

"Bringing Faith and Learning to Life"

Edition 20
12 December 2024

2024 Reflection

It is hard to believe I am writing the final newsletter for the year. This year has been a big one on many levels, both personally and collectively. Leadership is an integral part of the success of any organisation, an unexpected change in leadership can be fraught with a sense of uncertainty and instability. We, the St Anthony's School Community, were faced with this challenge very early in the school year and it is wonderful to report that in my opinion we have not only survived but continued to thrive and flourish. Our MACSSIS data supports this and will be shared with the community early next year, once presented to the School Advisory Council.

While 2024 has been a year of forced change, rather than being seen as an obstacle, it has been embraced as an opportunity to reflect and review, resulting in new initiatives and ways of operating. Throughout the year there have been too many successes to list, a few standouts include: The Twilight Fair, Easter Bonnet Parade and Raffle, Toy Camp School Concert, St Anthony's Feast Day Mass and celebration, Sacraments and prayer services, establishing a new School Advisory Council for 2025, Social Justice Outreach and Christmas Carols Evening. Considered time, effort and planning has gone into strengthening links with local kinders and childcare centres. This has involved visits of us to them and them to us, playgroups for preschoolers and the introduction of Story Time.

Strategic planning for 2025 is in place. A continued strength is the stability and experience of our staff. Next year we retain all but one ongoing staff member, Leena Trigila, who is retiring. Leena is a much loved and gifted Visual Arts teacher, as I expressed at the Gratitude Mass we have been all the better for having had her with us. We thank her for sharing her gifts with us and wish her well in her future endeavours. We have a number of staff taking LSL next year and current staff will be covering this leave, providing consistency for our students and programs. The work undertaken on explicit instruction will embed in literacy and mathematics and move into other curriculum areas. An enrollment strategy which began this year, will continue to further develop. This will be the agenda at our Parent Forum in Term 1. It is, and will continue to be, a collaborative approach.

I am grateful to have worked and led alongside our school community. Our students bring Christ to life through their words and actions, the St Anthony's Seven Attributes are visible in their academic and social emotional learning. They have not only strived for their own personal best but also encouraged others to do the same. They are a credit to themselves, their parents and teachers.

Our staff, which includes teachers, learning support officers and administration, have risen above and beyond this year. They have worked with commitment, dedication, collaboration and a true desire to raise the bar on what can be achieved. They have modelled the attributes of lifelong learning, through their knowledge development and practice. They have led by example.

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St Anthony's news



"Bringing Faith and Learning to Life"

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Our home-school partnership, so critical to a student's success, has been evident and strengthened. There has been not only participation but engagement. To the P & F led by Catherine Bell, who focussed not only on fundraising but also on building community spirit you are invaluable. Thanks to the current School Advisory Council for all they have done this year, we look forward to the work of a renewed council next year. I acknowledge Matt Zaba, our current School Advisory Council Chair who leaves us at the end of the year, for all his work in supporting myself and leadership, the students, staff and indeed the whole school community. Matt's knowledgeable, practical, and measured approach, always with a side serving of humour has been instrumental in creating change and development.

Finally I acknowledge and thank the Parish Staff, in particular Fr Shabin, for his support of me in the Acting Principal role. This gratitude extends to the staff and school community. I have been blessed to have been afforded not only the opportunity but to have been able to do so with the encouragement, support and trust of others.

Wishing everyone a blessed and peace filled Christmas season. Tread gently through what all too often becomes a busy and stressful time, finding quiet moments for prayer, reflection and rejuvenation. May the hope and joy experienced through the baby Jesus extend into the coming Jubilee year.

