

## Principal's News



Dear Parents,

As we begin December this weekend, the Christmas decorations will come out, the tree will be put up and the countdown to Christmas Day begins. In addition to the chocolate Christmas calendar, could you also spend some time decorating a Jesse Tree or placing the Nativity scene, with characters to be added over the four weeks of Advent. You might like to create an Advent wreath with the four candles, (three purple and one pink), and the focus word / theme of the readings for that week. These acts help us to focus on waiting, which is a particularly difficult skill in this era of immediate response.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS

This week as we begin to think about Christmas preparations, your child should have brought home a note regarding a contribution to hampers to be distributed by Vinnies volunteers. Please send in this item (or another) to assist a family with their celebrations by 6 December. Thank you for your generosity.

### CYBER SAFETY SESSIONS FOR YEARS 5 AND 6

Thank you to those who were able to attend the Cyber Safety Session last week led by Kate Wilde, who has also been working with the Year 5 and 6 classes, finishing this Friday.

There were strategies shared, conversations between the parent and child and some guidance from Kate about sensible and safe use of devices and platforms. It was not a time for blame, but a time which reminded parents to be connected to their child now and in the future.

### MONDAYS COMING UP

There are a few things happening on the remaining Mondays coming up:

**2 December - NO SCHOOL FOR THE STUDENTS.** Professional Learning Day for Staff. OSHClub will be available on this day.

**9 December -** This is our **Carols Night**, with *rehearsal* during the day and the event held that night.

Please arrive by 5.30pm for a 5.45pm start. The night should conclude between 7.15-7.30pm. No parking is available on bottom yard, so please park in the surrounding streets and walk in. Please note that, as children are in attendance, **this is an alcohol free event.** Further information is on the flyer included with this Newsletter.

**16 December** - This day includes our Transition Session to the child's new class for 2025.

### 'THANK YOU PARENT HELPERS' MORNING TEA

Please join us for our Thank You Parent Helpers morning tea on **Thursday 12 December** after school drop off at 8.45am in the GECCO.

## 2024 SPORTS DAY

On **Thursday 12 December**, we will be having a modified Sports Day on site, so that the students experience some fun in their House Teams. Parents will be invited to attend, with two different times for sessions, advised shortly. Keep your eye out for the Compass information.

## 2025 HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

I am excited to announce that in 2025, we will be having an Athletics Carnival at one of the venues off site, so that all students have the chance to run on a track and participate in field events (age appropriate for the P-2s). This is a fabulous way to promote our House team spirit and demonstrate the skills being learned in PE sessions. It will be held in the last week of Term One, with full details shared early in 2025.

## 2024 SCHOOL REPORTS

Reports will be available via Compass on **Tuesday 10 December from 4pm**. This allows you time to read and clarify any queries with your child's teacher before the end of the term.

## END OF YEAR MASS

Parents are welcome to attend our **End of Year Mass at 9.15am on Friday 13 December**.

The new 2025 School Leaders will be announced at this Mass, which is very exciting for the Year Five students. The opportunity to be a leader is something many are aspiring to. Whether in a formal capacity or not, I am looking forward to these students taking on the leadership of our students, and being role models to the Preps and the rest of the student body.

## 2025 ORIENTATION SESSIONS

The 2025 Prep students have been assigned to their classes for 2025. It has been lovely to see how quickly the children have settled as they visited, and their Year Six Buddies will be a HUGE help with this at the start of the year too.

## STATE ATHLETICS

We congratulate the students who attended the State Athletics on 6 November. They represented our school in the relay and long jump. Congratulations to Josie McK, Kayleigh D, Kathleen L, Zoe S and Joshua T.

## ABC MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Last week, the students who learn a musical instrument at St Martin's had a concert with the ABC Teachers for their parents. We clearly have some very talented musicians and hope to see more children take on the chance to learn an instrument in their primary years. Thank you to **Cleo, Caitlin and Craig** for their wonderful preparation and the great show!

## ITALIAN PERFORMANCE

On Tuesday 26 November, the students thoroughly enjoyed the Vacanze Romane show which visited St Martin's. I could hear the students laughing and singing along from my Office, so I went in to have a look too! We thank Signora Di Muzio for organising this!

## 'SMOT SPOT' - YOUR OWN PARKING SPOT!

Wouldn't it be great to have a PRIME POSITION in the bottom yard car park for Pick up?! You could drive in at pick up time, knowing it is there, just for you! How fabulous to be close to the back gate once your children have arrived at the door. Please feel free to purchase multiple tickets for the chance to win this spot! Tickets are available through the PFA with the links also found in this Newsletter. Many thanks for your support!

**PLEASE NOTE: The Winner of the Door Prize at last night's AGM was Justin Cheesewright, who now has a Mother's Day Night ticket, a Father's Day Night Ticket, a Zooper Dooper free card and an extra ticket in the draw for the SMOT SPOT. Congratulations!**

Thank you to all who attended the AGM and especially Michelle and all the Committee members for their extra efforts in coordinating events and fundraising throughout this year. They have done an amazing job, and, with your support, have raised funds for continuing improvements to the school. The staff and students are most grateful for everyone's support!

## YEAR SIX GRADUATION

The Year Six Graduation events are quickly approaching to farewell our students and families:

**Wednesday 4 December** ~ A Day Out. Funfields has been booked for the Year Six students.

**Friday 6 December** ~ The Graduation Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am, with the students in full summer uniform.

**Wednesday 11 December** ~ Parents and the graduating student are invited to The Manningham in Bulleen for the Graduation Dinner, commencing at 6.30pm and concluding at 9.30pm. **This is an Alcohol Free event in line with the Child Safe Standards legislation.**

There will be some formalities, including the presentation of Awards, as well as the students showcasing the dances learned with Ken Marshall across this term.

