

# St. Mary's School, Altona

## Newsletter 2019

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018  
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Parish Priest: Archpriest Michael Kalka Phone: 9398 2964  
[altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)

No. 3 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

Dear Parents

There is some very important information which was sent out today via Caremonkey. Firstly there is some General School Information eg Absence from school, Anaphylaxis, Brain Food, Communication, Parent/Child/Teacher Conferences, Supervision and Safety, Uniforms, Working With Children Check among other things.

Secondly there is information from your child/ren's teacher/s informing you of their email address, when their Specialist programs are operating and some other classroom/level practicalities.

Please read this information carefully and perhaps keep it somewhere where you can refer back to it.

### SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY:

As advertised in last week's newsletter our first School Closure Day is Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Out of School Hours Care will operate on this day even if we don't have the required number of children booked in. Camp Australia have kindly agreed to cover any costs due to lack of numbers however parents who require the service will need to book in ASAP.

### OPENING SCHOOL MASS & BBQ:

This is traditionally one of the highlights of the school year. It begins with mass in the church at 6.00 pm. Our new Preps will sing a special Reflection song after Communion. All families and friends are then invited to join the staff for a BBQ in the school grounds. Please mark this date in your diary. The P & F would appreciate any assistance please respond to the Caremonkey request you would have received during the week.

### AFTERNOON ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL:

Please don't enter the school grounds before 3.05 pm. Tuesdays - Fridays including through the school office corridor and once on the school grounds please do not distract children in classrooms as this may still be a teaching or instruction giving time. Thank you for your co-operation.

### INTER-SCHOOL SPORT RESULTS

Round One: Home against Sacred Heart

<b>Basketball</b>	girls	31-21	lost
	mixed	26-16	lost
<b>Volleyball</b>	girls	2-0	won
	mixed	2-1	lost
<b>Softball</b>	girls	14-10	lost
	mixed	17-9	lost
<b>Hotshots Tennis</b>		9-6	won

David Kelly  
Principal



## WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL & WALKING SCHOOL BUS

Our first Walk / Ride to School day for 2019 is on this Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February. Please respond via CareMonkey if you will be joining one of our Walking School Buses. Looking forward to seeing everyone getting out and about and being active on the way to school. Double house points this week!

### MATHEMAGICIAN - MICHAEL YMER:

Last week Mathematics expert Michael Ymer visited us to work with students and teachers. Teachers were released to observe how Michael runs a maths workshop with children across all levels. We were given the opportunity to discuss contemporary approaches to Maths and how children can access the learning of Mathematics through games and investigations. As a school we will be looking at how this approach can be implemented and we plan to continue developing our knowledge in this area throughout the year.



### PRINCIPALS AWARDS WEEK BEGINNING 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019

PREP D	Alexis O for her effort and enthusiasm she places into all school tasks
PREP L	Tyler T for always coming into class with a smile
YEAR 1/2D	Amelia Q for her excellent commitment and perseverance to finish her class work
YEAR 1/2G	Isabelle S for her wonderful holiday recount
YEAR 1/2S	Thomas M for writing a well structured holiday recount
YEAR 3/4HT	Sarah C for putting so much effort into everything she does
YEAR 3/4K	Leyla F for her great effort during Reading
YEAR 3/4M	Sedale T for his focused and enthusiastic approach to his learning
YEAR 5/6C	Anna A for her creative input into our classroom displays and discussions
YEAR 5/6H	Thomas A for seeing a need and choosing to be active about doing something about solving it! Well done Thomas on your community spirit
YEAR 5/6T	Summer L for demonstrating enthusiasm and commitment in her role as a school leader and as a role model with the class

### TUCKSHOP HELPERS – Week Beginning 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019

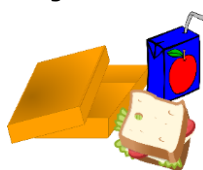
Monday:  
Tuesday:  
Wednesday:  
Thursday:  
Friday:

**Manager: Amy Xu**

**Tel: 9315 0799**

Our Tuckshop operates at recess and lunchtime each day of the week.

Any parents that could assist in the tuckshop either on a regular or ad hoc basis would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school office if you are able to assist. Tuckshop list and prices are on the school website.



### PARENT NIGHT: Michelle Curmi (Psychologist)

Ms Michelle Curmi has been engaged by the school to provide psychological support to both children and families this year. Michelle will run a parent night on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 7 – 8pm at which she will speak not only about her services but also about Anxiety in general, the effects it can have on children in this day and age and some strategies for coping with it. An expression of interest has been sent via Care Monkey. Child minding will be available.



### DISTRICT SWIMMING:

Congratulations to the 28 students from grade 3 to 6 who have been selected in the 2019 St Mary's Swim team. They will compete at the Altona District Carnival on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb at VUT Footscray. This year's swim team captains are Eliza Pelns and Josh Myers. Parents are more than welcome to come along and support the children. We wish them all the very best and hope they have a good swim.

