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St Andrews Christian College Newsletter 2023

Issue 6 · 13 Sep 2022

Glory to God

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ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A Source Of Hope

It always surprises me how fast a school year goes. It feels like only a few months ago that we were welcoming our students back to a new school year; fresh uniforms, new subjects and getting our hair in picture perfect condition for school photo day! To now be discussing with our current Year 12 cohort how many days of school remaining for them before their final year exams commence serves as a reminder of how guickly time can pass.

However, for Year 12 students this period of time can be one of significant stress and pressure in light of their upcoming exams and the conclusion of their time as a student at St Andrews Christian College; something which can at times bring feelings of a loss of control.

In a recent publication from McCrindle research titled 'Education Future Report', it is revealed that parents view the top challenges for their children today as being the loss of control through social media, the high-pressure stakes of exams and the complications of modern day life that contribute to additional stress. Whilst these things have the capacity to bring a somewhat negative outlook on the future, it also reveals that there is good reason for us to show each other that hope is something to hold onto and cherish when we have faith in Jesus.

The book of Hebrews is written for a group of people who had been persecuted for their faith and were at risk of further persecution, including incarceration and death. With people losing

hope for their future and being consumed by fear, it seemed as though they were at risk of turning away from their faith in Christ for the sake of security and safety. Hebrews is written as an encouragement to the people to hold onto a sense of hope, describing it as an "anchor for the soul, firm and secure" (Hebrews 6:19). Hebrews 11 says "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see". Whilst what is directly in front of us at any given time may seem to be too great to overcome, faith and a sense of hope is what provides us with what is described in Philippians as "the peace of God which transcends all understanding" (Philippians 4:7).

As Term 3 draws toward a close and our eyes start to focus on the things that are ahead of us, I pray that you draw on the transcending peace of God in your heart as a means to create or restore the sense of hope, and purpose for your life as a child of God.

Nick Haines

Acting Principal



ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE NEWS

End of day pickup

We appreciate the cooperation, patience and understanding of our parents in navigating the pick up area during the end of day peak period. As is always the case, student safety is our greatest priority and we continue to make efforts to ensure students are collected safely and efficiently from the pick up area. With this in mind, please be reminded of the following points:

- During certain times of the day, the car parks on Tyner Road are enforced as a no
 parking zone in order to accommodate queuing cars wishing to turn left into gate 1 of
 the College. When queuing to turn left into the College from Tyner Road, please
 utilise this section of the road to allow through traffic for vehicles not wishing to enter
 the College.
- Please DO NOT park in any no parking zones on Tyner Road in the specified hours.
 Any vehicles who are parked in any no parking zone on Tyner Road may be fined by the police or council.
- Putting an A4 sized sign on your front windscreen with your child's name and Year level will assist staff in ensuring your child can be collected quickly.
- It is expected that students are picked up from school on time. Primary students who
 have not been collected promptly will be taken to Out of School Hours Care by the
 supervising staff member and the family will be billed accordingly. Secondary
 students will be sent to the Library.

• If your child is involved in an approved after school activity, parents are expected to collect their child promptly according to the conclusion time of the activity.

Nick Haines

Deputy Principal - Operations, Acting Principal

Uniform Changeover

Term 4 signifies the transition back to our Summer uniform for students. As a part of the Summer uniform, all students are required to wear a College approved hat whilst outside during recess and lunchtime. Details regarding uniform expectations (including hair & jewellery) can be located on the College website. Please take some time to read thoroughly through the uniform expectations to ensure your child is wearing the St Andrews uniform correctly and with pride.

Nick Haines

Deputy Principal - Operations, Acting Principal

Updated policies

A common practice of schools is to regularly review and update policies, particularly in instances where there are legislative changes that affect policies. In line with Ministerial Order 1359 and its implementation as of the 1st July 2022, the College has made updates to our Student Safety (previously referred to as Child Safety) related policies. Parents and the community can access and view these policies under the 'policies' tab on the College website. All student safety related policies align with and adhere to Ministerial Order 1359 and the updated 11 Child Safe Standards, and one of the changes you will notice is to the College reference of 'student safety' rather than 'child safety'. This is in recognition that some of our older students are at an age in which they are legally considered as adults rather than children, and we therefore wished to change the wording of our policies to ensure that it was clear that all students at the College were supported and catered for within the content of our policies.

