



# Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School

Principal: Shane Byrne

A: 94-112 Woodland St, Strathmore

E: [info@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au)

P: 9379 5723 F: 9374 2389

W: [www.strathmore.catholic.edu.au](http://www.strathmore.catholic.edu.au)



## Reflection

### Lent 2025



Since Ash Wednesday, the students have been focusing on what Lent means and discussing ways that they can give of themselves to others during the season of Lent. The students have also been focusing on the importance of prayer during the season of Lent, and how we can strengthen our relationship with God.



#### How can we support others in need during Lent?

Want to change lives this Lent? Then get involved with Caritas Australia - Project Compassion. Join forces with your community, your loved ones, and people facing poverty – and turn your compassion into a powerful force for change.

As a school we are asking for any monetary donations to be brought to school to be placed in the Project Compassion boxes on each classes prayer table. The Year 6 Mini Vinnie students will be collecting the Project Compassion boxes at the end of term and counting the donations, which will be sent directly to Caritas Australia. Any amount is very much appreciated. Thank you for your support.

### Catholic Education Week 2025

St. Patrick's Day Mass

Friday 21st March



On Friday 21st March, Mrs. Petrie, Ms. Glenton and the School Captains, Vice Captains and Year 6 SRC attended the St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The Mass, with 297 schools represented, was a beautiful celebration of people coming together to share in the presence of God. We were very excited when it was Xavier and Sienna's turn to process in with our St. Vincent de Paul banner.

The Archbishop spoke about the Year of the Jubilee - and our role in being pilgrims of hope for all people. Although drizzly rain began the day, we were able to enjoy the concert after the Mass. Our students mingled with other students from other schools, scored a soccer goal to win a mini-soccer match and danced to the sounds of the Catholic Secondary school bands playing. It was a wonderful celebration!

Principal: Shane Byrne  
Email: [principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au)

Parish Priest: Rev Anthony J Doran  
Email: [strathmore@cam.org.au](mailto:strathmore@cam.org.au)  
Website: [www.cam.org.au/strathmore](http://www.cam.org.au/strathmore)

PARISH OFFICE  
22 Robinson Street  
Moonee Ponds 3039  
Telephone: 9370 5035



**Principal's Message**

Next week marks the end of the first term for 2025. It has been terrific to see how well the children have transitioned into their new classes and learning spaces. The Prep children have already become very familiar with the routines and expectations the school has of them and should be very proud of their achievements in the 35 days they have been at school. We hope all families enjoy the break and take the opportunity over Easter to spend time with families and friends where possible. We also hope you take time to reflect on the sacrifice Jesus made and the significance of the events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday as part of our Catholic faith. We look forward to seeing the children return safely after the holidays.

**PREP PICK UP TERM 2**

The Prep children will be able to be picked up from 3:10pm for the first week of next term only. Beginning April 28 the Prep children's pick up time will be 3:20pm, in line with all the children's pick up time.

**END OF TERM 1/BEGINNING OF TERM 2**

The children finish school at **1:30pm** next Friday, April 4. The children will begin school for Term 2 on Tuesday April 22.

**WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM**

In Term 2 children are expected to wear the winter school uniform. Details of the winter uniforms are listed below. Sometimes the weather can be warmer than expected so children can wear their summer uniform until May 2. From May 5 all children are expected to be in winter uniform.

Boys

Grey Trouser  
Long Sleeve Shirt (Sky)  
Skivvy (Sky)  
Woollen School Jumper  
Grey Stripe Ankle Socks  
Black School Shoes

Girls

Winter Tunic  
Navy Pants  
Peter Pan Blouse (Sky)  
Woollen School Jumper  
Skivvy (Sky)  
Navy Ankle Socks or Navy Tights  
Black School Shoes

Boys Sports Uniform

Rugby Top  
Navy Track Pants  
Navy Sport Shorts  
Short Sleeve Polo Top  
White Ankle Socks  
Runners

Girls Sports Uniform

Rugby Top  
Navy Track Pants  
Navy Netball Skirt, Navy Skort  
or Navy Sport Shorts  
Short Sleeve Polo Top  
White Ankle Socks  
Runners

**STEPHANIE SERRANO**

Next week Stephanie Serrano will begin her parental leave as she prepares for the birth of her third child. We wish Steph all the best for the new addition to the family and welcome another Bomber's supporter into the world.