Peace and Blessings to all,
Tania Bennett



School finishes
at 1pm on
Tuesday,
17 December

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2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR—Term 4 & 2025 CALENDAR

2024		
Term 4		
Date	Time	Activity
Friday 13 December		Mission Stalls Day—casual clothes
Saturday 14 December		Carols at Station Street—St Anthony's Choir
Monday 16 December	11.30am	Step Up Day
Monday 16 December		Grade 6 Graduation Evening
Tuesday 17 December	12.15pm	Assembly in MacKillop Room. All welcome.
Tuesday 17 December	1pm	Last day of school
Tuesday 24 December	6.30pm	Christmas Eve Family Mass

2025		
Term 1		
Date	Time	Activity
Tuesday 28 January		Staff return
Wednesday 29 January	8.50am	Term 1 begins for all students
Monday 24 February		School Photo Day
Mon—Wed 17—19 February		Grade 5/6 Camp
Friday 28 February		2025 Twilight Fair
Wednesday 5 March		Ash Wednesday
Wednesday 12 March		Naplan begins
Sunday 16 March		Catholic Education Week begins
Monday 17 March		Cultural Diversity Week starts
Friday 4 April	1.00pm	Term 1 ends
Term 2		
Tuesday 22 April	8.50am	Term 2 begins
Friday 4 July	1.00pm	Term 2 ends
Term 3		
Monday 21 July	8.50am	Term 3 begins
Friday 19 September	1.00pm	Term 3 ends
Term 4		
Monday 6 October	8.50am	Term 4 begins
Friday 19 December	1.00pm	Term 4 ends—date to be confirmed

St Anthony's Alphington



2025 Open Mornings 9.30-10.30am

TUE 11 FEB | THUR 6 MAR | WED 26 MAR
MON 28 APR | TUE 13 MAY | THU 5 JUNE

Or alternatively please call to arrange a private tour with the Principal

ALL WELCOME



BUILDING BRIGHT FUTURES

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 52 Austin Street, Alphington

Please note-

Next week our final school assembly will take place at 12.15pm Tuesday 17 December in the MacKillop Room (there will be no assembly on Monday) from here we will farewell our leaving students and staff at 1.00pm. All are welcome!

YEAR IN REVIEW

BY PREP/ONE RG 2024



On the Teddy Bear Picnic day we had to bring our favourite teddy bear. Then we went to a picnic rug. We had a scavenger hunt to find teddy bears in all different places. One was in the bamboo forest. By Cruz and Sam

This year we have done lots of cooking, we cooked hedgehog slice, Anzac biscuits, smoothies and lemonade. We love getting to put the ingredients in and mix. By Stella and Clara

On St Anthony's Day the whole school did fun activities. When we went in a roly zorb Eddie did a backflip and Jude pushed it so fast! - By Jude and Eddie

On prayers in PJs day we decorated candles, it was so much fun! We stayed at school late, next the parents came. We said prayers altogether. By Anouk and Iliana

We have had lots of fun on our excursions, like Healesville Sanctuary and Como House. Sidney's favourite thing at Healesville was the bird show. At Como House we played old games. By Sidney and Leo

This year the police and firefighters came to visit us. We heard the police siren and we tried on their clothes. We sprayed the fire hose and went in their truck. By Jake and Juliet

This year we have done lots of masses with 2MW. We like doing readings and prayers at church. We also liked welcoming the preps for 2025! In class we love doing sport, art and reading groups each week. By Ella and Josh

The school concert of Toy Camp was a highlight this year! We got a special part and our song was "see the light!" by Iliana and Anouk

We had a Bike Education day where we all brought in our bikes or scooters. It was fun to ride around at school. It was the best! By Harry and Sonny

To finish the year we have been celebrating Christmas. We loved the Christmas Carols night when we sang Little Drummer Boy and Santa Claus is coming. We have also done Christmas craft in class! By Sam and Cruz.

YEAR IN REVIEW

BY PREP/ONE RG 2024



FITZROY GARDENS
AT FITZROY GARDENS WE HAD TO FIND MONUMENTS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PLACES. WE HAD TO USE MAPS. WE HAD THE BEST TIME EVER!



AFL FOOTY CLINIC
WE ALL LOVED THE FOOTY CLINIC. WE TOOK SPECKIES AND USED TACKLE PADS. THERE WAS A WESTERN BULLDOGS AFLW PLAYER. WE HAD AN AMAZING TIME. THEY EVEN GAVE US A WATER BOTTLE!



YOGA!
OUR YOGA TRIP WAS VERY RELAXING AND JUDE EVEN FELL ASLEEP! WE DID AWESOME YOGA MOVES AND WE DID A WHEELBARROW RACE. IT WAS THE GOAT!



HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY
WE SAW LOTS OF ANIMALS LIKE EMUS, DINGOES AND ECHIDNAS. MY FAVOURITE WAS THE KOALA BECAUSE THEY ARE CUTE. WE ALL LOVED THE EXCURSION. I WANT TO GO THERE AGAIN!



2MW - 2024



COMO HOUSE
WE LEARNT HOW TO DO THE LAUNDRY AND WE LEARNT HOW TO DO THINGS FROM THE PAST. WE HAD AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE AT COMO HOUSE!



LEMONADE
WE MADE FRESH AND JUICY LEMONADE AND IT WAS FUN. WE WENT TO NAN'S GARDEN TO PICK FRESH LEMONS. THEN THE FUN PART - WE MADE IT AND WE LOVED IT!



THE SCHOOL CONCERT
WE WERE SOOOO EXCITED TO GO ON STAGE - AND WE NAILED IT! THE COSTUMES WERE THE BEST AND THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL. MS PSAILA WORKED VERY HARD AND WE HAD SO MUCH FUN!





Highlights of 2024. 3/4MG

Sport is the best way to learn new things, it is fun learning outside. I love Sport.

Maths is very fun, you learn with numbers, which is why I love Maths. **Hugh.**

Swimming against other schools, because I enjoy swimming and representing our school.

Multiplying for maths because it was fun and also we learnt lots.

Competing in Athletics for St Anthony's because it was a fun experience.

Our concert called Toy Camp was fun because it was fun dancing in front of a big crowd. **Phoenix and Lennox.**

Athletics is a fun event that has all different types of fun games which involves you getting fit and healthy. You also get put into a house colour with all different kids in school.

You will get four hours to compete in all events with your house colour and get points if you keep coming first in events. You will come back to your school and then they announce the winner. All over it is an amazing day. **Bowie and Roman**

The year was amazing! The best highlights were our school musical Toy Camp because we got to dance to songs we love and also the school fair because we got a sugar rush and got to go on fun rides and athletes school carnival because our favourite teams won (Hayes 1st and Martins 2nd). We also loved the math day race because we did different types of maths in one day
Emily and Freya

The school fair is most surely on the top of my list for sure.

The Botanical Gardens was ok, but there was just way too much walking. Setting up the Christmas tree in class was fun too and that's why it is on the list.

The last one on the list is Bike Day but even though it went for 30 minutes it was still fun. **Josh and Mateo**

My favourite highlight is Athletics Day versing other school it was my favourite because I got to verse other schools and I could make regionals. **Aiden**

My favourite time of the year is the school fair because it was really fun. **Harry**