Nick Haines

Deputy Principal - Operations, Acting Principal

Spring Has Sprung And Hay Fever Has Come

Can hay fever make asthma worse?

Yes, hay fever can make your asthma worse. Another word for hay fever is *allergic rhinitis*. Most people with asthma have hay fever too, the two conditions are linked. Hay fever affects 80 percent of people with asthma.

Asthma and hay fever both involve inflammation and sensitivity in your airways – in your nose and lungs. Uncontrolled hay fever symptoms can worsen asthma symptoms. If left unchecked, this can seriously impact your quality of life or that of your child. It can also put your health in danger.

It is important to <u>treat the allergies</u> in your nose, as well as treating asthma in the lungs. Watch this video to learn about Asthma Management: https://youtu.be/Vc3QV5VtlUc

What are the best ways to treat asthma and hay fever?

Treating asthma and hay fever is important. Hay fever can trigger asthma or make it worse, making it harder to breathe. Having both asthma and hay fever also means you may be at <u>risk</u> of thunderstorm asthma. People often use several strategies to manage their asthma and allergies.

These usually include:

- Getting the right plan and medications in place to best handle symptoms. If you get
 hay fever year-round, this means your treatment needs to be year-round. Speak to
 your doctor about your treatment options to make sure you have the best treatment
 for your situation and severity.
- Checking you are using your asthma and hay fever medications correctly. <u>Check out</u>
 <u>our technique videos by clicking here</u>
- Being aware of your triggers and trying to reduce your exposure to them.



Asthma & Hay Fever At SACC

As Spring has sprung, those students who suffer from both asthma and hay fever, please ensure your asthma plans are current, you are taking medications prescribed by your doctor and remember to take a preventative antihistamine before

coming to school.

And for those who suffer from hay fever only please ensure you take a preventative antihistamine and/or nasal spray before coming to school so that your school day is not interrupted with visits to sickbay!

Cheryl Pajor

School Nurse

Sustainability News

If you visit the new reception area, please feel welcome to have a meander through the veggie patch and look at what is in season in the garden. The produce is on sale Wednesday lunchtimes and gets reinvested in purchasing soil and tools for *Garden Club*. We have started seedlings that will be planted into the veggie patch early next term including tomato, eggplant, zucchini, chillies and perilla. A month later we will also plant cucumbers and sunflowers. Students from years 3 and up are invited to join *Garden Club* which runs every Wednesday lunchtime at the veggie patch.





Sustainability Club runs Tuesday lunchtime week B and Friday recess week A. 4V have kindy offered to take on the role of Redcycling, making sure that all the soft plastics are collected and sent off to be upcycled and used in products such as pavements, roads, and outdoor plastic posts. Thank you to 3E who have been diligently emptying the recycling bins for the lower primary year levels.





Maria Wheelton
Sustainability Coordinator



PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Reflection On Term 3

It has been a long cold Term 3, but I think everyone would agree that, with all the activities that have been taking place, the term has appeared to go very quickly! We are now into Spring and hoping for some finer and warmer weather and the opportunity for some downtime during the holidays.

The Primary School involved themselves in Book Week last month and the highlight of this week was the dress-up day. Staff from all sections of the school spent some time reading to the children and we also had a visit from children's author Amani Uduman. The children also enjoyed finding the missing character each day and our daily reading tallies spurred us on with our reading. The Primary School set the goal to read 1,000 pages over the week. This goal was obviously seriously underestimated! The final tally was an amazing 257,286 pages read!! Well done everyone!









It was great to spend time with our two Prep classes at their Fathers'
Day Breakfast recently. The Preps did so well hosting the event, singing their songs and presenting the things they had made. It was great to see how much they have grown and matured over the year.



Our Year 3 students are getting very excited about their Cardboard Arcade which will be held during the last week of the term. This is always a highlight of their year, and also for the whole Primary School, as each of the classes get to see what has been constructed and also participate in the games and activities which the Year 3 students have designed.