**DEIRDRE BRANDNER - ATTENTION AS A SUPERPOWER**

The school is delighted to announce that Deirdre Brandner will again be presenting at the school on **April 30**. As a renowned Australian child psychologist, author, and parenting expert, Deirdre Brandner has devoted over 30 years to serving children, adolescents, and their families. Deirdre last presented at the school in 2023 and the feedback from parents who attended was overwhelmingly very positive and some of the best advice some parents had ever had. Parents who were not able to attend were very disappointed once they found out how beneficial it was to their parenting. In this seminar Deidre will support parents in harnessing their child's attention and focus, enabling them to excel academically and in all aspects of life. This is a free session and begins at 7:00pm in the hall. Please put it in your calendars and do not miss a renowned expert in her field.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

This year our Stations of the Cross will be held on Wednesday, April 2. At this important event, each grade takes on the responsibility of presenting one of the Stations of the Cross. This is one of our school traditions and gives all in our community a chance to reflect on Easter and the sacrifice Jesus made. The event will commence at 11:45am in the senior yard and the area around the church. Parents are invited to attend. This is a very solemn and reverent recount of the events leading up to and including Jesus' death and resurrection.

**EXPLICIT DIRECT INSTRUCTION**

Last week Prep parents attended a session presented by Nicole Kaso and Deann Keane about numeracy and literacy. One of the areas they included in their presentation is 'How is a Mathematics Lesson Structured?' The following details provide an understanding of how teachers are structuring their Mathematics lessons.

- *Present material in small steps:* By breaking down a task into small, sequential steps, students are less likely to experience a cognitive overload as they're not having to pay attention to too much information at once.
- *Provide models and worked examples:* Providing students with a framework of what information they should include, students are less likely to learn redundant information. This frees up space in their working memory so they can focus on other things.
- *Check for student understanding:* Regularly assessing students' understanding before presenting new information means misconceptions can be addressed and students have time to process and transfer this information into their long-term memory.
- *Provide scaffolding:* Supporting students until they are confident with a topic reduces the stress placed on their working memory. This way, students aren't overwhelmed by the new topic.

**“St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience.”**



Principal's Message continued.....

**LEARNING CONFERENCES**

This year the learning conferences will be held on April 1 and will be an opportunity for parents to receive feedback on their children's progress. Children are expected to attend the learning conferences with their parent(s). These conferences are an opportunity for students and teachers to identify how children are progressing in their learning. The children in Year P-2 will attend the conferences with their parents and the teacher will facilitate the meeting. The children in Years 3-6 will also attend the conference and will facilitate the first part of the meeting with the teacher facilitating the second part. There will be no classes for children on this day with the learning conferences beginning at 11:00am and concluding at 6:00pm. Details on how to book for the conferences was sent out via the Audiri app on Monday February 24.

Shane Byrne  
PRINCIPAL

2025 Term 1 Learning Conferences



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents,

Term 1 Learning Conferences will be held on **Tuesday 1st April between 11am-6pm**. The Learning Conferences will be held in your child's classroom. **Please note that this is a School Closure Day for the students.**

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS WILL OPEN on Tuesday 4th March at 9:00am**  
**BOOKINGS CLOSE on Friday 28th March at 1pm.**

Booking code:



Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter the school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

suk5s



When you click **finish**, your interview time will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

**Please note:**

All students are expected to attend the Learning Conference with their parents.

Learning Conferences are strictly 10mins. If you require more time, please contact the teacher directly and make alternative arrangements.

Speech Box

**Fun: A vital ingredient for building your child's vocabulary**



Research has shown that children learn how to communicate best when engaging in enjoyable & longer interactions with their caregivers. In childhood, learning goes hand-in-hand with play.

