

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2018



Upcoming events:

Fri 9 & Mon 12 Mar—

SCHOOL CLOSED

Fri 16 Mar 2.30pm—

Peaceful Kids

Sun 18 Mar 4.30pm—

Parish Mass

19-21 Mar—G5 camp

19-23 Mar—CULTURAL

DIVERSITY WEEK

Tues 20 Mar 6.30pm

Family Supper

Fri 23 Mar—Tabloid

Sports Day

Thurs 29 Mar 9am—

School Mass

Thurs 29 Mar 1pm—

School finishes for term

*Ever-faithful God,
You are waiting deep within our hearts.
Bring us back to you.
Put a new spirit within us.
May our lives proclaim your dream for all
to live in the light of your peace.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit -
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



IMPORTANT DATES

Please make sure these dates are in your calendar:

- ♦ Friday 9 March—school closed for staff professional learning
- ♦ Monday 12 March—school closed for public holiday
- ♦ Thursday 29 March 1pm—end of term
- ♦ Monday 16 April—school starts for term 2

ARCHBISHOP DENIS HART VISITS ST LAWRENCE

We were very pleased to host a visit by the Archbishop recently. He was very pleased to see the buildings which have been constructed since he blessed our school in 2010. He was also pleased to see the new Prayer Garden. He visited many of the classes and we were very proud of our students.



ST LAWRENCE SCHOOL PRAYER.

Loving God,

Help us to follow St
Lawrence's example

By **GIVING** care to the
poor,

By **LOVING** you with all
our hearts,

And by **LEARNING** to be
the best we can.

Amen.

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

During our Resilience Project lessons so far the students have focussed on 3 areas: *gratitude, character strengths and emotional literacy*. Students identified things that they were grateful for and started a gratitude journal where they wrote 3 'moments of awesome' for the day. The students are learning about different character strengths such as perseverance, team work and humour. Students have been developing their emotional literacy by learning to identify and explain different emotions. **Please ask your child about what they have been learning.**

For extra information on character strengths go to www.viacharacter.org/www/Character-Strengths
For ideas on what you can do at home to support emotional literacy development check out <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/www/wwwb21.html>

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ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUNCTUALITY

We ask all families to make sure your child arrives at school between 8.30 & 8.45am each morning. Many children are arriving after 8.45 and are missing out on time to settle into their class and some are even missing out on important learning at the beginning of the day. Any child who arrives after 8.55am is marked late on the attendance roll and this information appears on your child's report.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

We are celebrating Cultural Diversity Week at school and encourage families to participate by attending the **MULTICULTURAL FAMILY SUPPER** hosted by the School Advisory Board on **Tuesday 20 March at 6.30pm**. Invitations were sent home this week and we ask that you return your reply by Friday 16 March. Come along and join in the fun!

**LANGUAGES EDUCATION AT ST LAWRENCE**

We look forward to another exciting and rewarding year learning Indonesian in 2018. This week, students have started to use our new Functional Language Clips. These clips teach the language that students at St Lawrence voted they most wanted to learn – phrases such as:

Let's play soccer/basketball/make believe.

I like this game!

Are you okay?

What happened?

I have a headache/ a sore leg.

The clips feature some students from Years Five and Six, and use gestures to aid memorisation of the phrases.

OUR SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS:

BE SAFE

BE READY

BE RESPECTFUL

BE RESILIENT

LANGUAGES EDUCATION ACTION COMMITTEE

We have again been invited by Catholic Education Melbourne to be a part of the Languages Education Action Committee. This committee is made up of expert languages teachers in Catholic schools in the Melbourne Archdiocese. We meet once a term to learn more about implementing a high quality languages program and to help lead change in languages education. Membership of this committee is accompanied by a grant, which we will use to further enhance our Indonesian language program here at St Lawrence.

PERFORMING ARTS**FIRST CALL FUND**

We have applied for and received funding from the Arts Centre Melbourne's First Call Fund. This fund helps school students around Victoria to access performances at the Arts Centre at a reduced cost. In May, our Year One students will be going to see a play called Creature, based on the story Dot And The Kangaroo. This will enhance the students' learning about the environment during term two.

GLEE CLUB

The Glee Club (Choir) is up and running again, with a growing membership of around 40 students from years three to six. The Year Six students lead our warm ups and arrange popular songs for the group to learn. We are currently working on a number of different songs and hope to perform for the school community soon.