On Friday last week our Chaplain, Warwick Grant, led our Primary School in a Chapel Assembly. He focused his message on three lines from the Lord's Prayer which is our theme for this year. The three lines were, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done as it is in heaven." It was lovely to see some of our Year 4 students acting out some skits to elaborate on the meaning of these lines in the Lord's Prayer. A number of our Year 5 students also wrote prayers and shared them with the audience. Thank you to the parents who attended the Chapel Assembly. It is always great to welcome our parents to our assemblies, so please feel free to come along at any time if you are able.

I pray that, as you head into the holidays, that you will have some opportunity for some relaxation and rejuvenation and that you will stay safe in all you do. I wish you every blessing as you prepare for the last term of this year. God bless.

Tim Farmilo

Acting Head of Primary School

Collaborating To Create

In digital technologies there are many opportunities for students to work together in pairs. In these photos the prep students are using iPads to create simple stories using a fantastic app called Scratch Junior. They start by selecting to either create characters or choose from a list of pre-defined ones. They can create or modify existing characters by using drawing tools and even use the camera to add extra details. Next, they can select or draw a background and add more characters to complete the scene.

Working in pairs, students are given instructions on how to work together with others by ensuring that everyone has a 'turn' or contributes to the imagined story. These visual and interactive tools provide students with different ways of capturing and communicating ideas which aren't always easy to verbalise or draw using standard tools. Ideas can be quickly modified or developed over time. Creative ideas are like seeds that need time and the right conditions to grow. Who knows what will become of their ideas in the years to come?









Gary Ong

Digital Technologies Teacher

Prep Celebrates!

What fun we have had over the past couple of weeks in Prep! Last week, we loved celebrating "Book Week" with the rest of the Primary School. Some of the highlights of this special week were: counting the number of pages we read each day, enjoying a "Reading Picnic" in the MPH with our friends, meeting and listening to Amani (our guest author who is also a parent at St Andrews) and dressing up as our favourite book character.

This week the celebrations have continued as we prepared a special gift for our Dads. We took a photo, made a key ring, drew pictures of our Dad, wrote a personalised card and thought and wrote about why we love our Dads. On Friday morning we arrived at school very early to enjoy breakfast with our Dads too!



















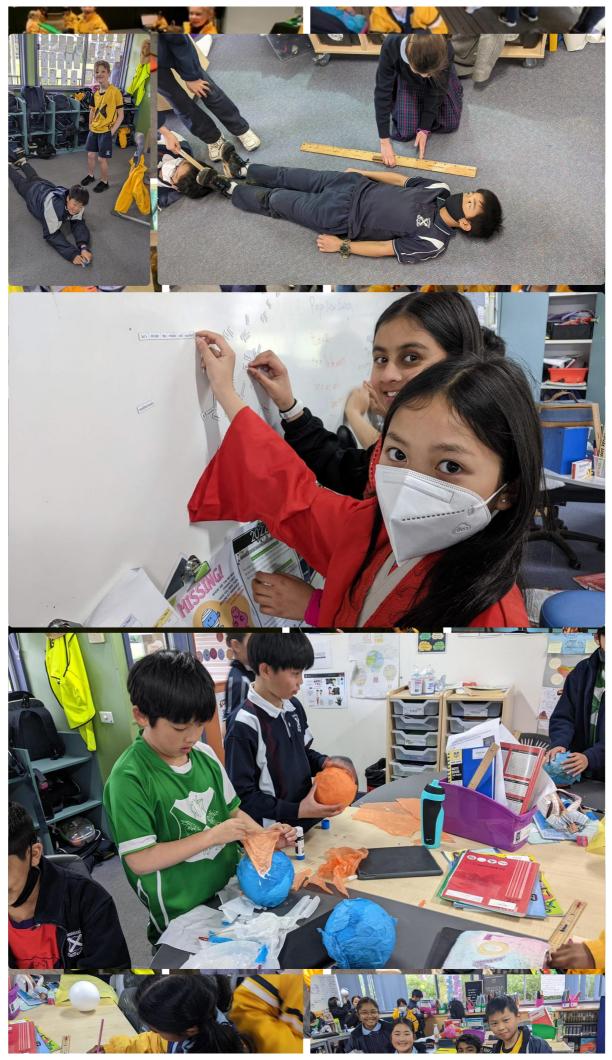
















SECONDARY SCHOOL

Gawa Christian School Presentation

Last Thursday Rachel Herweynen, Principal of *Gawa Christian School*, and her husband, Cam and members of the school presented to the SACC Secondary School. The school, serving this Indigenous homeland, is one of the most remote in Australia, being situated on the northern tip of Elcho Island in north-eastern Northern Territory (look it up on Google Maps!)