**Friday 13 December** ~ The End of Year whole school Mass will be held at 9.15am, following which the Year Six students will be farewelled by the school on the Top Yard and leave with their parent/s.

This is a both a happy and sad occasion, as the students look forward to the next chapter of their schooling, and some families say farewell to St Martin's.

## ASSESSMENT DAYS AT THE START OF 2025

The staff return to school on Tuesday 28 January. The students return on either Wednesday 29 or Thursday 30 January to take part in some assessments with their teacher/s. A Compass event will be shared with families. Students attend only one session, every effort will be made to group siblings on the same day. OSHClub will be available on these days.

## 2025 SCHOOL PHOTOS

Taking into account the feedback which was shared this year regarding School Photos, I have booked a new company for St Martin's in 2025, one which I have used in both my previous schools. In terms of the feedback, it is important to ensure quality, value for money and another factor which was shared as important was having these completed in Term One. This has been able to be accommodated with the new company. The date of our photos is **Tuesday 18 March**.

## ALTAR SERVER TRAINING AND THANK YOU DINNER

Year Three students and higher are invited to train as Altar Servers, with a training session on Thursday 5 Dec at 5.30pm. This is a wonderful service for our school and Parish Masses, so we hope that many students will train in readiness for 2025. Please book with Sr Maria or the Parish for this event.

## END OF TERM FINISH

**Please note that the final day for the students is Tuesday 17 December, with school finishing at 1pm. OSHClub will be available on this day.**

It has been a very tropical week of weather. Let's hope for a more settled pattern so all our events can take place in comfort!

Have a fabulous weekend and we'll see everyone on Tuesday! God bless.

*Angela Lacey*

**PRINCIPAL**

## THE BEGINNING OF ADVENT Start of the new Liturgical Year ~ (Year C)

Advent is a sacred time and space which provides us with the opportunity to stand back from the busyness of our lives and become aware of who we really are. It is a small oasis of calm that enables us to reflect on the deeper questions of life. What is the purpose of my life? What am I called to be?

The time of preparation in Advent can help to re-focus and look at what is meaningful, not routine.

The weeks of Advent will be marked by lighting candles placed in a wreath, one each week, until all are lit and the joy of Christmas is here. The first candle represents hope – the longing for the coming of Christ, who brings hope to a broken world.



# School Sports Day

## St Martin's Sports Day THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER



St Martin's school sports day will be held at school on Thursday 12th December. (Please note timing of sessions -Juniors and Seniors will be weather dependant and parents will be notified closer to the day). Parents are more than welcome to attend, **parking will be limited. Parents are asked to enter via the office area.**

Students can wear their House colours or sports uniform with a t-shirt, ribbon, sweat band etc in their house colour. Please ensure students have applied sunscreen and have spare sunscreen in their bag.

Please note the student's House can be found on Compass student profile. House colours are as follows:

**TOURS**

**MERCY**

**McAULEY**

**XAVIER**

8:58

Signal strength, Wi-Fi, and battery icons.

< Student Name

Dashboard

Tasks

Attendance

Reports



Male - 6 Years (15/01/2018)

Groups: Mcauley, PBL, Prep

Student IDs: 123456

Attendance

School: 100%

Accounted For: 100%

Attendance note

Send email

Today's Attendance





## AUSTRALIAN MATHS TRUST

### Bebras Challenge - STEM/Mathematics – 2024

At the beginning of Term 4 selected Year 3 Year 4 and Year 5 and all Year 6 students participated in round two of the 2024 Bebras Challenge.

They were amongst many students in primary and secondary schools throughout Australia who took up the digital technologies challenge and worked individually to solve a variety of problem solving tasks involving pattern recognition, coding, algorithms and logic.

The program is organised through the Australian Mathematics Trust as a Digital Careers initiative that aligns with our STEM program and focuses on computational thinking.

Congratulations to the following students who received a Merit, Credit or Distinction. Special mention to Joshua B (Year 4) who received a Certificate of Excellence by answering all 15 questions correctly.

#### Year 3

**Merit:** Liam W, Bosco H, Ayesha S, Sofia L, Georgia M, Alexzander V, Will H,

**Credit:** Harry D, Alexander C, Lucia P

**Distinction:** Emma G

#### Year 4

**Merit:** Sam D, Stephanie S, Gianluca B, Olivia B, Liesel H, Jesse D, Noe M, Mila Z, Atish N, Amelie G, Harry D, Tully G, Jacob L, Dain K,

**Distinction:** Xavier M

**Certificate of Excellence:** Joshua B

#### Year 5

**Credit:** Grace D, Luke G,

**Merit:** Henry A, Chiara C, Annie N, Liam B, Joseph H, Joshua B, Zara P, Milla P, Poppy D, Jonty R, Abigail H, Josie M, Micah P, Valentina S,

#### Year 6

**Merit:** Scarlett W, Nancy W, Andrew M,

Congratulations to everyone who 'had a go'. The web link below provides an opportunity for students to practice their skills online through Bebras 365 - <https://www.amt.edu.au/bebras-365>



# School Fee Schedule

Please refer to the Compass News Feed titled **School Fee Information 2025**. Parents are required to complete a payment plan every year, please return your payment plan by **Friday 13 December**.

If you have any queries regarding the school fees, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Milione (Bursar): [marym@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au](mailto:marym@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au)



## School Fees 2025

Fee Type	Amount \$	Comment
Family Fee	2420	Per Family
Capital Levy	610	Per Family
Class Curriculum Levy	605	Per Child
Excursion Levy	60	Per Child
<b>Total School Fees</b>	<b>3695</b>	<b>One child</b>
Year 4 Camp	250	
Year 5 and Year 6 Camp	450	

### Payment Methods

**Option 1 – Direct Debit/Credit card payments – a form must be completed each year.**

Credit card payments are monthly only. Please complete forms and return to office by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

No of Children	Fortnightly Amount	Monthly Amount
1	\$184.75	\$369.50
2	\$218	\$436
3	\$215.25	\$502.50
4	\$284.50	\$569

Fortnightly direct debits payments from bank accounts commence Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February until 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (20 fortnightly payments)

**An additional amount for Years 4, 5 and 6 camps will be included in your payments Email will be sent to confirm details of payment amount and dates**

Monthly payments are deducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month from February to November 2025 inclusive (10 payments). This applies to both direct debit and credit card payments.

