School Board Open

The first 2018 School Board meeting is on Wednesday 21 February (Week 3). There are a number of vacant parent positions on the Board for 2018. Nominations are sought from parents who believe they could contribute to the governance of the school in conjunction with Fr Lachlan, myself and the staff representatives. The School Board meet monthly at 5.30pm on a Wednesday evening.

Please also be aware that the School Board roles of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary must be filled by parent members. At the end of 2017, three of these four positions have been vacated by long standing members. This means that parents nominating for the School Board need to consider undertaking one of these roles, along with contributing in other ways. For the school Board to function effectively these roles need to be in place. This will be a priority and point of consideration in accepting successful nominees in 2018.

Shortly I will be forwarding out further details and a nomination process for interested parents. I am also happy to discuss the roles on the Board with parents prior to nominations closing.

Parents and Friends AGM and First General Meeting

The first P&F meeting is on Wednesday 28 February (Week 4). This meeting will be an AGM followed by the first general business meeting for the year. Vacancies have been declared for roles on the P&F executive for 2018 so please consider coming along to support other parents and possibly nominated for a position. The P&F meet monthly at 7.00pm in the School Library. Meetings are chaired by the P&F President and are open for all parents to attend.

Staff Encouraged to use mobile phones for Internal Communication

This year the staff are implementing the use of a new app via their mobile phones and their digital devices that allows for quick, real time messages to be sent to all staff across the school. Individual messages can also be sent. The app is useful in requesting a staff member to assist in another area of the school or to help reduce the number of P.A. messages. I wanted you to be aware that I have given permission for staff to use their phone for this purpose on duty or in their classroom if required. This app has the potential to further improve communication between staff and efficiency of tasks.

Meet the 2018 Staff Afternoon

You have an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and other staff during our meet the 2018 staff afternoon next Thursday 15 February. This year the format has changed to a 2-hour session to allow for parents and carers to actually talk in person to their child's teacher. It is an open, revolving type session. Teachers will be available in their classrooms from 3.30pm - 5.30pm for you to visit and discuss classroom routines, learning and your child. There is no need to book a time as parents can move between sibling's classrooms as required. Teachers will not conduct formal presentations but rather present their information in written or online formats for each parent/carer. The extended 2-hour timeframe and more relaxed format should allow for a more personalised experience for this important gathering.

Afternoon tea and refreshments will be available in the school library and as in previous years we encourage you to mingle with other families and develop contact networks. Please note there will be no evening BBQ this year.

There are also formal Parent Teacher interviews to be held later in Term 1. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress at the end of this term.

St Anthony's Early Learning Centre will also be holding Meet the 2018 ELC Staff for the Koalas and Bilbies on Tuesday 13th February and for the Possums on Thursday 15th of February between 3.30pm - 5.30pm in their centre.

Claim the date for the 2018 St Anthony's Autumn Fete

Our 2018 Fete is on Saturday 5 May. This is the end of Week 1 Term 2. I know that planning is well underway and we look forward to a bright sunny day this year! We have new Fete Coordinator in Mrs Cathy Rollinson.

I am sure that your first week back at school is going well and look forward to working in partnership with you in 2018.

God Bless,

Greg Walker
Principal

School Fees

Term 1 School Fees will be emailed out next week.

Parents who do not wish to pay the building fund due to financial difficulties need to write to Mr Greg Walker, this is a yearly requirement. Payments may be made by cash, cheque, credit card, BPAY, EFTPOS or Direct Debit. There is a formal process to apply for fee concessions if you are experience financial difficulties. Please contact the front office

Library News

Welcome to 2018. The Library is open for business. Our theme is "Find the Treasure". Over the next few weeks we will be transporting the library into an underwater world.

The library is open every morning (Monday to Thursday) for Buddy Reading. Parent(s)/Carer(s) and siblings are invited to come to read and enjoy our library space. The library is also open in the afternoon from 3.00 pm if parents are waiting to pick up students and would like the opportunity to read with their younger children.

Book Club brochures are being sent home this week; orders will close Friday, 16th February. Orders are to be made via the internet. No money is to be sent/brought to school.

Library Classes will be:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
6A	4A	3A
5/6L	4P	3P
6P	4L	5P

2A	KA	5A
2L	KP	1P
2P	KP	1A

All students will need a library bag if they want to take books home.