They shared how God led the setting up of the school, over thirty years ago, and his guidance in a book that Rachel has recently written. It is a reflection on how Rachel and Cam were adopted by Alvin and Hannah, who were also with us, when they came to Gawa and the special nature of this loving family relationship. This was then metaphorically applied to our relationship with God, our Father, who invites us to be adopted into his family. It was written, and read, both in English and Warramiri - the first publication of this critically endangered language. This book speaks deeply to the heart of reconciliation: as we recognise God as our father we *are* brothers and sisters. We finished with Hannah, Alvin and the team leading us in a dance *together*.

















Marina Heading

Visual & Media Arts Teacher

Year 12 Contextual History Lecture

As Year 12 English students embark on the final part of their English journey at SACC it is important that they spend time revising and developing a deep knowledge of their texts. Students were privileged to hear from, Alex Ward (alumni student of 2019) who is currently studying a Master of Education at Monash University. Alex presented a contextual history

lecture on the Trojan War and engaged each Year 12 English class with his knowledge of Greek history. The aim of this lecture was to provide a breadth of contextual knowledge for students who will be writing responses in their final English exam on Euripides' 'The Women of Troy' and David Malouf's 'Ransom'. Thank you, Alex, for this insightful and engaging lecture!









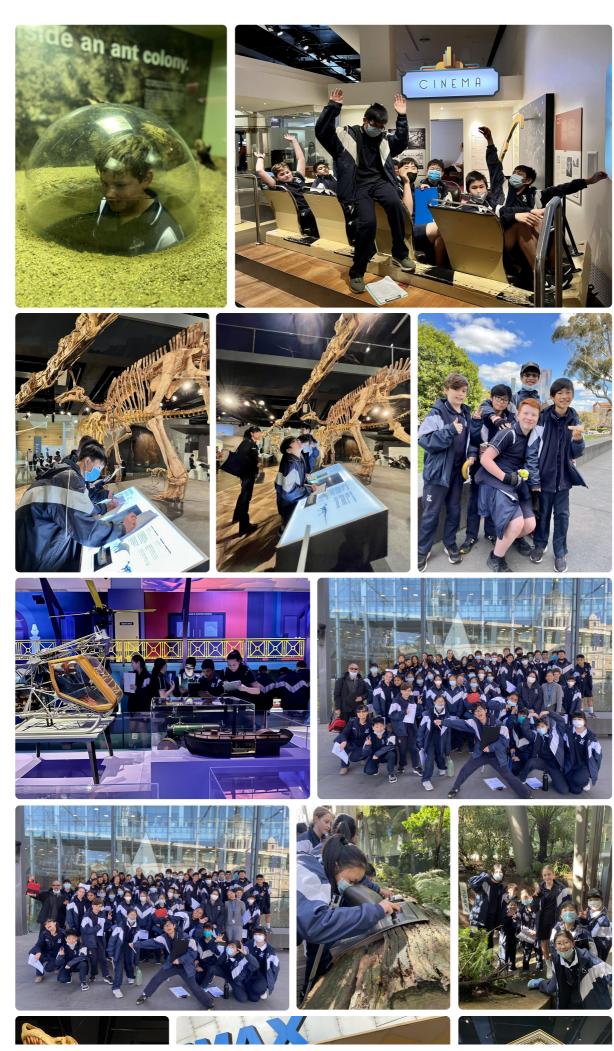


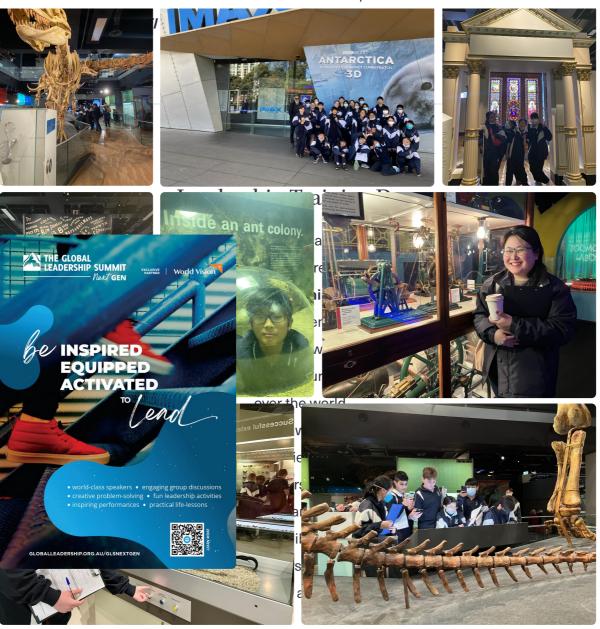
Lisa Wilks-Beasy

Year 7 Science At Melbourne Museum