**Option 2 Payment of three instalment payments via EFT or EFTPOS**

Remittance for payment details (bottom of fees statement) can be completed and returned to the office for processing. Payment via EFTPOS is available at the office. We are not able to accept payment of fees over the phone.

**Camp amount is in addition to the figures listed below and must be paid prior to your child going on camp please refer to camp dates for 2025**

No of Children	Total Fees	1 <sup>st</sup> Instalment	2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment	3 <sup>rd</sup> Instalment
1 child	3695	1235	1235	1225
2 children	4360	1455	1455	1450
3 children	5025	1675	1675	1675
4 children	5690	1900	1900	1890

**Option 3 is payment of 3 instalment payments due at the end of terms 1, 2 and 3**

**Instalment dates:** 1<sup>st</sup> Instalment is due on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment is due on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> Instalment is due on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Families may wish to make a direct payment into school bank account**

**Bank Account Name:** St Martin of Tours General Account

**BSB:** 083 347 **Account Number:** 65320 6057

**Reference:** IMPORTANT state the 6 digit family ID reference which appears at the top right corner of your statement

**Families with a valid Health Care Card are eligible for [CSEF](#). Please attend office for application form and present current Health Care Card from Centrelink**

# Save the Date

## ST MARTIN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS

**Monday 9th Dec: 5:45 - 7:15pm**

**Please note this is an Alcohol free event**

### PARENTS BRING

- \* An outdoor chair / rug
- \* Food / Drinks  
(Alcohol free event)
- \* Singing voices



### STUDENTS BRING

- \* Cushion
- \* Water bottle
- \* Hat if required
- \* Costumes are simply Christmas themed

### OUR WISH LIST

- \* Please arrive at 5.30pm for a 5.45pm start
- \* No parking on Bottom Yard, we encourage families to park in nearby streets
- \* Students need to eat at home prior to Carols
- \* Students will sit in Year Levels separate to families, therefore parents must refrain from approaching the children throughout the Carols (eg. No passing on food or drinks)
- \* At the conclusion of Carols parents will be invited to collect their children from their class teacher

We are all looking forward to sharing this special night with you!

# Parent Helper Morning Tea!

THURSDAY | 12TH | DECEMBER

8:45 am - 9:30 am

The staff would like to thank you for all your help throughout the year!

YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO JOIN US IN THE GECCO!







IT'S TIME FOR

# ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

LET'S MAKE CHRISTMAS  
SPECIAL FOR ALL.

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOODS AND  
CHRISTMAS ITEMS TO YOUR CLASS HAMPER.



## Donate Your Outgrown School Shoes or Runners!

We are collecting unwanted school shoes or runners to support refugee students at **St. Dominic's Primary School in Broadmeadows**, who struggle to afford footwear.

Shoes must be wearable (no holes, missing parts, or laces).  
Scuff marks are okay!

**Donation tubs will be located outside the GECCO**

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Don't miss out on your chance to be the envy of everyone at school pick-up time by having your very own reserved "SMOT SPOT" car park for the entire 2025 school year!

**BLACK FRIDAY DOUBLE-UP OFFER** - Purchase your tickets by this **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December** to double your entries and chances of winning!

NOTE - Those who have already purchased tickets will automatically receive this offer.

Purchase your raffle tickets at <https://smotpfa.weebly.com>

**Please click on the image for further information**



The poster features a blue background with red bunting at the top. At the top center is the logo of the St Martin of Tours Parents and Friends Association, which includes a circular emblem with a figure and the text 'ST MARTIN OF TOURS PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION'. Below the logo, the text '2025 "SMOT SPOT" RAFFLE!' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath this is a white parking sign with a 'P' and a car icon, overlaid with a red 'RESERVED' stamp. The text 'Have your very own reserved parking space for the entire 2025 school year\*!' is written in a white, italicized font. Below this, it says 'Tickets can be purchased by Wednesday 4th December at <https://smotpfa.weebly.com> or via the QR Code.' and 'Winner will be drawn on Friday 6th December.' The ticket prices are listed as '1 Ticket for \$10 - or - 3 Tickets for \$25'. A QR code is located on the right side. At the bottom, a small asterisked note reads '\*For use during the school term at school pick-up time only.'

**2025 "SMOT SPOT" RAFFLE!**

*Have your very own reserved parking space for the entire 2025 school year\*!*

Tickets can be purchased by Wednesday 4th December at <https://smotpfa.weebly.com> or via the QR Code.

Winner will be drawn on Friday 6th December.

1 Ticket for \$10  
- or -  
3 Tickets for \$25




\*For use during the school term at school pick-up time only.



Articles consist of 2 pages please click on the image to read the article



INSIGHTS

happy families. 

INSIGHTS

happy families. 

ISSUE 6 | TERM 4 | 2024

## How to Really Play With Your Kids

*(And Actually Enjoy it as Much as Them)*

Playing with your kids. It's supposed to be fun—an enriching and bonding experience. Yet, for many of us—the overworked, the stressed, the ones who've traded sleep for a few more hours of productivity—the idea of one more demand on our time and energy can feel... daunting. Let's be honest, sometimes Netflix and chill sound a hell of a lot better than another round of hide-and-seek.

