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Holy Family School Newsletter

You Belong · 09 Feb 2023

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From Mrs David's Desk



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From Mrs David's Desk

2023 SCHOOL THEME - 'WE BELONG'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first school newsletter for 2023.

We have had a wonderful start to the year with all classes settled and engaged in their learning. Don't forget to stay for a 'cuppa and chat' each Friday morning at Kid's Cafe after morning drop off.

Last Wednesday night we had our first School Advisory Council meeting to set the focus for 2023. I hope you had the opportunity to read the document shared on Skoolbag relating to items discussed at this meeting.

- Change in Administration Staff (currently interviewing applicants)
- Implementation of Auslan
- The progress of Lola (Therapy Dog)

If not, I have attached this document to the newsletter.

Launch of New School Vision Statement

At our Mass on Friday our school community will launch our new Vision Statement. This statement was developed with input from students, parents and staff. The process took about 9 months but taking this time has ensured that Holy Family has a statement that is meaningful and captures what the school is aiming to achieve for every member of our community.

Vision Statement

In Faith,
We believe,
We belong,
We learn,
We grow

Our next step is to gather input from members of our community to develop our Mission Statement. This will happen during 2023.

2023 School Theme

Once our Vision Statement was developed staff and students were surveyed to find out what our School Theme would be for this year.

Staff and students were asked to consider our Vision Statement and select a word that could guide our community in 2023.

Our Holy Family 2023 School Theme is 'We Belong'. We hope that everyone in our community feels like they belong and can contribute to the growth of our students and school.

School Sports (Change of Date)

Originally our School Sports were scheduled for Friday 10th March but this day is just before the long weekend and I am aware that some families may like to get away earlier on this Friday.

We have moved the School Sports to Friday 3rd March. This day will be held onsite.

Prep Welcome Mass (Change of Date)

Our Prep Welcome Mass is now on Sunday 5th March at 10am. The date has changed as I would like to be in attendance but have a family commitment in the country on Sunday 26th February. Thank you for your understanding.

Year 1-6 Parent Curriculum Evening

On Wednesday 15th February our classroom teachers in Year 1-6 look forward to sharing the expectations and learning opportunities for each of our students with our parents/carers. We look forward to your attendance and support this evening.

The evening will be held in our new 'Gathering' space -

- 5:00pm (Year 1/2)
- 5:30pm (Year 3/4)

- 6:00pm (Year 5/6)

Fortnightly Curriculum Letters

Each fortnight our levels will send home a Curriculum Letter to parents/carers outlining student learning for the next two weeks. Please take the time to read this document and discuss the contents with your child.

Last Friday the Curriculum Letters for Years 1-6 were posted on our Skoolbag App.

2023 Extra Curricular Opportunities

Holy Family School offers many extra curricular activities for our students and we will survey parents early this year to ask them what else they would like the school to offer students.

Some of the programs already available at Holy Family School are -

Music Bus

The Music Bus runs weekly lessons at our school

Classes offered are:

- Keyboard (prep-y6)
- Ukulele (prep -y6)
- Drums (y1-y6)
- Guitar (Y2-y6)

Lessons are:

* be 30 minute duration - once per week

* be held in the hi tech music classroom on wheels on our site

* cost \$20 per week (\$22 drums) payable by the term on commencement

If you wish to take part please complete this expression of interest form asap

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ee4627a5204c46158e1ab17e7c8069c6>

Prep-Year 6 Camp Program

This program will continue in 2023.

Gardening Club

Each Wednesday at lunchtime (11:10-11:50am) students and parents/carers are welcome to join us in our 'Vegie Patch' to tend to our plants.

Running Club

Come along Friday mornings from 8-8:30am to run/walk around our school running track with other families.

Chess for Schools

Have fun and learn some new strategies while playing chess each Thursday after school.

