

16th November 2023

Dear Families

Mrs Karen Wilson Principal

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This week we have been fortunate enough to experience the amazing art produced by our students this year. Many of you would have visited our Art Show and I'm sure you would agree that it was a worthy celebration of the talents of our students. Mrs Natalia Rose has been working with the students all year to create these unique pieces and I would like to congratulate her on putting together such an amazing event. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank two parents who have made this event possible. Mrs Lisa Cicero and Mrs Melissa Brigandi have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of the artwork was mounted and displayed beautifully. They have worked hard during the day to prepare resources and assist Natalia with creating a vision for the Art Show. This Art Show would not have been possible without the hard work of Natalia, Lisa and Melissa.



We have also been celebrating in other specialist areas this week. Mrs Loschiavo has been engaging all students in activities for Italian week at St Peter's. Each day she has worn a different Italian costume and the children have also been encouraged to participate. The work carried out in Italian lessons this week has continued to encourage an appreciation of different cultures and traditions.

For PE, Mr Gurrisi and the sports leaders have been organising different activities each day this week. These activities included a half court basketball game, reaction time competition and will culminate in a dodgeball game with teachers vs students.

Regards

Karen Wilson

Principal



Page 2

Dates to Remember



Term 4

20th November	Monday	Year 2 - Serendip Sanctuary Excursion Year 3 - Italian Day		
21st November	Tuesday	Year 2 - Italian Day		
22nd November	Wednesday	Year 3 - Serendip Sanctuary Excursion Year 6 - Italian Day Basket Raffles will be drawn		
23rd November	Thursday	Prep - Italian Day Wakakirri Audition		
24th November	Friday	Prep - Assembly		
29th November	Wednesday	Year 4 & Year 6 - Community Mass - 8.45am to 9.15am		
30th November	Thursday	2024 Preps - 2nd Orientation Session		
7th December	Thursday	Christmas Concert		
14th December	Thursday	Graduation (Year 6) 2024 Preps - 3rd Orientation Session		
15th December	Friday	Grade 6 Fun day - Adventure Park Last day of Term for students - 3.15pm Finish		

SCHOOL UNIFORM TERM 4 - No Hat No Play

As a 'Sunsmart' school all children are required to wear a hat during recess times. We have a 'No

hat - No play' policy, so children without a hat will be required to remain in the shade during recess and lunchtime. We thank you for your support.



SCHOOL FEES - 2024

2024	Fees		Levies					
School Fee	Recurrent	Capital	Curriculum	Swimming	Camp	Excursion	Sacrament	ІСТ
Family Fee	\$1,900.00							
Prep			\$320.00			\$80.00		
Year 1			\$320.00			\$80.00		
Year 2			\$320.00			\$80.00		
Year 3			\$350.00			\$80.00		\$212.00
Year 4			\$350.00			\$80.00		\$212.00
Year 5			\$350.00		\$250.00	\$80.00		
Year 6			\$350.00		\$300.00	\$80.00		

The ICT levy will continue in 2024 for our students in Grade 3 and Grade 4, as higher grades will still be part of the previous BYOD Program.

In 2025 the levy will be extended to Grades 3, Grades 4 and Grades 5.

If your family is eligible for the Reduced Fees Policy and you have been approved through the formal approval process, then the ICT levy will be included in the discount fees offered.

The benefits of this new program are as follows:

- Every Grade 3 child will have a device to use at school
- The device will be owned by the student
- The device does not need to be fully paid for at the start of Grade 3

2024 FEE FORMS

2024 Fee Payment Consent Form <u>click Here</u>

2024 Credit Card Direct Debit Payment Form click here

<u>Please note:</u> A new Credit Card debit payment form needs to be filled **every year** for monthly/ fortnightly payments.

SCHOOL FEES - 2024 ENROLMENT DEPOSIT

Our School Fee Policy states -

"All parents of children currently at school will be required to make a payment of \$150- per family in November. This enrolment deposit will be deducted from your following year's school fees".

The enrolment deposit for each family is due by Friday 3rd November 2023.

<u>CSEF</u>

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 while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a 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.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

The annual CSEF amount per student is:\$125 for primary school students.

HOW TO APPLY:

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download a copy by <u>clicking here.</u>

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year 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 this year.
- ⇒ changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



Parenting de GS



Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is wellestablished. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees. Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

more on page 2

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at **parentingideasclub.com.eu**. You'll be so glad you did.





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Page 6

Term 4- Week 7<mark>B</mark>

Page 7



Parenting loegs

Building parent-school partnerships

... It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school...

It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!" Nice try. But the answer should be "No!".

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

AS A PARENT:

- Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- Consider catching-up on missed work.
- Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at **parentingideasclub.com.eu**. You'll be so glad you did.

parentingideas.com.au

2024 Prep Enrolments

If you have a child who will be starting Prep next year - 2024 and you not yet enrolled please click the following link to start the application.

Apply Now - Click Here

BORROWED CLOTHING/SICK BAY DONATIONS

If your child has had to borrow any items of clothing at school, please ensure that these are washed and returned to the school as soon as possible. We are always grateful for any clothing donations for the school sick bay and office to use as spares for students. It is best to keep a spare set of clothing, including underwear and socks, in your child's bag as we have limited supplies in sickbay.

SPECIALIST DAYS 2023 - Sports Uniform Required

- **PREP** Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Year 1 Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Year 2 Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Year 3 Mondays and Wednesdays
- Year 4 Mondays and Wednesdays
- Year 5 Mondays and Wednesdays

Year 6 - Mondays and Wednesdays

Community



Located in the meeting room between school office and church. Open Times - 8:15am to 9:30am November - Friday 10th & 24th December - Friday 8th

Catholic Secondary School Enrolments

Enrolments to Catholic Secondary Schools 2025

If you intend to send your child to a Catholic Secondary School and have not already enrolled them, Enrolments have now closed . We strongly encourage you to contact the secondary school as soon as possible.

Year 5 Students in 2024 - Starting Year 7 in 2026

If you intend to send your child to a Catholic Secondary School applications for students Year 7 in 2026 will open on **Monday 29th January 2024** and applications will close on **Friday 16th August 2024**.





Have you joined the St Peter FaceBook Group?

Make sure you enter the details when requesting to join



Page 10