But here's the reality: engaging with your kids, truly engaging, is not just good for them. It's an investment in your relationship, your sanity, and quite possibly, your future. Studies show it makes them happier, and it makes us happier. Those moments of genuine connection? They're the dividends of the time and energy investment parents make in play. Forget the Pinterest-perfect crafts and the expensive toys. The best games are organic, spontaneous, a little ridiculous, and tailored to your kids' unique quirks and interests. And remember, their primary interest is time with you.

### A Note on Play With Older Kids

Remember that play can evolve. Think about activities that spark their interests—video games can turn into a bonding experience when you join them in co-op mode, or a friendly competition in a family trivia night can unleash a whole new level of engagement. Encourage your teens to show you their world. Challenge them to teach you their favourite game. Join them in their latest obsession, whether that's cooking a new recipe together or diving into their favourite shows for a critique. You'll not only bridge the gap between generations but also remind them that you're still in their corner, willing to connect.

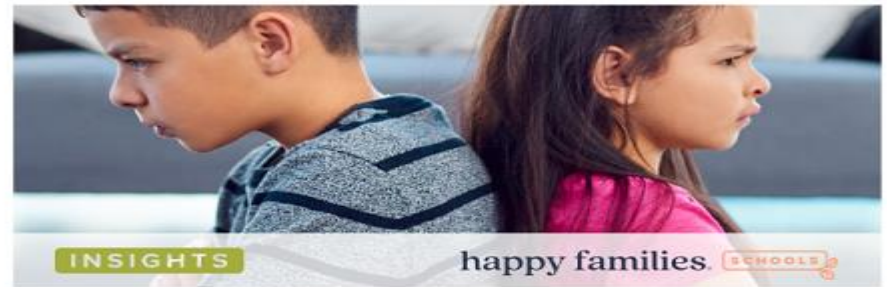
Remember, it's about creating shared experiences—messy, spontaneous, and sometimes ridiculous—that deepen your bond and show them that playing together doesn't stop just because they've outgrown the toys.

## Simple, Fun Games You'll Actually Enjoy


Ditch the guilt, put down the phone, and get into it. It might be messy, it might be loud, and it is all-but-certain to be tiring, but I promise you, it'll be worth it. And who knows, you might even have some fun along the way.

Here's a bunch of ideas that have worked in our family home over the years that I reckon your kids will love.

**Hide and Seek:** It's an endless delight how much mileage this old-school game still gets in our home. Kids hiding in kitchen or bathroom cabinets; me hiding in places my body doesn't really want to clamber into anymore; and hours of fun. We tend to play at night time with no lighting other than what comes into the windows from the street. The game has a slightly scary tinge to it that the kids thrive on.



INSIGHTS

happy families. 

INSIGHTS

happy families. 

ISSUE 7 | TERM 4 | 2024

## Why Is My Child Like This?

*The Power of Perspective Taking in Parenting*

My two children were fighting. Again.

"Abbie, what is going on?" Abbie described how Chanel teased her, was mean, and was hurting her. "Chanel, is that true?" I asked the older of the two girls. Her reply was instant. Without meeting my eyes, she said, "No".

"Chanel, if I were to ask you to pretend to be Abbie and I had you describe what went on, what would you say to me?" Chanel reluctantly took Abbie's perspective and acknowledged that Abbie would say that "Chanel teased me, was mean, and hurt me."

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A man spoke to a famous speaker after a conference about relationships. "I can't understand my son. He won't listen to me."

The speaker responded, "Let me say back to you what I just heard you tell me. You can't understand your son because he won't listen to you."

"That's right", the man confirmed.

The speaker reiterated, "Let me say it again. *You* can't understand *your* son because *he* won't listen to *you*." He paused as the man stared at him. Then he added, "I thought that to understand your son, *you* need to listen to *him*."

I've heard many exasperated parents ask me variations on the same question. "Why is my child like this? Why do they do that? Why can't they just listen and understand?"

As adults, we have a lot more life experience than children. We've seen more, learned more, and faced more challenges. It's easy to forget what it's like to see the world

# Stars of the week

*Students are recognised for academic achievement, personal & social capabilities or for demonstrating our school values*

## PBL

**Alexander** for spreading joy throughout the classroom with your bubbly smile and positive attitude. Keep it up!

**Stella** for being a role model student by using her manners, following expectations and instructions, and always being ready promptly for learning time. Keep it up Stella!

## PGO

**Prep GO** for being resilient and brave learners during this week. You are all superstars!

**Jordan** thank you for bringing excitement and enthusiasm into your learning. We love learning from you when you share your ideas with us in Prep GO and especially when you use your thinking bubble before while waiting your turn to share. Keep being wonderful!

## PJL

**Lily V** for being a focused learner and putting the most effort into your learning each day. You have progressed so much in your reading and writing. Thank you for being a motivated and hard-working learner. Keep up the amazing work!

**Elisabelle** for very bravely and confidently adapting to the new routines of Prep JL. Thank you for being a kind and friendly classmate and for following the classroom expectations. Keep up the amazing work!

## 1JV

To **George A** for consistently being such a wonderful role model to his peers by following the SMOT smart values on a daily basis, well done George!

## 2JG

**Liam**, you are star of the week because you display the SMOT vales in your behaviour and work ethic. You are a kind, helpful and caring student. You have tried really hard to stay focused this week. Well done.

**Aidan**, you are star of the week because you display the SMOT vales in your behaviour and work ethic. You have tried really hard to stay focused this week and improve your handwriting. Well done.

## 2RO

**Jack** for staying focused and working hard during leaning time. Well done Jack! Keep up the great work.

**Florence** for always trying your best and having a positive attitude towards your learning. Well done Florence! Keep up the great work ethic.



### 3CJ

**Archie** - for your respectful manner in church and your wonderful and thoughtful contributions during the Homily at our class Mass. You're a STAR!