Digimaker (Coding)

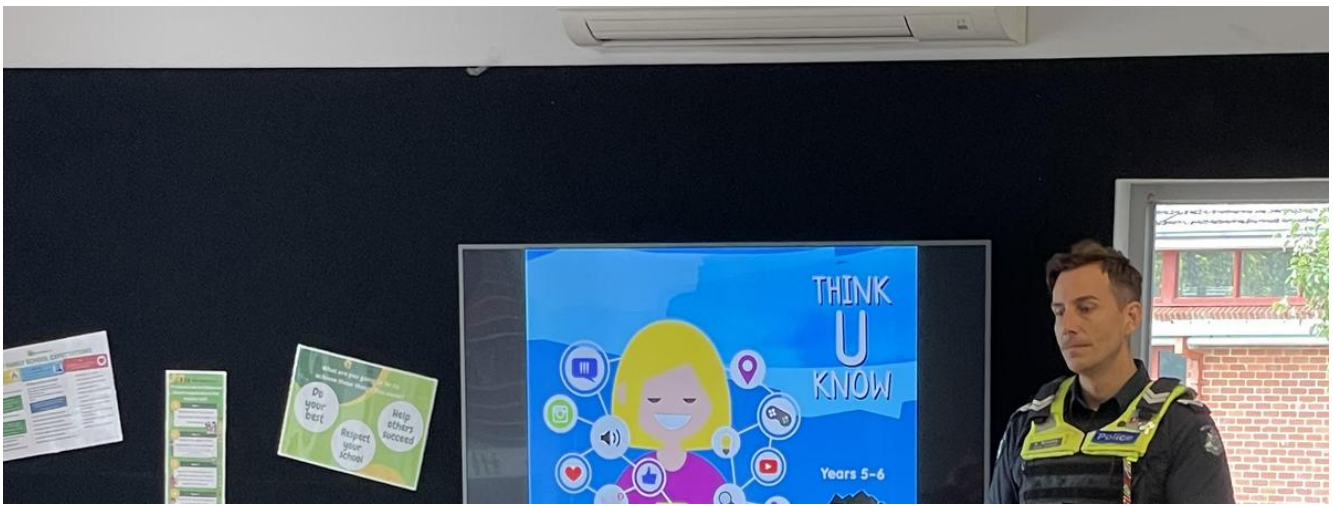
After school each Friday students can refine their coding skills with experts in this area.

Enrolments for 2024 Now Open

Don't forget to pop into the office to get an enrolment form for Prep - Year 6 2024. We are now accepting enrolments.

Looking forward to catching up at our 'Welcome Drink' on Friday 10th February,

Julie David (Principal)



CYBER SAFETY WEEK

AT HOLY FAMILY

Cyber Safety Week

We have acknowledged the importance of Cyber Safety at school this week.

Our students have been involved in -

- Community Police sessions (Years 3-6)
- Online Cyber Safety Incursion with 'Inform and Empower'
- Distribution of Cyber Safety Agreements

Our parents were invited to an evening with the team from 'Inform and Empower' (an educator and psychologist) to discuss keeping our children safe in the CyberSpace. This evening was a success with over 50 parents in attendance.

Resources below -

1. Parent resources you can share with your community (please share only via direct comms and not anywhere publicly accessible online):

Raising Kids in a Digital World Parent Resources (Free)

<https://www.informandempower.com.au/parents>

Toolkit (with kinks, info and more) is available for the entire year.

Video content is available for 30 days and will need the password to access: **feb2023**

Join our Facebook Group (Free)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1958015517710202/>

"How to have sexuality conversations with your kids" eBook (Purchase)

Includes a 20% discount \$11.20

<https://www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au/a/2147528302/oEnaFQYL>



2023 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Parish and School communities look forward to acknowledging our 2023 School Leaders as part of our 'Beginning of the Year' Mass on Friday 10th February at 12:00pm.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS	Poppy Newell Jack Beasley
VICE CAPTAINS	Kiera Cahill George Fatekas
LITURGY/SOCIAL JUSTICE LEADERS	Charlotte O'Brien Alissa Colonelli
WELLBEING LEADERS	Ivy Pejic Indygo Stroud
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES LEADERS	Zoe Godfrey Xavier Lianto
ENVIRONMENT LEADERS	Sierra Odgers Olivia Sheehan
SPORT LEADERS	
RED HOUSE	Nicola Mathers