On Wednesday the 31st of August, all the Year 7 students attended an excursion to the Melbourne Museum in the city. The museum contained many amazing galleries, and our grade was able to visit eight of them, based on our unit of classification. Some highlights included the countless species of colourful bugs, outdoor forest walk, and massive dinosaur skeletons. We saw so many incredible models, ranging from ships to doll houses to even the Colosseum. Not only were we able to admire the galleries, but we were also able to learn a lot about the scientific names of dinosaurs, bugs, insects, types of rocks, and so much more. To finish it off, our grade was able to watch a 3D documentary about the Great Barrier Reef at IMAX. Overall, the excursion was extremely fun, but also educational at the same time.

We would like to thank all the staff members who accompanied us and put in so much effort to organise this wonderful learning experience!





















Mrs Kathryn Campbell
Student Leadership Coordinator - Secondary



PERFORMING ARTS

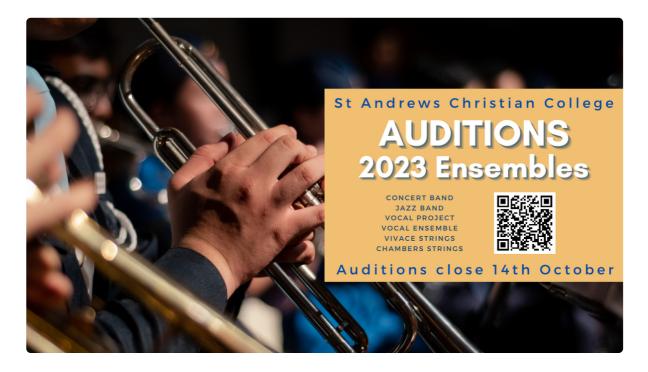
Auditions for 2023 Ensembles

Students are invited to audition to be part of any of the following music ensembles in 2023:

- Concert Band
- Jazz Band
- Vocal Project
- Vocal Ensemble
- Vivace Strings
- Chamber Strings.

The auditions will be online and/or in-person. For information on audition eligibility and audition requirements for each ensemble, please see the <u>2023 Ensemble Auditions</u> <u>Homepage</u> on the Hub.

Auditions close on Thursday 14th October (Week 2, Term 4) and rehearsals for these 2023 Ensemble groups will commence the week beginning Monday 17th October (Week 3, Term 4).



Michelle Perera
Performing Arts Administrator

There's something about a stage...

After several years which have been very light on for live performance opportunities for our students, the Performing Arts team made performing to a live audience the highest priority this year. Why? Because being part of a full-scale school musical is a magnificent experience. It starts with an idea, a dream, and a script. From there, you have to bring together a large group of people, all bringing their creativity, skills and time, all working together to create something special.