**Audrey** - for your respectful manner and wonderful contribution to our class Mass. Thank you for being so keen and accommodating to do extra at the last minute. You're a STAR!

### 3KR

**Owen** for his enthusiastic participation in the Italian incursion. You joined in with the actions and singing with energy and passion.

**Olivia** for carefully researching information for her biography on Grace Hopper. Keep up the great work!

### 3LA

**Jessica**: for writing a very interesting autobiography full of stories about her life so far! You're a superstar Jessica!

**Evie**: for contributing her wonderful ideas and thoughts during class discussions, particularly in literacy. Keep it up Evie!

### 4EP

To **Noe`** for your focus and persistence during poetry writing. You have been able to use different poetic devices and fantastic descriptive language to engage your audience. Keep it up!

To **Madeline**, for your attention to detail when presenting all of your work. You have constantly ensured your books and handwriting have been tidy and neat. Keep it up!  
of reading!

### 4JR

Well done, **Tully** for working hard and making great progress in maths, showing excellent improvement on Essential Assessment tasks. Keep up the fantastic work!

Well done, **Jackson!** Your poem on the color 'Green' was engaging and descriptive. You've shown great improvement—keep up the excellent work!

### 6RV

**Zara** - for doing a fantastic job presenting your Graduation Speech to the Year level. You spoke confidently and clearly and included so much detail. Well done!

**Jack N** - for doing a fantastic job presenting your Graduation Speech to the Year level. You spoke confidently and clearly and included so much detail. Well done!

## **DONATION POINT TAP TERMINAL IN THE MAIN CHURCH FOYER**

The Donation Point Tap Terminal is available for use again, with new features. It is situated in the main foyer of the Church and provides parishioners and visitors who do not carry cash and are not subscribed to our Stewardship Program with a way of donating towards our weekly loose collection. The machine is set to collect a donation of **\$2, \$5, \$10 or \$20** per tap. Simply select the amount you wish to donate and tap your card. Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

## **ST MARTIN OF TOURS COMMUNITY CENTRE—FOR HIRE**

The Parish of St Martin of Tours has a wonderful facility that you can hire—it is our Community Centre situated across the road from the Parish Church. For further information and details regarding the hire of the Community Centre please contact the Parish Office on 94016338.

## **ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLET: 'Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2024 – "The Light"**

This booklet provides an opportunity for us to be still each day from The First Sunday of Advent (1 December) – The Baptism of the Lord (11 January). This year's reflection booklet will be available for \$5 at the weekend.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS:** St Martin of Tours Liturgy team is looking for children and parents to assist in the Children's Christmas Eve Mass (5pm). This is a great opportunity for parents and children to be involved in their school parish and bring the Christmas story to life! We have need for characters for the nativity play including a live baby under 12 months, with parents. We are looking for a few parents to assist in the rehearsals, and for Christmas Eve Mass in getting children into costumes, and ushering (prompting) children during the nativity play. Please contact Sr Maria by email at [Maria.Bui@cam.org.au](mailto:Maria.Bui@cam.org.au) if you can help.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL - CHRISTMAS GIVING.**

Dear St Martin's parishioners, The funds we receive through the annual Christmas fundraising Appeal helps with emergency relief, such as providing food, and financial aid for housing, utility bills and medications allowing people to focus on more than day-to-day survival. This support is vital in helping ease some of the burdens faced by families, especially during this time of year and when so many are challenged by the increase in the cost of living. Last year, SVDPV spent over \$3m on assisting Victorians with cost-of-living expenses, including medical costs, paying for household items and utility bills.

In December, we will be delivering food vouchers and hampers to over 30 families in the local area so that they may enjoy some treats at this time of the year. We will have envelopes in the church porch in December, stamped with our Macleod conference ID. If you are able to donate, we would be very grateful for your assistance. Cash or credit card details are welcome. We will be pleased to send a receipt if you note your name and address on the envelope - which may then be placed in the poor box in the church porch or in the general parish collection bowl on the altar. If you prefer to donate online, this is the link: <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal> To ensure our conference receives your online gift, please enter 'Macleod 915' in the Comments/Conference name box as you progress through the donation process.

Thank you - and may the peace and joy of Christmas be with you all. Marian

**ST PIUS X ADVENT CELEBRATIONS:** You are invited to join us for: The **Christmas Parish Barbecue** on Saturday 7th December from 12.00 to 4.30pm, **Reconciliation** on Tuesday 10th December at 7pm, **the Healing Mass** on Thursday 12th December at 6pm. There will be no Morning Mass on this day.

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING and END OF YEAR GATHERING:** There will be training for all Altar Servers (old and new) on **Thursday 5th Dec at 5.30pm**, in the church followed by a **light dinner at 6.30pm**. Students from Year 3 onwards are welcome to join in, please register at the Parish Office for catering purposes.

*It's our Annual*



## *Altar Servers Training & Dinner*

An opportunity to thank our altar servers who have served this parish so well over the past twelve months.

And welcome our new altar servers (grade 3 upwards) who may like to join us.

**You are Invited to The Training and Dinner on**

**THURSDAY 05<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

*The training at 5.30pm in the Church,*

Followed by a BBQ dinner

(Sausages, Hamburgers & Salads)

for all Altar Servers & family members

**From 6.30pm in the community centre**



We would appreciate some support with the BBQ & cleaning up afterwards. Please let us know if you are available to help

For catering purposes

please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday 03rd December

to the Parish Office on 9401 6338

or at [Maria.Bui@cam.org.au](mailto:Maria.Bui@cam.org.au)

**Looking Forward to seeing you!**

Fr. Michael O'Connell  
Sr. Maria Bui

# ST MARTIN OF TOURS - PARISH OF MACLEOD



'A faith community where Christian service thrives and shared ministry is developed'

5 SILK STREET (PO BOX 430) ROSANNA VIC 3084  
PHONE: (03) 9401 6338 EMAIL: [macleod@cam.org.au](mailto:macleod@cam.org.au)  
PARISH WEBSITE: [www.smot.org.au](http://www.smot.org.au) FACEBOOK @Smot Parish

ABN: 21 504 260 106

St Martin's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and adults at risk.