PEACEFUL KIDS

The 'Peaceful Kids' program is a Mindfulness and Positive Psychology based program to lessen anxiety and stress and increase resilience in children. This program helps children to build their emotional resilience so they are better equipped to deal with the day-to-day stresses that life brings them. Sessions run for 1 hour per week for 8 weeks in school time. An Information session for families is being held on Friday 16 March at 2.30pm. Please come along or contact your child's teacher if you are interested.



ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Clay mold for statue of Saint Lawrence.

SAINT LAWRENCE STATUE & PRAYER GARDEN

We are very pleased to inform families that the statue of Saint Lawrence will be installed at the front of the school in the piazza later this month. The artist worked with Grade 6 students last year to design the statue. The statue will be surrounded by a grassed area to invite students and families to interact with it. We will organise a blessing ceremony for the statue next term.

We have also commissioned a statue of Saint Mary MacKillop for the Prayer Garden. This sacred space was also co-designed with last year's Grade 6 students. We encourage families to enter this sacred space before and after school.

HELP NEEDED

We have a large number of books which need to be covered with contact. If you are able to help please contact Maria or Jodie in the Discovery Centre (library). Thank you.



Prayer Garden

TABLOID SPORTS DAY

On Friday 23 March all students will be participating in a Tabloid Sports day. This event was very popular last year and we have chosen to do it in March this year as the sports will be related to the upcoming Commonwealth Games. Families are welcome to come along and see the fun! These are the sessions:

- ◆ 9.00-11.00 = Prep M, Prep S, 1L, 2T, 2O, 3P, 4L, 4M, 5S
 - ◆ 11.30-1.30 = Prep G, 1F, 1K, 2M/I, 3D/F, 3A, 4R, 5G, 5H
- Grade 6 students will attend both sessions.

'DIS' MOMENTS

Ask your child what 'DIS' means! These are some 'DIS' moments from grade 5 students:

Johan: My 'DIS' moment was being able to play with my friend Joey at lunch time.

Piena: I have a 'DIS' moment everyday when I come to school.

If you would like to share your 'DIS' in our newsletter, send it to principal@stlawrence.com.au

FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

ArtPlay Backyard, Birrarung Marr

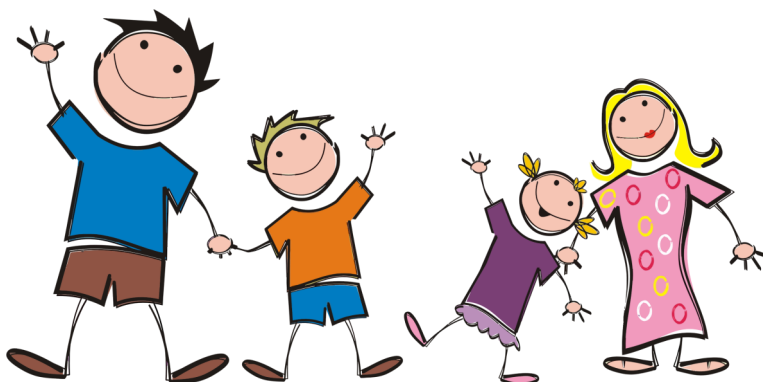
ArtPlay is a place where children from babies to 12 years of age can explore their creativity. There is a free ticketed event on Sunday the 18th of March. Phone 9658 7880 to reserve your place.

Moomba Festival

Experience Australia's largest community festival commencing this Friday until Monday 12th March. For full program details visit <https://moomba.melbourne.vic.gov.au/program/>

Outdoor Adventure: Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve

Long Forest is a surprising little gem near Melton. Great opportunity for walks, bird watching and family picnic. For more details: http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/315774/Park-note-Long-Forest-NCR.pdf



ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST AND GIFT STALL

We are seeking volunteers to help us with the following activities to celebrate Mothers' Day:

1. A team to coordinate breakfast for mums on Friday 11 May. This will involve sending out flyers and collecting responses; purchasing breakfast food and hosting the breakfast with the support of staff
2. Volunteers to sell gifts to the students at the gift stall on Friday 11 May at approximately 10.30am (after the school Mass). Gifts have already been purchased and we need help to set up the stall and sell the gifts; and to collect and count the money raised.

If you are able to assist with either/both of these activities (**we are especially seeking support from the men in the community** but mums can help too) please complete the reply slip below and return to school by Friday 23 March.

ELDEST CHILD'S NAME GRADE

ADULT'S NAME PHONE NUMBER

I can help with the following:

_____ Organising the breakfast

_____ Selling gifts at the stall

_____ Both

THANK YOU

St Lawrence Primary School is committed to the safety, wellbeing & inclusion of all children