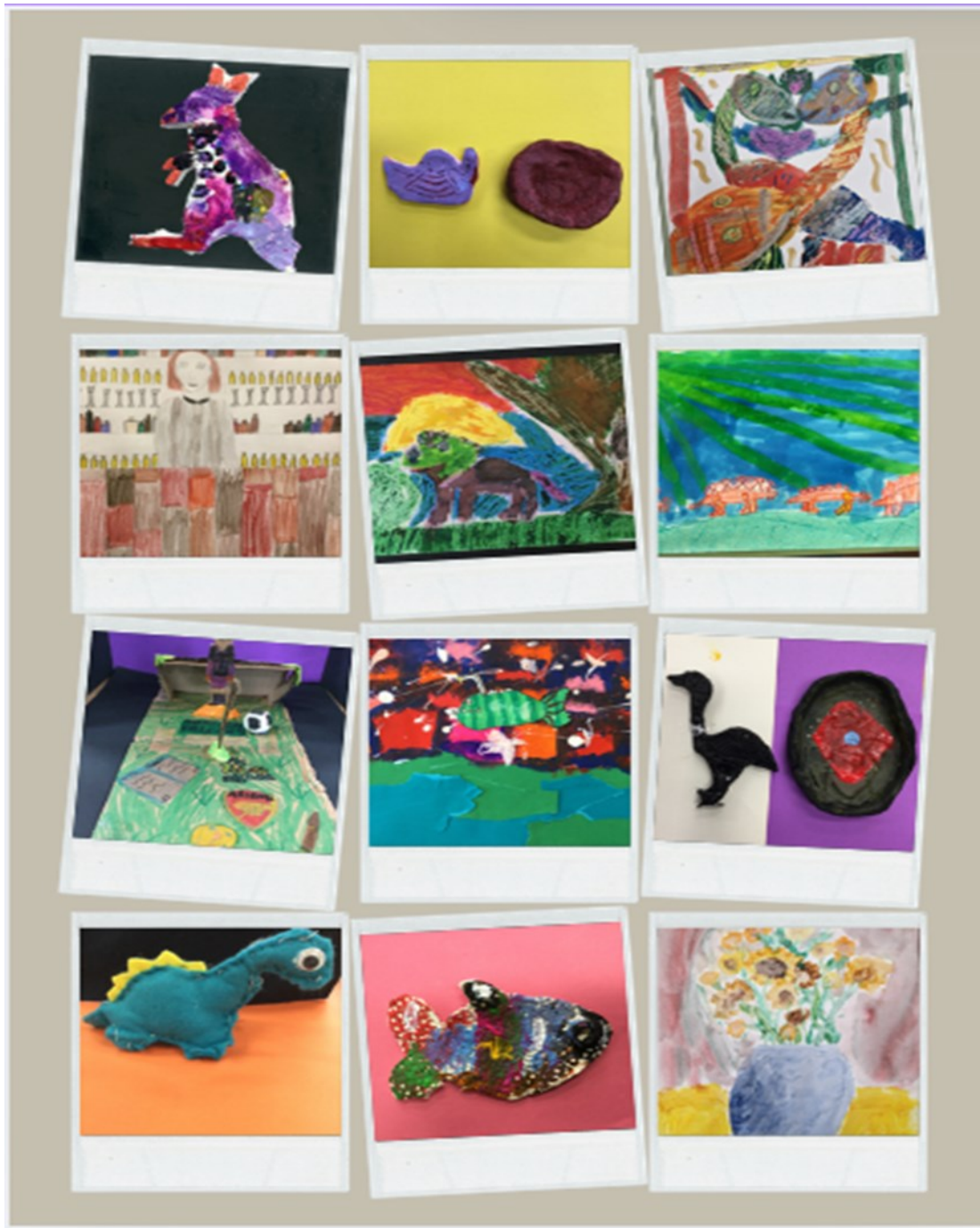
These are the best highlights of this year, the School Fair, different excursions, Toy camp, Athletics day, Christmas choir, the Swimming carnival, and the Christmas carols. My personal favourite highlight of this year is the Toy camp, because I really liked our dance and our costumes. **Audrey and Clara**



VISUAL ARTS 2024

This year, our students explored a variety of engaging and creative art concepts in Visual Arts! They learned skills in hand-building with clay, experimented with vibrant painting techniques, and discovered the magic of crayon resist. Sewing projects encouraged precision and patience, while construction and collage activities fostered imagination and problem-solving. Each activity allowed students to express themselves and develop confidence in their artistic abilities. We are proud of their creativity.

It has been a joy participating in the student's Artistic journey over the past 25 years. I will definitely miss the St Anthony's community. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a healthy and happy new year.



3/4 JB 2024

When we play Maths Games, Manga High, Mathletics and the Carols Night.
Alessandra and Ishiya

The school concert, sports day, PE lessons with Mr Haddon and how we get pillows when it's our day in the classroom to get something special.
Morrison and Isaac

Chess Day was so much fun!
Christopher

Sports Day was really fun, STEAM is always fun when we're coding, we also loved the concert.
Oscar and Noah

The concert, the Maths Day and the excursion to the Royal Botanical Gardens were so much fun. We also do a raffle on a Friday where we get a reward for being kind.
Eva and Frankie

The excursion to Cranbourne Botanical Gardens where we saw a bandicoot. Mr B is always funny and makes us laugh.
Caspar, Ruben and Will.



A year in 5 - 6 VMC



We started our year writing a story about the world's worst classroom. Some of us wrote about kids who created mayhem in the class and were VERY crazy.