Our Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation who are Traditional Owners of the land on which the parish resides and we pay our respects to elders past and present.

## PASTORAL TEAM

Fr Michael O'Connell  
Parish Priest

Sr. Maria Bui  
Pastoral Associate  
[Maria.Bui@cam.org.au](mailto:Maria.Bui@cam.org.au)

## ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Parish Secretary  
[macleod@cam.org.au](mailto:macleod@cam.org.au)

Elizabeth Jernejic  
Parish Accounts Mgr.  
[Elizabeth.Jernejic@cam.org.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Jernejic@cam.org.au)

If you need the ministry of Fr Michael or Sr Maria please ring the Parish Office. This includes viaticum and all the opportunities for healing through the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation.

## SCHOOL

St Martin of Tours School  
School Principal

Angela Lacey  
[principals@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principals@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au)

Tel. 8458 7500

## PARISH GROUPS

### Parish Pastoral Council

Marianne Love (Chair)  
Ph 9401 6338

### Child Safeguarding Committee

Sandra Ryan  
Robert Broadbent  
Parish Office Team  
Julie Lane  
Ph 9401 6338

### Communion to the Sick

Ph 9401 6338

### St Vincent de Paul

Helpline  
1800 305 330


## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 30TH NOVEMBER & 1ST DECEMBER 2024 YEAR C


### 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT- "IN JESUS, GOD HAS COME TO FULFIL HIS PROMISES AND BRING US JOY"

Advent is about 3 comings—Jesus is born, comes back as the judge at the end of time and he comes now to show us how to live as God wants. Advent is the season that honours and celebrates the waiting aspect of Christian life. Because we live in the time following the first coming of the Saviour, the prime focus of our waiting and our expectation is upon the second coming of the Lord. But because salvation is not complete, because we are so conscious of a world still ravaged by suffering and violence, we can identify with the prophets and holy men and women who hung upon the promise of salvation before the first coming of the Lord. Their cries express our own longings and hopes for a liberated and just world.



### ADVENT COMMUNAL RITE OF RECONCILIATION TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 7.30PM

 **WISER WOMEN GROUP:** Next meeting **Thursday 12th December** at 11am in the Community Centre. All ladies are welcome to join in. The theme will be **Christmas!** The aim of this group is to support each other- to share our stories – to encourage each other – to keep HOPE alive in our hearts and of course to have some fun and laughter. **Contact Leonie (via the office) or Sr. Maria for more details.**

 **ALTAR SERVER TRAINING and END OF YEAR GATHERING:** There will be training for all Altar Servers (old and new) on **Thursday 5th Dec at 5.30 pm**, in the church followed by a **light dinner at 6.30pm**. Students from grade 3 onwards are welcome to join in, please register at the Parish Office for catering purposes.

**ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLET:** Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2024 – "The Light" This booklet provides an opportunity for us to be still each day from The First Sunday of Advent (1 December) – The Baptism of the Lord (11 January). This year's reflection booklet will be available for \$5 at the weekend.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS:** St Martin of Tours Liturgy team is looking for children and parents to assist in the Children's Christmas Eve Mass (5pm). This is a great opportunity for parents and children to be involved in their school/parish and bring the Christmas story to life! We have need for characters for the nativity play including a live baby under 12 months, with parents. We are looking for a few parents to assist in the rehearsals, and for Christmas Eve Mass in getting children into costumes, and ushering (prompting) children during the nativity play. Please contact Sr Maria by email at [Maria.Bui@cam.org.au](mailto:Maria.Bui@cam.org.au) if you can help.

**ST MARTIN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** On Monday 9th December, our Carols will be held on bottom yard from 5.45pm–7.15pm. Please note that, as children are in attendance, this is alcohol free event. We are looking forward to sharing this special night with you.

**WELCOME** to Sr Do the Mother Superior of the Lovers of the Holy Cross of Dalat, who is here to visit Sr Maria & Sr Ahn.



**MORNING TEA AFTER THE 10AM MASS this Sunday IN THE GECCO. ALL WELCOME TO HAVE A CATCH UP AND A CUPPA**





Please click on the image for further information

# SMOT Business Directory

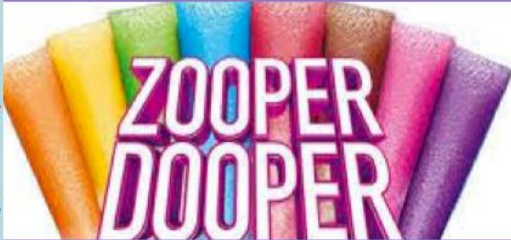


In need of a product or service?  
Why not look through our SMOT Business Directory!  
Engage with people you can trust and support our SMOT Community!  
Visit: [www.smotpfa.weebly.com/business-directory](http://www.smotpfa.weebly.com/business-directory)


To advertise your business in our SMOT Business Directory, complete the online registration form at [smotpfa.weebly.com](http://smotpfa.weebly.com)

If you would like to sponsor, or provide a donation for, one of our events to have your business featured in our newsletter, please contact [smotpfa@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smotpfa@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au).

## ENJOY THE WARMER WEATHER WITH ZOOOPER DOOPER TUESDAYS!



### NEW ARRIVAL



**\$2 Zooper Doopers**  
**Second Break Only**  
**Juniors - Top Yard**  
**Seniors - Bottom Yard**

To volunteer for a session, please sign up at <https://signup.zone/smotpfa-volunteer>

\*A limited stock of sugar free zooper doopers will also be made available.