We started auditions and rehearsals for this year's College Production of *Singin' In The Rain* in Term 1 this year, and presented the show over three performances to packed theatres on August 12th and 13th. The performances were wonderful! But making theatre at St Andrews is about more than making an excellent performance. From the beginning, we've striven to build a community of staff and students who know each other, care for each other and have fun together. A big idea behind this production was that "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it is about learning to dance (and sing) in the rain". Putting on a large show has many challenges! As we face each "rainstorm" we have a choice about what attitude we face them with. As cast and crew members encountered stage fright, absences, fears, time

constraints, the unknown...the hope was always to look for the good, and continue to encourage each other as part of the team.

For the majority of the cast and crew of *Singin' In The Rain*, the first time they'd stepped onto an actual stage was a few days before performing to a theatre full of audience members. We are so proud of the way our students worked as a team, helping each other, showing patience, being flexible and adaptable, and keeping on smiling as they conquered the new and the difficult.

Many of the memories that the students describe after finishing the show involve how they've connected with others – getting to know friends from different year levels, learning from older, more experienced performers, backstage experiences, feeling part of a group.

When we perform to the glory of God, we need to focus on how we are able to use our abilities to bless our audience by telling them a story, rather than focusing on "showing off what we can do". As students saw their show come together, we heard many comments about how exciting it was to perform on stage, and how good it felt to know their part so well they could enjoy focusing on the story they were telling.

We are so very proud of our students and all they have achieved through the production this year, and we encourage everyone in the school community to watch the video made of our final performance of *Singin' In The Rain*.





























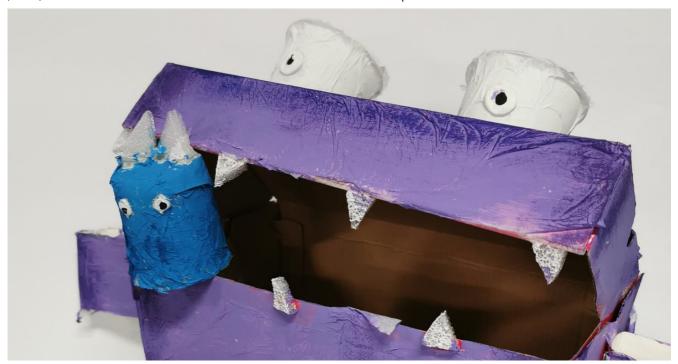












VISUAL ARTS

Year 10 Sculptural Practice Excursion

The Year 10 Sculptural Practice class attended three exhibitions in the city as part of our exploration of local, indigenous, contemporary, and historical artworks. They viewed the 2022 Top Arts exhibition of top performing VCE Studio Arts students, and Indigenous artworks at the Ian Potter Centre, viewing individual and collaborative works. These works were inspiring and diverse in material, use and scale. After some delicious lunch and *plein air sketching* we ventured into *The Picasso Century: Educator talk and walk through*. It was incredible to see artworks made by over 50 artists, contemporaries of Picasso and work from Picasso himself spanning more than 70 years of active art making in 94 years of life.











Marina Heading

Secondary School Teacher

Primary Art

Art club has been buzzing with keen students working on dry felting animals. Each Tuesday students from grades 4-6 come to finish class-artwork or create something new. It is a space that allows students to relax, develop friendships and create some personal artwork.

In Art, Preps studied one of the most famous artists Claude Monet to get their inspiration for some bubble blown flowers and collaged a lovely background with a focus on types of line for the leaves.



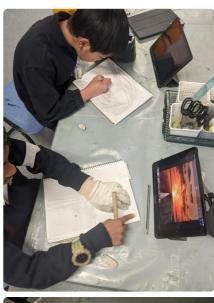
Year 1 practised weaving with paper before learning about positive and negative space.



Year 3 have been using their maths skills in art, using a grid and measurements to enlarge a photo of themselves for their self-portraits, watch this space for their finished artworks.



Year 5 have also honed their measurement skills as they created one-point perspective drawings and are etching them into plastic plates. The students have shown great responsibility with the tools as we practise using equipment safely.









Maria Wheelton

Primary Art



LEARNING AND TEACHING

Learning Support

This term has been busy with the Student Support Group meetings (SSGs) running. It is always a wonderful time to meet with parents and sometimes students and celebrate the growth that has been made. Partnering with parents is crucial to ensure the best outcomes for our students.