Children are more likely to learn vocabulary that relates to their interests and curiosities. Having fun with your child has the potential to significantly improve your child's interactions and communication skills. After you discover what excites your child, here is how you can incorporate these interests into your interactions:

1. Let your child lead and be responsive to their initiations. Be sure to respond quickly and positively. For example: "Wow, that's a really fast car!"
2. Your positive and quick responses can support your child in continuing with the interaction, allowing more communicative exchanges and vocabulary building!
3. Researchers suggest avoiding toys, games, and electronic books with flashing lights, loud noises, or long pre-recorded songs, as they can make interactions more challenging. Instead, encourage imaginative play, such as dress-ups, outdoor play, and building activities like Lego, to support vocabulary development.
4. Your child may have sensory preferences that make certain activities better choices for encouraging communication than others. By following your child's interests and preferences, you are providing a space for your child to develop language through what is fun for them. Some ideas could include playing with sand, slime, foam or play-dough.

Fun encourages an interaction to have more 'turns', or back-and-forth exchanges, which creates more opportunities for vocabulary learning. When you tune into your child's interests and curiosities, research shows that language learning will flourish.

[Download PDF](#)

Move In March



This term we have had a focus on Move in March which is an initiative from the Moonee Valley Council which encourages students to walk, ride and scoot to school during March (and beyond). We have had a fantastic response to the initiative with a large number of students taking up the challenge.

A reminder that the Move in March initiative will conclude at the end of this term, however we encourage all students to continue to walk, ride or scoot to school throughout the year to decrease the traffic around the school, increase fitness levels and health and wellbeing.

**We are asking all students to please return their Challenge Cards to our school office by the end of the term to go in to the draw to win prizes from the Moonee Valley Council.**



Chess Club - Term 2, 2025



**TERM 2, 2025 - REGISTER NOW @**  
[CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU)

**SPECIALISED CHESS COACHING**  
Since 2002, we have been providing our popular Chess For Schools program in schools throughout Melbourne and Greater Geelong




'I am thrilled with the tremendous success of the chess program run by Chess for Schools. The students' adoration for the program is evident as they eagerly anticipate lunchtime on Tuesdays, bursting with excitement. The instructors' dedication, patience and attentiveness foster an engaging and nurturing learning environment, igniting the children's passion for chess as their skills flourish.'  
*Jessica Ward, Teacher - Loreto Toorak.*

**HOW CAN CHESS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD?**  
**Educational:** Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.  
**Social:** Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.  
**Emotional:** Confidence, self-esteem, resilience through winning and losing games.

**CLASS STRUCTURE:**  
Different lessons are taught each week from a structured syllabus ranging from tactics, strategies, master openings, traps & special moves. After the lesson children are paired up in a fun tournament play off. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

**BOOK HERE** → [CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU)

**CLASS DETAILS - ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY**

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Mondays	1:40pm - 2:20pm		28 April to 23 June	\$145 per child per term

"Alex loves chess club and gets very upset if he misses a session. His chess has definitely improved and his teacher, Anita feels that it helps with his math in class in terms of concept and thinking. Keep up the great work!"  
*Katherine Lambert: Hampton Primary School*

2025 Term Dates

**TERM 1**  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January (Prep)  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April  
(Note: Easter 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April)

**TERM 2**  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July

**TERM 3**  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September

**TERM 4**  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

2025 School Closure Days

- ❖ Tuesday 1st April (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Wednesday 21st May
- ❖ Thursday 31st July
- ❖ Wednesday 17th September (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Monday 3rd November
- ❖ Thursday 4th December

St Vincent de Paul Parish - Easter Mass Times

- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Holy Thursday**  
7:30pm Please join us at our sister Parish of St Monica's, Moonee Ponds for Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday**  
3:00pm Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Holy Saturday**  
8:00pm The Easter Vigil
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Sunday**  
9:30am Mass
- 

Prep 2026 Enrolment Applications

Enrolments are now open for Prep 2026. Applications are to be submitted via the online enrolment application form on the school website:  
[Prep 2026 Online Enrolment Application Form](#)  
Applications close on **Thursday 3rd April 2025.**