We had camp in Term One. We loved it when Lachie and Jake woke up the entire cabin at 2am and convinced us it was time to get up. Mr Mac was NOT a happy bunny.

We liked writing about a time travelling Pterodactyl. We could win "get out of jail free" cards which got us out of homework or trouble if it happened.

Our T ball team made it to State and we were so proud of ourselves. We had an excursion to ACMI and there were heaps of cool things to see and do. We visited the War memorial and the view was amazing.

The Fair was a high point. There were a lot of exciting and slightly scary rides such as "The Bad Boy".

We visited Parliament house and found out a lot about government and how it functions. We discovered out how voting works.

The maths day challenges were a lot of fun and a different way to learn about maths in teams.

Some of us REALLY enjoyed Toy Camp and getting to sing Christmas Carols at the end of the year was lots of fun. The Zooper Doopers were a big hit and should be continued.

House Athletics was a high point and the sixes were super excited about visiting Funfields.



2024 - The Year that was by 5/6 RL

We had a great year in 5/6 RL. Here are some of the things we enjoyed the most.

This year in 5/6 RL my favourite thing was interschool sports. In term 2 I played footy and we made it to the semi final and in term 2 I played volleyball which we made the second final -**Sam**

This year my favourite thing was geography in the term four inquiry unit. I liked it because I have been interested in geography for a while - **Nathan**

In this year it was my first year of being a senior in primary school and by far the thing I enjoyed the most was being in the school's soccer team where we made it to regional-**Amos**

My favourite thing I enjoyed this year was camp in term one. I liked the flying fox the best- **Andrew**

My favourite thing this year was going to school camp for the first time. I liked doing lots of fun activities like possum pull and mountain biking with my friends. I also really enjoyed being in a cabin with my friends and the food was really good- **Jude**

My favorite thing about this year is when we went to school camp and all the cool things we did like frisbee golf, It was funny when my group made up the song bouncy rope when we were doing the possum glide- **Violet**

My favorite thing was I made the basketball team. I scored a fade away. I also won a medal for Sportsmanship and Determination- **Daniel**

My favourite thing was the t ball team and how far we made it. Through to all the way to state.-**Sophia**

My favourite thing this year was being in the school play as Prima Donna the Ballerina- **Olivia**

One of the best things was Funfields especially the Voodoo ride- **Lea**

I loved planning Mission stalls. It was fun to run them too- **Lucy**

One of my favorite things this year was KK how everyone was trying to guess who gave them their present- **Oli**

One of the most fun things was Mission stalls and working with new people- **Archie**

My favorite thing in 2024 was when the Grade 6's went to Funfields. The Gravity Wave slide was the best- **Jesse**

I loved doing Inter School sport for the first time and getting to know new people- **Eddie**

I loved doing the school play and rehearsing together as a group- **Ava**

This year I loved Funfields, especially the Super Nova waterslide- **Isla**

I loved Funfields, especially the Pirate ship and all the rides- **Gabriel**





FUN

HOUSE SPORTS



SWIMMING



FASTER

**PHYSICAL
EDUCATION
2024**



FOOTBALL



JUMP

SKILLS



STATE





BUILD



DESIGN

BLOWING UP

STEAM 2024



CREATE



CODE



PROBLEM SOLVING



CONGRATULATIONS! MACS 2025 CREATIVE ART EXHIBITION

We want to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible creativity and dedication of all the students who submitted artwork for the recent Creative Arts Exhibition in 2025. While not all submissions could be selected this time, your courage to share your vision and artistic expression is an achievement worth celebrating.

Art is a journey of exploration and growth, and every piece you create is a step forward. The time, effort, and passion you invested in your work are commendable and inspire us all.

We are very happy to announce that upon curating, the following artworks submitted by our school have been selected for the Creative Arts Exhibition in 2025.