Week 8 was Learning Assistant Appreciation Week. We encouraged, thanked and celebrated our wonderful Learning Assistants for all that they do to support staff and students. We are truly blessed with our beautiful team.

The Autism Spectrum Parent Support group has only met once this term and we are planning for two meetings in Term 4. Our primary aim is to provide an opportunity for parents to connect with other parents who are faced with the challenges of a child who has autism. All are welcome.

The next meeting will be held on campus on **Wednesday 12th October** from 9 – 10am in the Learning Support rooms. Our guest speaker is Nick Haines!

Shirley Gillie

Head of Learning Support

Focus On Executive Function

Executive function is a set of mental skills that include working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control. We use these skills every day to learn, work, and manage daily life. Trouble with executive function can make it hard to focus, follow directions, and handle emotions, among other things. Executive function can be referred to as the *management system of the brain*. This is because the skills involved let us set goals, plan, and get things done. When people struggle with executive function, it impacts them at home, in school, and in life.

Executive function is responsible for many skills, including:

- Paying attention
- Organising, planning, and prioritising
- Starting tasks and staying focused until completion
- Understanding different points of view
- Regulating emotions
- Self-monitoring (keeping track of what you're doing)

People struggling with executive skills may:

- Have trouble starting and/or completing tasks
- Forget what they just heard or read
- Have trouble following directions or a sequence of steps
- Have trouble switching focus from one task to another
- Have trouble organising their thoughts
- Have trouble keeping track of their belongings
- Have trouble managing their time

Teaching students appropriate strategies helps them develop keys of how to learn. They need strategies that help them acquire information (e.g. how to ask questions), remember information (e.g. note-taking), and expressing information (e.g. creating an outline). These strategies can help students become independent learners.

Some ways to support your child/student:

Have clear and consistent routines and procedures.

- Provide visual supports such as posters with problem-solving steps or routines, and colour-coded schedules and folders. Consider highlighting key words and ideas in texts.
- Minimize clutter.
- Set goals.
- Review before moving on to new information.

If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of the Learning Support Teachers.

Shirley Gillie – Head of Learning Support

sgillie@standrews.vic.edu.au

Kerryn Terrington – Learning Support Teacher – Secondary

kterrington@standrews.vic.edu.au

Josie Mayer – Learning Support Teacher – Primary

jmayer@standrews.vic.edu.au

Shirley Gillie

Head of Learning Support



WELLBEING

RUOK? Day – Secondary Wellbeing

This coming week, there was heaps of fun lunchtime activities for *RUOK? Week*. However, the most important thing was to help students understand the importance of prioritising their wellbeing as well as supporting friends in times of need!

The key areas of focus were:

Monday: Importance of Sleep

Students were shown a 2.5 minute video during homeroom, see below, and student Captains promoted and handed out shoeboxes for Samaritan's purse.