	Jake Seo
GOLD HOUSE	Ellie The Lewis Tabaczynski
BLUE HOUSE	Arax Atamian Max Elias
GREEN HOUSE	Amani Premachandra Dylan Harris
THE ARTS LEADERS	Esha Seshadri Zai Dickson
AUSLAN LEADERS	Alyssa Poldrugovac Luke Son
WELLBEING LEADERS	Ivy Pejic Indygo Stroud



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWS

The School Advisory Council (SAC) had its first meeting for the year on Wednesday 1st February. The purpose of the SAC is to offer guidance and support to the school leadership team in the decisions they are making to enhance our school. To keep the parent community up to date with improvements and changes that are happening, the SAC will provide an update to parents after each meeting. To this nature, please find below the pertinent items that were discussed at the first meeting for 2023.

Administration

As the school community has been advised, there was a late, unforeseen staffing change in the administration role of the school. This has meant that the beginning of the year updates to all systems may take a little longer than expected. For example, producing class lists and class representatives has been delayed. Staff from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) have been supporting the school through this transition stage however it is important for parents to be mindful that the school is endeavouring to have these available to parents as soon as possible.

AUSLAN (Australian Sign Language)

The school is required to offer a LOTE (Language Other Than English) subject as part of the curriculum. With Mrs Cetrola finishing up at the end of 2022 the school advertised for an Italian teacher. A new Italian teacher was employed however they ended up accepting a classroom position at their current school. The position was then readvertised, candidates interviewed, however it was concluded that no candidates met the standards of our school and were not suitable for the role. As a result, the school leadership team over the course of the Christmas break, discussed at length other possible alternatives. From these discussions it was decided that AUSLAN will be the LOTE offering for 2023.

AUSLAN was decided to be offered at Holy Family to:

Continue our inclusive curriculum; and to

Provide equity so that all students, regardless of ability, can engage in this learning program.

Incorporating AUSLAN into the school program has many benefits for children. In particular, sign language can:

Enhance children's educational and personal development

Increase memory retention and motion processing

Stimulate brain development and mental flexibility

Increase enjoyment in communicating for both hearing and deaf children

Improve linguistic elements, such as hand shapes (including orientation, location and movement), non-manual features (including eye gaze, facial expressions, arm, head and body postures) and fingerspelling.

After going through the interview process, Dianne Herrmann was the successful applicant and appointed in late January as the LOTE teacher (teaching AUSLAN) for this school year.

Dianne will be starting on the 27th February 2023 and comes with over 15 years' experience in the education system.

Throughout her time teaching she has introduced new, whole school initiatives that have engaged and enhanced children's, and also parents, learning experiences. As a result of her extensive qualifications, she is a wonderful addition to our school community and we look forward to welcoming her in a few weeks' time.

Therapy Dog

It was noted that there has been much discussion around the school yard of Holy Family's new therapy dog, Lola.

Lola is a cavoodle puppy who was born in October 2022.

Lola is Principal Julie David's personal dog and as ruled by strict guidelines Mrs David is the legal owner/handler. Mrs David has undergone extensive training over the holidays with the company Therapy Dogs in Education, led by physiologist Amy Hodgkinson. They have provided information, training and advice from all steps to purchasing the dog through to when the dog is ready to enter the school.

Lola is currently at puppy training school and all going to plan, Lola and Mrs David will graduate in approximately 3 weeks time (please keep them in your prayers).

Once Lola has completed puppy training school she will then continue to be introduced to new environments – one of which being Holy Family School. Please be aware that before Lola comes to the school, parents will be notified and have the option to decide whether they want their child to engage with her or not.

Important factors to take into consideration:

When on school grounds, Lola will always be with Mrs David and will always be on a lead.

Lola will only be at school for initially 2 hours at time, once or twice a week.

During this transition period, Lola is classified as a 'well-being' dog as she will not as yet have taken the relevant training to become a therapy dog.

Once Lola is 12 months old she will then be trained as a therapy dog. This process is an intensive 3-day course where she and her owner/handler undertake the training for her to be registered as a trained therapy dog. Once this occurs, the expectation is that from the start of Term 4 this year, Lola will be onsite regularly 2-3 days per week and spend a couple of hours with the community on these days.