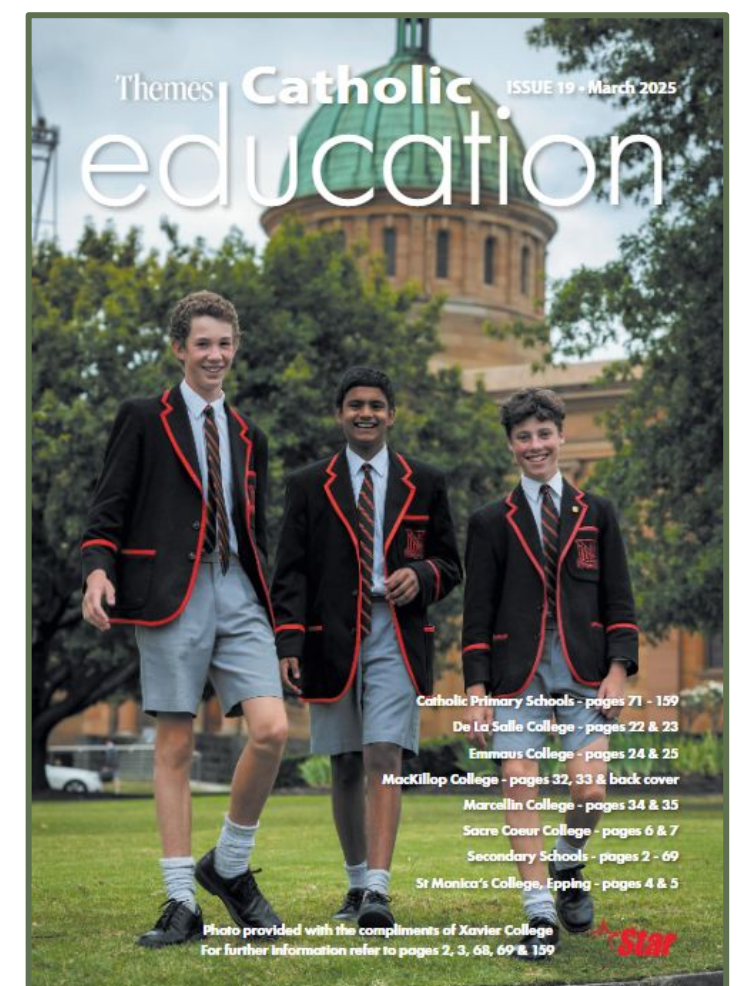


2025 Catholic Education Guide

To assist your decision making in relation to your child's education for 2026 and beyond, please find below a link to the 2025 edition of the Catholic Education Guide.

**CLICK HERE:**

<https://victoriaschoolguides.starcommunity.com.au/catholic-education/>



Strathmore Secondary College - Tours

Strathmore Secondary College tours are now open for booking on the College website under the Enrolment tab.

Please see the link below for direct access.

<https://www.strathmore.vic.edu.au/enrolment/collegetours/>

The tours will commence in April and will operate through April and May to coincide with the Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Process.





**Sport News**

**DISTRICT SWIMMING RESULTS**

Congratulations to Madeleine Russell and Keira Reardon who represented the school at the recent District Swimming Carnival at Oak Park Pool. Madeleine competed in the girls under 10, 50m butterfly and placed 4th, whilst Keira competed in the girls under 10, 50m backstroke and placed 2nd. Congratulations to both girls on reaching this level of competition and we wish Keira all the best in the next round where she will represent the school at the Regional level.

**YEAR 5 GALA DAY REVIEW**

**Lachlan:** The last 2 Fridays we have participated in GALA Day, a round robin competition versing schools in the area. This year I played cricket for Gala day and it was so much fun! My coach was Miss Monaghan and she was such a good coach! We won most of our cricket matches, only losing one! We got into the final and we won by 109 runs against Essendon.

**Jasper:** I also participated in cricket for Gala day 2025. I played with some of my friends and teachers! We won most of the games, losing one to a very good school. We tried our best and worked as a great team. Our team showed great sportsmanship because we always cheered for one another when someone got a wicket or a 6. We had a double zone, which means if you get 4 runs it is 8 runs and if you get 6 runs it is 12 runs. I saw a lot of my friends there from other schools and they also did really well.

**Louie:** I was on the softball team for Gala day, and we had a BALL! There were two teams and they were called the Angels and Saints. The angels had 1 win, 3 loses and 1 draw. We had so much fun with everyone, getting along with other schools and making some friends. We also had some great catches! The best catch was from Jaxon, taking an absolute screamer with 6 catches, 6 home runs, 20 homes and 10 strikeouts!