Lost property (uniforms, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles) can be collected from the bins at the Library's door. Please take the time to label your children's possessions, so they can be easily identifiable and returned to their owner.

I look forward to seeing you in the Library.
Mrs Richardson

Subscribe to the Newsletter via Skoolbag

You now have the opportunity to subscribe to the newsletter via the skoolbag portal on the home page of the website. This will replace the old email addresses used to email the newsletter.

Happy Birthday to:

Bailey F, Riley E, Zoe W, Matilda c, Grace D and Rihanna B.

Have a wonderful day!



Important School Information

School Hours: Morning bell rings at 8:55am. School finishes at 3:20pm. Children who catch the bus, walk/ride and those going to oval crossing are excused from class at 3:10pm. Supervision of children commences at 8:30am, children are not to arrive to school before this time unless they are attending the before school program at OOSCA. Students are expected to be off the school grounds by 3:45pm. Students who are collected late from school need a teacher to supervise them until a parent arrives which delays them from staff/parent meetings and other duties they are required to do.

Pupil Information Cards: Cards have been sent home. We ask parents to complete the card (front and back) carefully. These cards are used so we can contact parents quickly in case of emergency and to update our computer records. If, at any time during the year, your contact details change please notify the office immediately. Return your completed card to your child's teacher as soon as possible. If you do not know your child's Sport House, please leave it blank.

Messages to Students: Please make sure that your child is aware of how they are getting home and who is collecting them from school and what to do if it is raining. We can only guarantee messages to students if we receive them before 1pm. The PA system should only be used when necessary and not constantly interrupting your child's learning. It is also not plausible for front office staff to leave the front office area unattended to deliver messages.

Late arrival and early collection from school:

Parents are required to sign their child into school if they are late, the student then hands the white slip to their teacher. Students will be sent to the front office to sign themselves in if they arrive to the classrooms without a slip. This allows the school to know the whereabouts of all students in the case of an emergency ie: fire/lockdown. When arriving at school to collect your child/ren early you will need to sign the students out and take the white slip to their classroom and hand it to their teacher. In an emergency we are happy to call your child/ren over the PA system however please understand that this method interrupts the whole school. It is always preferable for you to physically collect your child/ren from their classroom to keep them safe. This process can be time consuming so please factor this into your schedule.

School Uniform: Parents are asked to strongly support the school by making sure that their children are wearing their correct uniform. School shoes need to be black leather shoes (no canvas or black runners) and mainly white sports shoes on sports days. (No Netball Hoodies)

Working with Vulnerable People: Parents who are visiting the school are required to sign in and out at the front office – **this is a legal requirement.** When signing in you need to provide your Working with Vulnerable People Card (WWVP), failure to do so is a reportable offence. Parents without a WWVP card will not be denied access to the school grounds. This year many WWVP cards will expire. Please check the expiry date on your card and renew when required. The front office keeps copies of WWVP cards on file which alleviates the need for parents to show their card every time they sign into school however you are required to have your card with you at all times. If you have any queries please click on this link:

[https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1804/~/working-with-vulnerable-people-\(wwvp\)-registration](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1804/~/working-with-vulnerable-people-(wwvp)-registration)

School Counsellor: St Anthony's provides a Counsellor 1 day a week to be available to parents, students and teachers who seek advice or help for the emotional, social and educational wellbeing of students. To access this service a referral (available from the front office) needs to be completed and returned to the Principal.

Payment of School and OOSCA Fees: It is important that parents understand the need to pay school fees in Catholic Schools. The Federal and to far lesser extent, the ACT Government contribute to the economic viability of our schools, however we still rely heavily on school fees collected from parents to ensure a level of staffing and resources are comparable to the government schools. Likewise, OOSCA is a not for profit child care facility and relies on fees to provide this wonderful service to our St Anthony's families.