Mrs David was informed during her training that Therapy Dogs need a day off after being at a school and can only support for a couple of hours on the day they are at school. Parents will be fully informed prior to Lola being regularly onsite and the SAC during Terms 2 and 3 will be developing school policies and guidelines on the way the Therapy Dog Program will be introduced. These policies will include how Lola will be introduced to our community, how parents are informed/involved in Lola's interaction with their children and the benefits that will come from this program.

For further information on the benefits a therapy dog brings to our school community please visit the school website at: Welcome Lola

Initial Points of Focus for 2023

Exploring extra co-curricular activities that could be offered to our students

Continuing to develop community links between the Parish and School

Fostering the Friday morning coffee catch ups to encourage and support out parent community

Possible Playgroup on Friday mornings (gathering information stage)

The next SAC meeting is scheduled to be held in May 2023.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding the above information, or other thoughts to improve our school, please feel free to contact a SAC member at any stage throughout the year.

Kind Regards,

Holy Family School Advisory Council

Julie David (Principal)

Eithne King (Deputy Principal)

Fr Justel Callos (Parish Priest)

Julia Paszkowski (Parish Representative)

Nicole Mardell (Parent Representative)

Daniel Trettel (Parent Representative)

Stephanie Wood (Parent Representative)

Amelia Younane (Parent Representative)



PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

Team Vic Nominations Primary Schools 2023

(Basketball, Netball, Soccer and Football)

Students who turn 11 or 12 in 2023

The Online Registration process closes on **March 1, 2023**

The selection process for students to trial for the representative team for Victoria in basketball, netball, soccer and football is to be attended by those who are considered to be a genuine chance to be selected for the final state side – it is not just ‘a come and try’ scenario. Parents are responsible for taking their children to the trials. To be considered students need to be playing in their club’s highest representative team and parents need to consult with the school by February 22, 2023.

If you believe your child is suitable please refer to the School Sport Victoria website www.ssv.vic.edu.au

Please contact me if you would like to discuss a nomination by Wednesday, 23rd February. Susan Michelsson smichelsson@hfmw.catholic.edu.au

Participation in a School Sport Victoria Team Vic state team is self funded. As a guide it may cost between \$1,000-\$2,000 to participate. Costs may include uniforms, host state levies, flights, transport, accommodation and meals. Costs will vary depending on the location of the Championship.

Running Club

Staff, parents, siblings and students are invited to join Holy Family School's Running Club, every Friday at 8am on our school running track. Please enter via the gate by the hall. Beginning Friday February 10.

Swimming

Please return any nomination forms by Friday February 10.

QUALIFYING TIMES

STROKE	TIME		
	9/10 YEARS	11 YEARS	12/13 YEARS
<i>Freestyle</i>	50 seconds	50 seconds	45 seconds
<i>Breaststroke</i>	1 min 05 secs	1 min 05 secs	1 min 00 secs
<i>Backstroke</i>	55 seconds	55 seconds	55 seconds
<i>Butterfly</i>	1 minute	1 minute	1 minute

SDSSA Athletic Team Trials - Thursday Feb 16

All students in Year 3-6 need to be dropped off to the Bill Stewart Athletics track by 9.15am on Thursday February 16.

Students will rotate around the various field events and have the option to try out for the 200m, 800m and hurdles. Buses will be booked to return to school at 2.30pm.

Friday February 24 - SDSSA Summer Round Robin Day (all year 6 students and some Year 5's)

Venue TBC 9.30am-2.30pm

Friday March 31 - SDSSA Athletics Carnival Bill Stewart Athletics Track

Year 3-6 - select students that qualify for the Holy Family Athletics Team 9am - 2.15pm