**Billy:** I also played in the Softball team and our team was the Saints, we finished fifth overall with winning 3 games, losing 1 and drawing 1. We all loved Gala day, it was such a great experience! It was the best two days of our lives!

**Dante:** I was part of the tennis team for Gala Day. Throughout the 2 day competition we competed against year 6s, so I would say it's fair to say that we did extremely well, finishing in 8th position. I really enjoyed playing with my friends and teammates. I enjoyed every moment of the two days with my team and my coach, Ms Di Cosmo. It was the best time, and I can't wait for inter school sports in year 6!

**Eva:** This year for gala day I played tennis alongside my teammate Dante and friends. We played singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches. Thanks to Miss DC for being our coach and for supporting us at gala day! We absolutely loved it!

**Adele:** For Gala Day I played Volleyball. I was in the angels team, we were very successful because we made it to the grand final. We sadly lost but we are so proud of ourselves because we played against grade 6's. In the end we had such a fun filled 2 days.

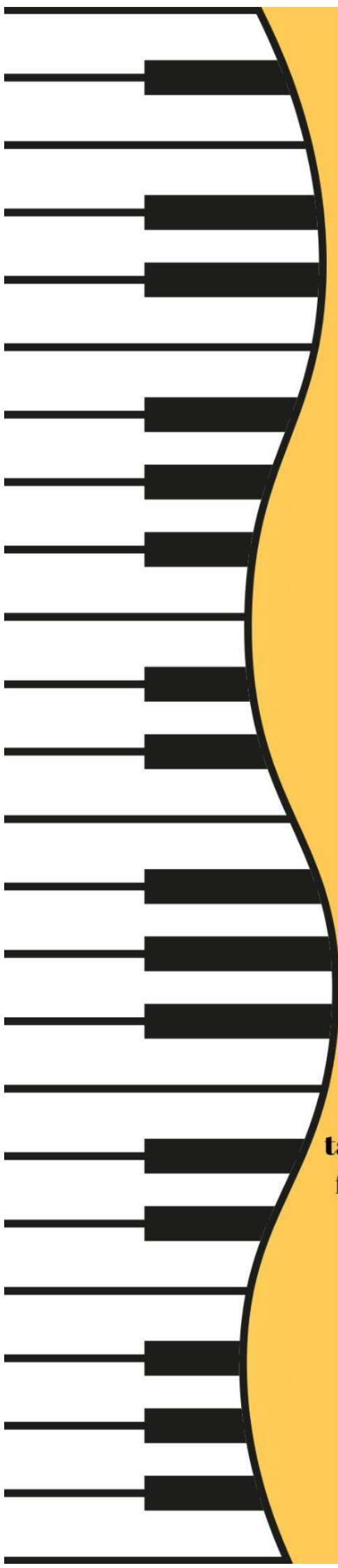
**Ruby:** I also played volleyball and we competed at Fairbairn Park against other schools. It was a successful 2 day event for both teams, the angels and the saints. Congratulations to the angels team who came second!

*Daniel Igoe  
Sports / PE Co-ordinator*





Piano Lessons




  
**Piano With Taylah**



**Give your child the gift of music! With engaging lessons tailored to their pace, your child will develop a lifelong love for music. Limited spots available! Enrol today and watch them thrive**

<b>PRIVATE LESSONS</b>	<b>AFTER SCHOOL HOURS</b>	<b>PH: 0481 746 751</b>
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Located in Strathmore, 3041  @pianowithtaylah

Ave Maria College - Events for Yr 4 & 5 Students



**She Who Explores:**  
**Food Technology**

Come and see what it's like to be an Ave girl with our after school program, **She Who Explores**.

Designed specifically for Year 4 and 5 students, this is a fantastic opportunity for our future students to explore subjects that they will be able to study at Ave Maria College.

Meet our fantastic Food Technology teachers and current students as we cook up a storm in our purpose-built kitchens.

**Monday, 31 March, 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

For more information, please email Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), Mrs Natalie Meddis, [AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au](mailto:AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au) or register via the QR.