https://youtu.be/eDc5-M5qJaY

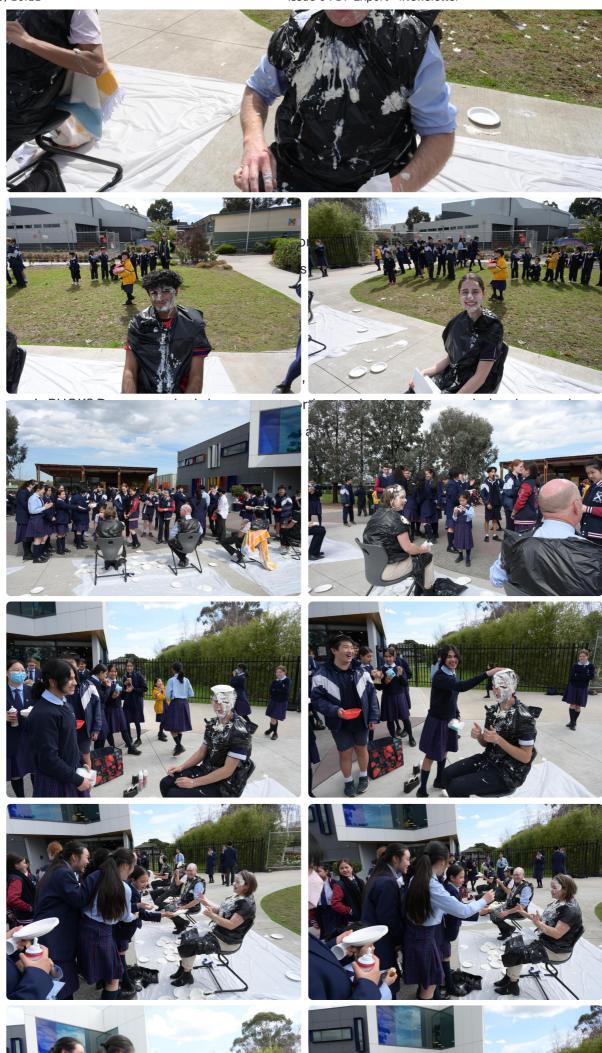
Tuesday: Significance of Connection

Homerooms focussed on sharing love by creating and giving out warm and fuzzies! Lunch time brought so much fun as student leaders and teachers were given a 'pie in the face' to raise money for Samaritan's Purse.



















SPORT

SSV Winter Sport Day

The SSV Winter Sport day is where Year 5 and 6 students compete against seven other local primary schools in the Wantirna District. We competed admirably in Tennis, Softball, Rounders and Volleyball with particular success in boys tennis and girls and boys softball teams!















LIBRARY NEWS

Opening Times

Senior Library:

Years 6 - 12

8.30am to 4.30pm

Years 4 - 5

8.30am to 3.45pm

Junior Library:

Students may borrow books after school if they bring a book bag and return the books they have finished reading. Please see staff in the Senior Library for access and loans.

Students who stay after school (Years 6-12 only), must sign in and out with Library staff.

Email: <u>library@standrews.vic.edu.au</u>.

CBCA Winners 2022

The winners and honour recipients of this year's Children's Book Council Award in the Early Childhood and Picture Book categories are:

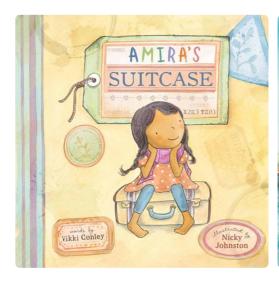
Early Childhood

Winner

Jetty Jumping by Andrea Rowe, illustrated by Hannah Sommerville. A beautiful story about children at an Australian Beach in summer.

Honours

- 1. Walk of the Whales by Nick Bland. A thought provoking look at what might happen if whales moved from the sea to the land.
- 2. Amira's Suitcase by Vikki Conley, illustrated by Nicky Johnston. A tale of friendship and hope.







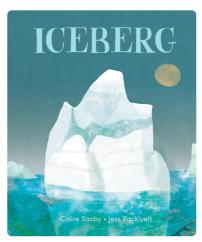
Picture Story

Winner

Iceberg by Clare Saxby and Jess Racklyeft. A portrayal of the life cycle of an iceberg.

Honours

- 1. Just One Bee by Margrete Lamond and Anthony Bertini; illustrated by Christopher Nielsen. This is a story of what can be achieved by one bee who never gives up.
- 2. Stellarphant by James Foley. Stella, the elephant, has to overcome many obstacles to achieve her dream of becoming an astronaut.







These titles are available to read and borrow from the Junior Library.

Lynne Marks

Head of Library

Book Week in the Primary School

Book Week was celebrated here at St Andrews from the 22nd to 26th August. Library staff participated in the Book Week picnic with a display of the CBCA winning and honour books. There were also readings of Stellarphant, Jetty Jumping and Walking with Whales.























The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge



and 8.

Well done!

Lynne Marks

Head of Library

The Victorian Premier's Reading
Challenge 2022 closed on the 2nd
September. Students have been listing
all the books that they have read since
March in order to complete the
challenge.

To date, a total of 1614 books have been recorded by students in Years 7



Community News

This section of our Newsletter is to give our families information about programs being run by organisations outside of the school which may interest our school families.

These organisations are not endorsed by St Andrews Christian College.