Pre-paid Zooper Dooper Cards are now available to purchase via the PFA Website (<http://smotpfa.weebly.com>). Please refer to the website for further details.



This article consists of 2 pages please click on the image for further information

St Martin of Tours  
Stmartinoftours@oshclub.com.au

## Newsletter

November 2024

OSHClub

### What's been happening...

Hi all!

The past few weeks have been jam packed with so many fun activities we've been having so much fun! We have been making sweet treats in both the mornings and afternoons making pancakes, and recently we made some delicious gooey brownies!

We have continued to play plenty of group games together in both the morning and afternoon and have even started to make our way outside to play a few of the games when it's sunny!

We have become very crafty recently creating plenty of new designs with our Hama beads, plenty of water colour painting, colouring and drawing. It has been wonderful to see how each of the children take on the craft and what they do to make it their own. As we come to the festive season, we have started getting out our festive colourings, word searches, crossword and other fun activities.

Recently our new favourite game to play has been connect 4 with the kids lining up to play. It's so great to see everyone give it a go and get involved in playing a game a lot of them have never played before.

Our weekly competitions have been a hit with the most recent ones being designing our own sandcastle for summer and our own bauble our first Christmas themed competition!

We can't wait to show you what's to come!

- SMOT OSHC

### What's to come...

Dec

- Gingerbread house
- Melting snowman biscuits
- Paper garland
- Letters to Santa
- Make your own ornaments
- Christmas cookies
- Christmas games
- Decorate stockings
- Christmas wreath
- Christmas cards

### Special Announcements

- Hats are required at OSHC this term. Please remember to keep a spare hat in your bag for when at OSHC.
- OSHC is open all day (7am-6pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December)
- Please check enrolments to ensure that details are current and up to date especially emergency contacts, medical conditions, and general contact details

### Quality Improvement Area

Quality Area 5.2 – I engage with a range of test and gain meaning from these texts. This has been prevalent through our use of instructions when creating our crafts, playing games and cooking.



BSC 7:00AM – 9:00AM  
ASC 3:00PM – 6:15PM  
Phone Number: 0421751216

oshclub.com.au  
1300 395 735



# Calendar of Events

## TERM 4 2024

Please check Compass alerts and classroom newsletters regularly as events may be subject to change

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 8</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	5ZW Class Mass	Zooper Dooper Day Italian Incursion 3CJ Class Mass	PFA AGM		Year 5 and 6 Cyber Safety sessions with Kate Wilde
<b>Week 9</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>School Closure Day</b> (Staff Planning Day 2025)	School Tour Zooper Dooper Day	Year 6 Excursion PFA Raffle Ends	1HM Class Mass <b>Year 3 – 6 Altar Server Training and Thank You Dinner (5.30pm)</b>	Year 6 Graduation Mass 9.15am Year 1 Incursion PFA Raffle Winner Announced
<b>Week 10</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols Night 5.30pm	<del>Zooper-Deeper-Day</del> Year 3 Incursion <b>School Reports Available via Compass</b>	Year 6 Graduation Celebration 6.30-9.30pm	Thank you Parent Helpers Morning Tea <b>School Sports Day</b>	End of Year Mass 9.15am Farewell to Year 6 Students (after Mass)
<b>Week 11</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Meet your 2025 Teacher/s	Term 4 Ends 1pm			

## Term Dates 2025

**Term 1** 28 January (Staff Return) - 4 April

**Term 2** 22 April - 4 July

**Term 3** 21 July - 19 September

**Term 4** 6 October - 19 Dec (TBC)

## Important Dates 2025

(Dates will be added as they become available)

29 January - Student Assessment Day

30 January - Student Assessment Day

31 January – ALL Students at School

18 March – School Photo Day





## Works Notification

## Day and Night works in Watsonia, Macleod and Yallambie

November 2024

With tunnelling underway, we're starting work on the new Greensborough Road Boulevard and the widening of Lower Plenty Road.

### What we'll be doing

Activities to support tunnelling works will take place 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During this time, we'll aim to minimise noise and light impacts away from your property as much as possible.

Where	Activity	What to expect
Greensborough Road (between Watsonia and Yallambie roads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tunnelling activity</li><li>Removing temporary tunnelling support structures</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased truck movements delivering the tunnel wall segments</li><li>Continuous operation of the enclosed conveyor into the acoustic shed</li></ul>
Winsor Reserve, Macleod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Transporting dirt and rock from the acoustic shed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased truck movements entering and exiting the acoustic shed</li></ul>
Greensborough Road (between Yallambie Road and Oban Way)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Building the ventilation tunnel</li><li>Assembling a tower crane near Blamey Road to build the northern ventilation structure</li><li>Excavation and concreting works</li><li>Building worker site facilities</li><li>Moving traffic barriers along Greensborough Road</li><li>Building a new slip lane and driveway into site at Greensborough Road near Strathallan Road</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continuous works to build the ventilation tunnel</li><li>Night works on site and on Greensborough Road</li><li>Greensborough Road reduced to one lane in each direction at night</li><li>Walking and cycling path closed from Yallambie to Blamey Roads on the east side of Greensborough Road.</li><li>The southbound Yallambie Road/Greensborough Hwy bus stop remains open</li></ul>
Greensborough Road (between Oban Way and Lower Plenty Road)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Moving traffic barriers along Greensborough and Lower Plenty roads</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greensborough Road reduced to one lane in each direction at night at times</li><li>Tunnel construction at night including excavation</li></ul>

Sign up for updates  
[northeastlink.vic.gov.au](http://northeastlink.vic.gov.au)







**LOYOLA COLLEGE**

# COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MARKET & CAROLS NIGHT

**MARKET STALLS**  
**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**  
**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
**FOOD TRUCKS**