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### 2019 Sacrament Dates

#### TERM ONE:

**Confirmation: – Rite of Commitment Masses weekend:**

**2 March 9:15 and 6 pm**

**OR**

**3 March 8:30 and 10:30 am**

**Confirmation: - Family Workshop:**

**Tuesday 5th March. School Hall: 5 pm OR 7 pm**

**Confirmation: - Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> April, at 7 pm**

**(Week 1 of Term 2)**

*(The Sponsor must be a baptised Catholic over the age of 16)*



#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

\* All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.

\* Archpriest Fr. Michael Kalka who is celebrating 12 months here at St Mary's after celebrating his first mass with us on the 13th of February 2018. Congratulations Fr. Michel!

#### **Special Dates**

**20 Feb** UN World Day of Social Justice

**22 Feb** Feast of the Chair of St Peter, Apostle

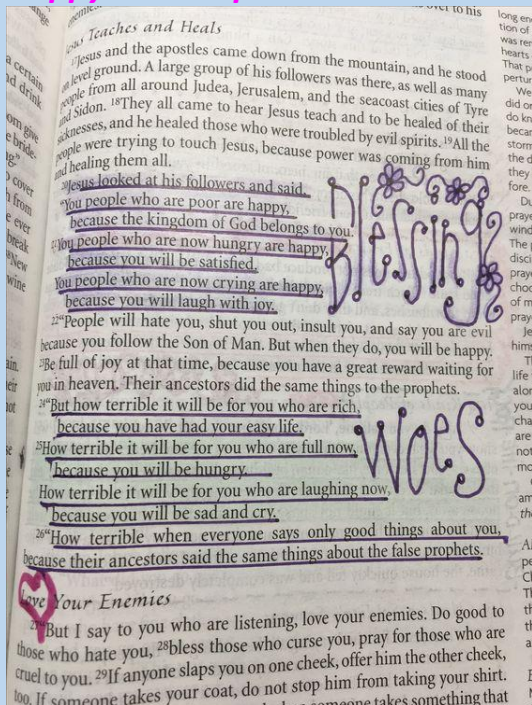
**23 Feb** Memorial of St Polycarp



*Saint Polycarp*  
*Bishop of Smyrna*

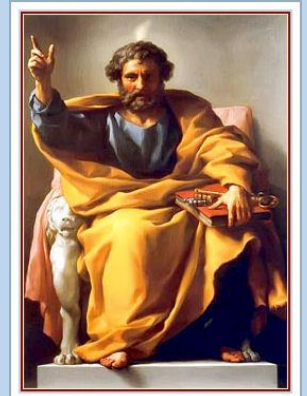
#### **Luke 6: 17, 20-26**

**Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!**



#### **Prayer for St Peter:**

Grant, we pray,  
almighty God, that no  
tempests may disturb  
us, for you have set us  
fast on the rock of the  
Apostle Peter's  
confession of faith.  
Through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns  
with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.  
Amen.







AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



A very good place to start.

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform.

## FEBRUARY OPEN CLASSES

Come along to your local venue and try a free class

Berwick, Box Hill, Caulfield North, Cheltenham, Essendon, Ivanhoe,  
Kew, Ringwood and Yarraville



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

[aspagroup.com.au](http://aspagroup.com.au)

## ASHES to EASTER



### CONCERT-REFLECTION with PETER KEARNEY

A prayerful sequence  
of songs and stories  
on  
Lenten and Easter themes.

**Tuesday 2nd April**  
**7.30-8.30pm**  
**Mary Help of Christians**  
**Church**  
97 Railway Street North  
**ALTONA**  
\$5 at door

The program includes traditional / contemporary Easter carols and remarkable songs by the great English songwriter, Sydney Carter (who wrote 'Lord of the Dance'). The concert program is mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy it.

Peter Kearney has made music his full time work and ministry since 1982. His earliest songs 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes' are internationally known. 'This is Our School' has been adopted as a school song by hundreds of Australian schools.

Peter has the special gift of making the stories and message of Jesus relevant to our modern daily life. (Val Patterson MSC)

Website: [peterkearneysongs.com.au](http://peterkearneysongs.com.au)



## Learn music here at school

Come and join in the fun of  
learning to play  
GUITAR or KEYBOARD  
here at St. Mary's.

Creative Music for Schools  
conducts a music program  
here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one  
lessons of up to 30 minutes give chil-  
dren an excellent grounding in music  
where they will learn to read music  
and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$17.00 per lesson and  
enrolments are now being accepted for  
limited places in term 1, 2019.

Interested parents should call Brenda dur-  
ing office hours on 9818 2333 or email  
[brenda@creativemusic.com.au](mailto:brenda@creativemusic.com.au)

 **Creative Music**  
[www.creativemusic.com.au](http://www.creativemusic.com.au)



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit  
[www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2018, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2019 or you did not apply in 2018.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2019.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