TERM ONE DATES

Term One Dates

- Friday 10th February (Beginning of the Year Mass) 12pm
- Friday 10th February (Parents and Friends Welcome Event)
- Wednesday 15th February (Year 1-6) Curriculum Evening
- Thursday 16th February (Open Day)
- Thursday 16th February (Playground installation commences)
- Tuesday 21st February (Shrove Tuesday)
- Wednesday 22nd February (Ash Wednesday)
- Wednesday 22nd February (SDSSA Swimming Trials)
- Thursday 2nd March (2023 Welcome Dinner)
- **Friday 3rd March (Holy Family School Sports) onsite**
- **Sunday 5th March (Prep Welcome Mass)**
- Tuesday 7th March (NAPLAN commences)
- Monday 13th March (Labour Day Holiday) No school
- Monday 13th March - Catholic Education Week (Forming lives of faith, hope and love in the light of Christ')
- Friday 17th March (Holy Family Colour Run) Major Fundraiser
- Tuesday 21st March (Harmony Day)
- Monday 27th March (School Closure Day - Dan Petro PL)
- Friday 31st March (SDSSA Athletics Carnival)
- Tuesday 4th April (Parent/Teacher/Student Conversations) No early finish
- Wednesday 5th April (Parent/Teacher/Student Conversations) No early finish
- Wednesday 5th April (School Photos)
- Thursday 6th April (Holy Thursday) School attending Mass

- Thursday 6th April (Last day of Term 1 - 1pm finish)



OHSC NEWS

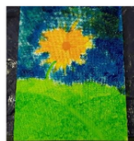


A message from your Coordinator-Ramani

Dear families and friends,

We extend a very warm welcome to all new and present children and families to the 2023 school year. We hope everyone had a wonderful break. It feels great to see smiles and giggles returning to OHSC after the summer vacation. We are excited to have Ryan, Lucas, Zane, Milan, Giada and Isabela attending Holy Family PS OHSC for the very first time. We are already into the second week of fun doing a variety of activities of our choice. Our friendship foil art bag tags, boomerang sand art, canvas painting and Hama bead shapes are a great hit. We are getting ready for the upcoming Handball Championships! We never missed a chance to have FUN!

OSHC TEAM



Activities coming up




- Decorating your own backpack
- Pencil holder craft
- Mini golf

What's on the menu

- Pita bread with salsa
- Honey rice cakes

It's free to register

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campastralia.com.au or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.

Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

[Visit our blog](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS



Little Gems is back offering an exciting Net Set Go program!

Holy Family Netball Club, is offering a fun program for young players looking to get involved in netball. Open to BOYS and GIRLS in Prep, Grade 1, 2, & 3.

It is an 8-week program, running every Tuesday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. The program will commence **Tuesday 14th February 2023** and finish **Tuesday 5th April 2023**.

The cost is \$100 which includes Victorian Netball Association (VNA) insurance and a participation pack.

Please email holyfamilynetballclub@gmail.com if you are interested and we can send you a link, alternatively if you have any questions, please call Leisa Halvy on 0408 466 443.

HFNC

HOLY FAMILY NETBALL CLUB

RECRUITING NOW

HFNC is a community club based in Mount Waverley. We are currently searching for players Year 3 to Year 12.

We train on Wednesdays at Holy Family and play on Saturdays at Waverley District Netball Association.

For more information, please email us holyfamilynetballclub@gmail.com or visit our website www.hfnc.com.au.

HFNC REGISTRATION NUMBER: A0023478



Kids Hot Shots Lessons
For kids of all ages and adults

FREE TENNIS CLUB OPEN DAY
Sunday, February 12, 2023
11.00pm - 2:00pm

COME AND START YOUR TENNIS JOURNEY WITH US IN 2023!

REGISTER NOW!

If you can not make it on the 12th, please contact Angelo to book your FREE Intro.

Contact Us | Angelo
angelowalsh@tennis.com.au
0467 277 198

MCC Glen Iris Valley Tennis Club
700 High Street Rd
Mount Waverley, VIC



TERM 1, 2023 - REGISTER NOW @
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.




Children love attending Phil's chess classes as he actively fosters their sense of wellbeing and motivation to learn more!
Rob Hornwood Principal, Stella Maris Primary, Beaumaris.

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/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 playoff. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

BOOK HERE → CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU

CLASS DETAILS - HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Thursday	3.15pm - 4.10pm	Harmony Club	9 Feb - 6 April	\$135 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 concepts and thinking. Keep up the great work!" Katrina Lambert, Hampton Primary School