**GOLD COIN ENTRY**

ENJOY AN EVENING OF FAMILY CELEBRATION WITH A VISIT FROM SANTA FOR THE CHILDREN

**FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER**  
5.00PM - 9.00PM

LOYOLA COLLEGE  
325 GRIMSHAW STREET  
WATSONIA



**FREE**

# CHRISTMAS FAMILY EVENT



**Date:** Thurs 5th December **Time:** 6-8pm

**Details**

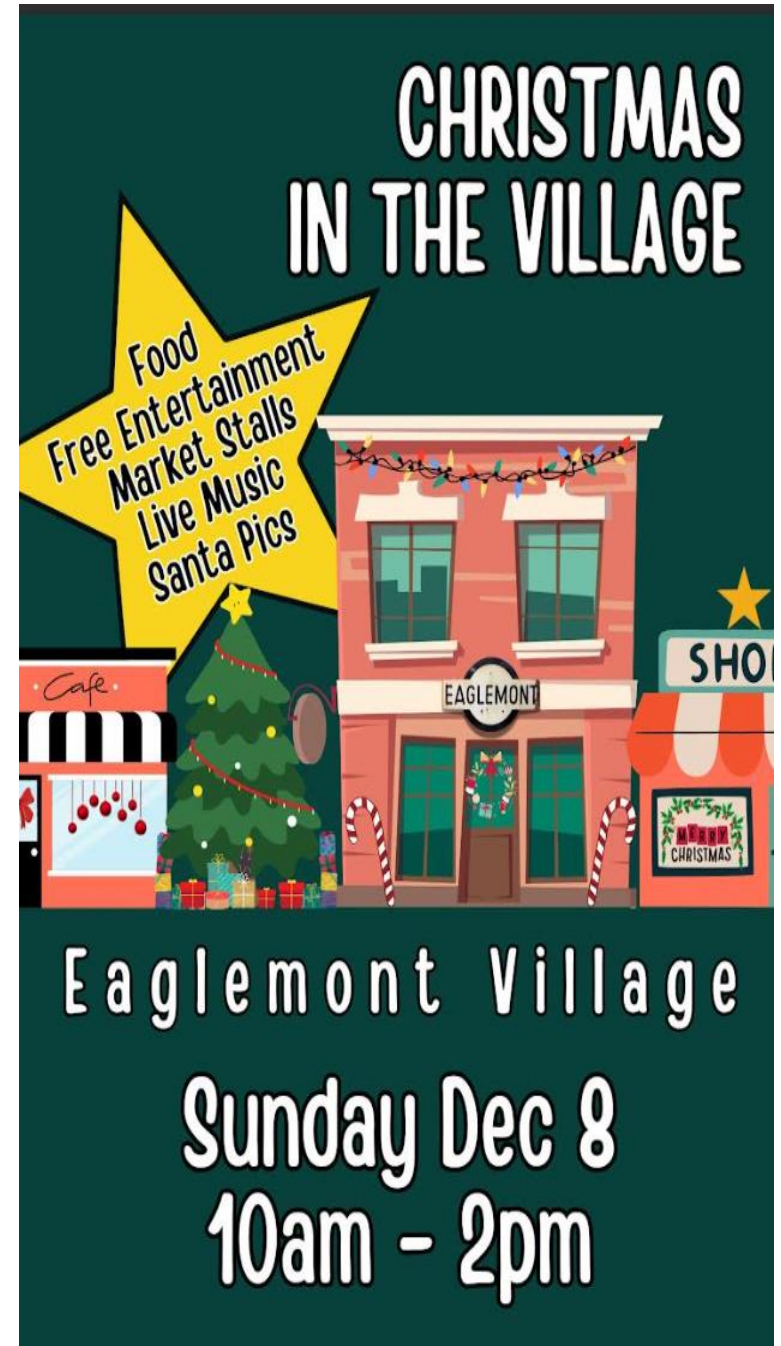
Bring the kids down for a FREE fun filled night. There will be Christmas craft, facepainting and glitter tattoos, petting zoo, kids karaoke, community groups, sausage sizzle, ride on dinosaurs a visit from Santa and lots more!!!

Bookings essential.

Book your spot today, limited spaces




**BUNNINGS warehouse**



# CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

Food  
Free Entertainment  
Market Stalls  
Live Music  
Santa Pics



**Eaglemont Village**  
**Sunday Dec 8**  
**10am - 2pm**





Save on Education Costs and Build Lifelong, Life Changing Savings Habits

Join us for an information session Every Wednesday 1pm - 1.15pm

To join please register via link below or scan QR Code

[Saver Plus Zoom Information Session Registration Link](#)

For further information email - [enquiries@bsl.org.au](mailto:enquiries@bsl.org.au)



To be eligible you need to meet these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Be studying yourself, have a child in school or starting school next year
- ✓ Get regular income (can be you or your partner)\*
- ✓ Agree to join free online financial education workshops

Saver Plus supports people to develop life-long savings habits. It's delivered by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, The Smith Family and Berry Street. It's funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services. [Learn more at www.saverplus.org.au](http://www.saverplus.org.au)

saverplus.org.au

1300 610 355



**BANYULE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN**  
DON'T MISS OUT. REGISTER TODAY!

BANYULE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB IS NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS

**TEAMS AVAILABLE FROM UNDER 8'S TO YOUTH GIRLS AND YOUTH BOYS**

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT** AVAILABLE UNTIL 31st DECEMBER 2024

For further details contact Danie O'Connor (boys) on 0404 055 390 or Erin Brown (girls) on 0402 611 631 or visit the Banyule JFC website to register.

[www.banyulejfc.com.au](http://www.banyulejfc.com.au)

**BANYULE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**2025 Girls Footy!**

**We are looking to field an U12 girls team... (2013-2015 born)**

Register your interest today!

[girlsfootball@banyulejfc.com.au](mailto:girlsfootball@banyulejfc.com.au)