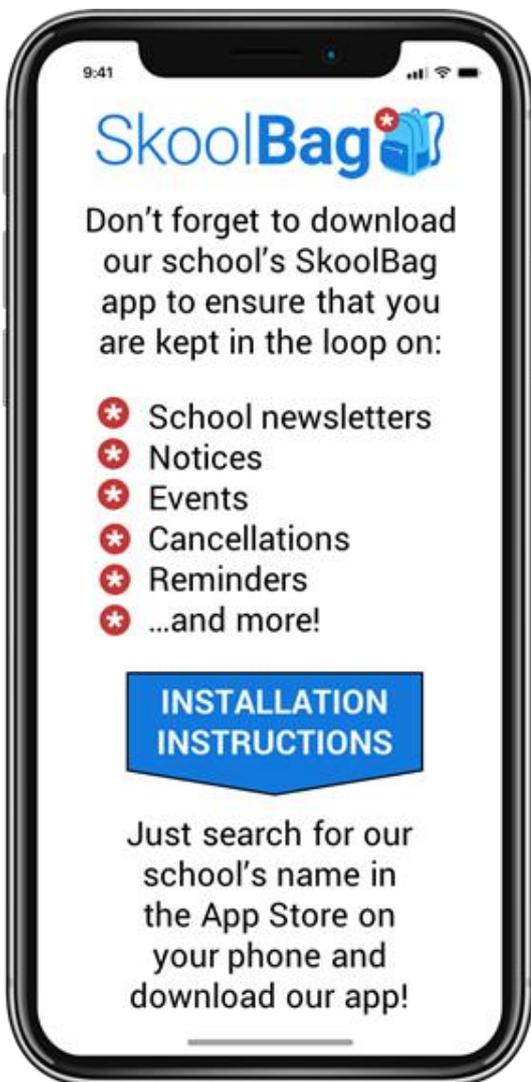
Spare Clothes: The Front Office have limited spare clothing, so even if your child is not prone to wetting we strongly recommend that a spare pair of underpants and socks (tights) be kept in your child's bag.

School Banking: School banking is done every Tuesday morning. Bendigo Bank collect the banking and a volunteer parent returns it to us the following day. Unfortunately, we cannot accept late banking as it is not processed on site. Banking that arrives to the front office after 10am will be returned to the students. Parents can open bank accounts for their students at Bendigo Bank and start banking at any time.

Change: The front office does not keep money on the premises. If you are paying for anything by cash please make sure you have the correct money.

Sick Bay: We understand that parents get upset when they have to collect a child from school who is not unwell. It is often difficult to determine the extent or authenticity of the illness; however, this is something that parents need to work through with their children. Office staff are happy to help if students are making a regular appearance to Sick Bay to help break the cycle and encourage them to stay at school. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Skoolbag: If you wish to receive the newsletter via email every week, please subscribe via the skoolbag app. Nearly 1300 people have downloaded our St Anthony's Skoolbag App which is fantastic.



St Anthony's Canteen

Open Tuesday - Friday

6231 4022

Manager: Mrs Maree Alchin

Roster of Volunteer Helpers

Tues 6 Feb	Sue Duckett 9am-12pm
Wed 7 Feb	Jess MacLeod 9-10am Nicole Gray 12-2pm
Thurs 8 Feb	Carole Coulton 9am-2pm
Fri 9 Feb	Selina Walker 9am-2pm
	Dianna Young 9am-2pm
	Rachel Esler 9-10:30am
WEEK 2	
Tues 13 Feb	Megan Doherty 9am-12pm
Wed 14 Feb	Jess MacLeod 9-10am
Thurs 15 Feb	Carole Coulton 9am-2pm
Fri 16 Feb	Selina Walker 9am-2pm
	Rachel Esler 9-10:30am
	Mary Russell 9am-12pm

The canteen will not be continuing to open on Monday this year, I would like to thank Selina Walker for volunteering to trial this opening.

Thanks to Selina Walker for offering the OOSCA lunch service during the school holidays, the kids enjoyed it.

Thank you to Carole Coulton for helping to clean the canteen ready for the new year.

Home Ice Cream will be introduced to the Canteen in week 1 this term.

www.flexischools.com.au



Grab a Stick & Hit a Ball with

University Juniors Hockey Club

Welcoming players (boys & girls) aged between 5-17



"COME & TRY" & Registration Day 2018

Our **Come and Try/Registration Day** will be on Sunday 17 February from 9:00am - 12:00pm at the Lyneham Hockey Centre.

This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in playing hockey to give it a go!

We will have Committee members, Coaching staff and experienced players on the fields assisting newcomers to the game.

For further information about the **Uni Juniors Hockey Club** or if you wish to be placed on our Club email distribution list, please contact our Club President Andrew Sutton on: 0412 618 975 / president@unijuniorshockeyclub.com.au

We look forward to meeting you!

www.Unijuniorshockey.com.au