St Bernard's College - Year 7, 2027 Applications

Year 7  
2027

Apply Now





Applications due 9 May 2025.





Book a College Tour *or* Discover more









sbc.vic.edu.au

St Vincent's Tennis Club Memberships



  
**ST VINCENT'S TENNIS CLUB**  
 ROSEBANK AVENUE STRATHMORE 3041

# ST VINCENT'S TENNIS MEMBERSHIPS

LOVED THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN?  
 JOIN ST. VINCENT'S TENNIS CLUB AND ENJOY A WEEKEND HIT WITH YOUR FAMILY! AS A MEMBER, YOU'LL GET ACCESS TO OUR COURTS, PLUS THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN A COMPETITION TEAM.

BOOK YOUR COURT ONLINE ONCE YOU'RE A MEMBER!

JOIN NOW

\$0

JOINING FEE FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS SAVING \$20

SIGN UP NOW FOR

ONLY \$45

UNTIL JUNE 30TH 2025, THEN ENJOY ALL CLUB BENEFITS FOR ONLY \$190 ANNUALLY!

REGISTRATION ENQUIRIES

[STVINCENTSTENNISCLUB@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:STVINCENTSTENNISCLUB@HOTMAIL.COM)  
 0400 585 204 - TANNITH



**Important Dates**

**MARCH 2025**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3 School Closure Day	4 Walk to School begins Yr 3 Reconciliation 3:30-5:30pm	5 Ash Wednesday - Mass 10am Yr 3-6 - Paraliturgy 2:30pm Prep-Yr 2 (School Hall)	6 Yr 3 Reconciliation 3:30-5:30pm	7 Zoooper Dooper Day Gala Day 2 (Year 5) Year 4 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	8	9
10 Labour Day Holiday	11 Yr 6 Camp	12 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5)	13 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) School Advisory Council Meeting	14 Yr 6 Camp NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) Zoooper Dooper Day	15	16
17 NAPLAN (Yr 3 & Yr 5) Second Hand Uniform Sale 2:45-3:45pm (Hall)	18	19 School Photo Day	20 Prep Information & Parent Helper Workshop	21 Harmony Day Zoooper Dooper Day Year 5 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	22	23
24	25	26 Year 6 Mass 10am	27	28 Sushi Food Day	29	30
31						

**APRIL 2025**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 Learning Conferences (School Closure Day)	2 Stations of the Cross	3	4 Easter Raffle 12 noon Last day of Term 1 1:30pm finish	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday	19 Easter Saturday	20 Easter Sunday
21 Easter Monday	22 Term 2 Begins	23 Year 5 Mass 10am	24 ANZAC Day Ceremony	25 ANZAC Day	26	27
28	29	30 Year 4 Mass 10am				

**MAY 2025**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 School Advisory Council Meeting	2 Yr 6 Winter Sports #1 Year 3 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	3	4
5	6 Mother's Day Stall	7 Year 3 Mass 10am	8	9 Mother's Day Breakfast Yr 6 Winter Sports #2	10	11 Mother's Day
12	13	14 Year 2 Mass 10am	15 Year 6 Confirmation Info Evening 7pm	16 Yr 6 Winter Sports #3 Year 2 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	17	18
19 Parents Association Meeting 7:00pm Online	20	21 School Closure Day	22	23 Yr 6 Winter Sports #4 Movie Night	24 Prep & Yr 6 Family Mass 6pm	25
26	27	28 Year 1 Mass 10am	29	30 Year 1 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	31	



**TheirCare**  
where kids love to be!

### **SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL**

We will be running a pupil free day in the hall on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Care will be provided from 7:00am-6:00pm. Please ensure your child is provided with a morning snack, lunch and a drink bottle. We will provide breakfast until 8:45am and afternoon snack will be served at approximately 3:45pm.

### **AUTUMN HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Bookings are now open online for the upcoming holiday program commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April. Please book early for availability for excursions. Brochure of our itinerary at St Vincent De Paul can be viewed online.

### **PREPS AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP PROCESS FOR TERM 2**

Our preps are currently in training for walking themselves to after school care commencing in term 2. They are doing a fantastic job so far and are confident in knowing where to go for after school care. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lisa - Coordinator

Tulay - Educator