Congratulations to the following students:

Lea—Artwork title "The Journey"



Felix P—Artwork title "Textured Flowers"



We would also like to share the following beautiful paintings which were submitted:

Sapphire C and Elsie N—Artwork titled "Field of Hope"



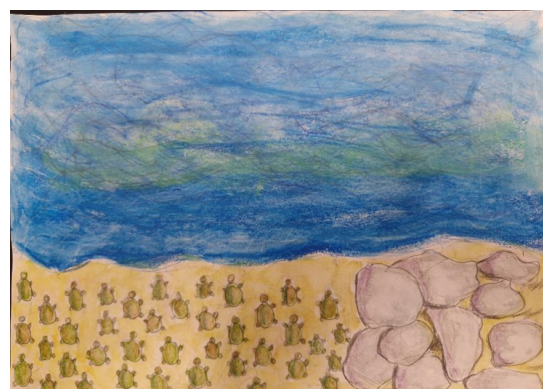
Grade 5 Mixed Media

Artwork title: "A New Life"

Students : Nathan M, Elsie N,
Xavier O, OIivia L and Ruby C



Lucy W—Artwork title "Migrating Turtles"



CYBER SAFETY

As part of our Cyber Safety we removed student access to YouTube this year and introduced a program called ClickView. This initiative has been wonderful in supporting Child Safety online, alleviating the unwanted and often inappropriate pops ups experienced on YouTube. Please see below for how you can utilise this program at home under our registration. It may be useful over the summer break!

▶ ClickView Parent Info Guide

How can ClickView support your child's learning?

ClickView provides teachers and students access to thousands of interactive videos and related resources to support learning and teaching. All ClickView produced content is developed with subject experts, ensuring it's age appropriate and aligned to the Australian Curriculum.



High-quality resources for learning

ClickView provides a library of video content explicitly aligned to the curriculum. Students and teachers can confidently access high-quality video resources that have been purpose-made in Melbourne, or educationally curated from a selection of pay-TV or free-to-air programs.



Engaging and interactive

Teachers can find, edit and share relevant educational videos with students, including interactive learning tasks, through which teachers can monitor each student's understanding. Students can upload and share their work with teachers and other students to demonstrate their learning.



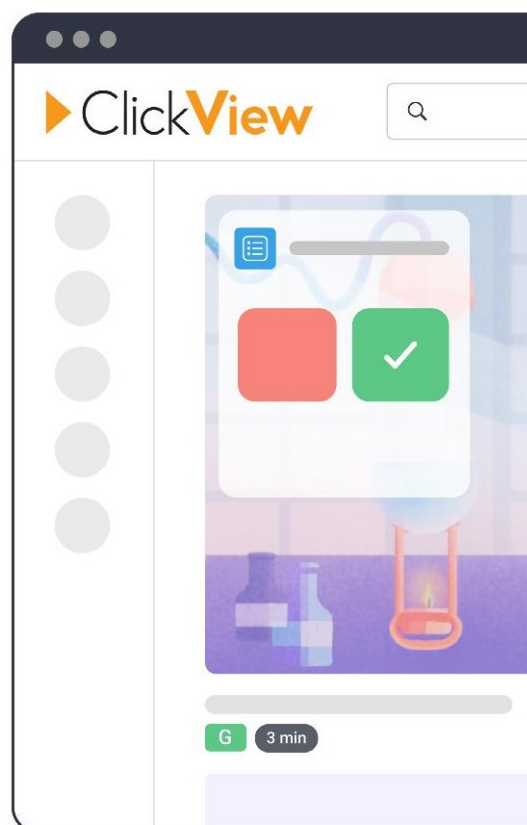
Access videos anytime, anywhere

Teaching staff can share clips with students to view at home so they can use class time for quality discussions, higher-order thinking and problem-solving.



Safe and age-appropriate

ClickView resources feature Australian content classifications to help ensure students are accessing age-appropriate materials.



Get started with ClickView at home

1. Go to clickview.net on any browser or download the ClickView app.



2. Sign in using your child's school login details.
3. Browse over thousands of educational videos.



**Glory to
God in
the highest
heaven, and
peace to
all who
enjoy
his favour'*



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER

5.00pm	Holy Spirit	Family Mass
5.00pm	St. Joseph's	Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Anthony's	Family Mass
6.30pm	St. Mary's	Family Mass

9.00pm Carols St. Mary's. 9.30pm Mass St. Mary's

9.00pm Carols St. Joseph's 9.30pm Mass St. Joseph's

Midnight Mass St. Anthony's

NO MORNING MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S ON 24 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY WEDNESDAY 25 DECEMBER

9.00am	St. Anthony's (Italian)
9.30am	Holy Spirit
10am	St Mary's
11 am	St Anthony's
11am	St. Joseph's

NO EVENING MASS AT ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS DAY

NEW YEAR MASS

10AM MASS AT ST JOSEPH'S AND ST MARY'S

NO WEEKDAY MASSES FROM

BOXING DAY 26 DECEMBER UNTIL 3 JANUARY



Reminder

**OSHClub is open and running from
1pm-6pm on Tuesday the 17th of
December**

**Join us for some Christmas baking,
Christmas movies and soccer!**

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969 234!**

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JOIN, BORROW, READ, WIN!
December 1 - January 31

Public Libraries Victoria

BIG SUMMER READ

RED
Read and log ten books to complete the challenge!

PIP
Listen to an audiobook from the library - they count too!

BUBBLES
Read outside (but don't forget to be Sunsmart)

PAIGE
Do you have your own library card? It's free!

CONNI
Find the non-fiction books in your library

JERRI + TERRI

ICHIGO

Cut all the way around the square to trim off the white edges, and then fold as illustrated below:

JOIN NOW

BIG SUMMER READ

SWIM SCHOOL

- Lessons for all ages from 6 months to 100+
- Industry-leading curriculum and swim instructors
- Small classes for maximum learning
- Online portal for enrollment and class changes
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**TERM 1, 2025
SOCCER FUN
FOR GIRLS &
BOYS AGED 2-12!**

STARTING FROM 7TH FEB

Free

FIRST 30 NEW
ENROLMENTS RECEIVE
COMPLIMENTARY SHIRT AND SHORTS!

FOR A **FREE TRIAL** P: 0422 738 494

MITE-E SOCCER (2-3YO)

A great introduction to Soccer!
Children work with their parents to
learn new soccer skills and develop
their motor skills! Lots of fun games
in a non-competitive environment!

35 MINUTE CLASSES
\$170 FOR 8 WEEKS



PINT SIZE SOCCER (4-5YO)

Children take their first kicks in soccer! They'll
be introduced to shooting, dribbling, goal
keeping and more. Children get to play lots
of fun, skill based games. Grasshoppers get
introduced to Pint Size 1v1 Big Game!

50 MINUTE CLASSES
\$175 FOR 8 WEEKS



INTRO TO MICRO (5-6YO) MICRO (6-8YO)

The ultimate challenge for young
soccer players! They'll learn the rules
of the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game
and develop their skills in passing,
dribbling, shooting and more!

INTRO - 60 MINS \$185 FOR 8 WEEKS
MICRO - 60 MINS \$185 FOR 8 WEEKS



MICRO PLUS (8-12YO)

This program focuses on skill development and teamwork
in preparation for club soccer. Children
will enjoy all the favourite soccer based
games, fine tune their skills as well as
play the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game!

60 MINUTE CLASSES
\$185 FOR 8 WEEKS



M: 0422 738 494 | E: melbournecentral@grasshoppersoccer.com.au

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SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

TAG
HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

**SAVE
15%**

EARLYBIRD OFFER
AUTOMATICALLY
APPLIED AT CHECKOUT

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM DATES:

MONDAY, 23 DEC

WEDNESDAY, 15 JAN - FRIDAY, 17 JAN

WEDNESDAY, 22 JAN - FRIDAY, 24 JAN



Alphington Grammar School



8:30am - 3:30pm



Qualified
Health & PE
Teachers



Programs for
5-12 year
olds



Skill
Development



Meet New
People

Activities include...

Soccer - Footy - Basketball - Netball - Cricket - Nerf War - Tennis - Downball -
Ninja Warrior Obstacle Course - Capture the Flag - Dodgeball Battle -
Pokémon Hunt - Super Mario - Run the Gauntlet - Ultimate TAG -
Bombardment - Sports Board Games



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Dental Practice**



All students attending St Anthony's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.