



Important Dates

**Beginning Year
Mass 9.30am**
Friday 7 February 2025

Year 1 Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 12 February
2025

**Year 6 Leadership
Day**
Thursday 13 February 2025

New Parent Dinner
Saturday 15 February 2025

Year 3 Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 19 February
2025

**School Board
Finance Meeting
6pm**
Wednesday 19 February
2025

**School Board
Meeting 6.30pm**
Wednesday 19 February
2025

Open Morning
Sunday 23 February 2025

**SACPSSA Swimming
Carnival Yrs 3-6**
Tuesday 25 February 2025

Year 2 Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 26 February
2025

**Principal's Tour
9.30am**
Thursday 27 February 2025

From the Leadership Team

Welcome Back

Welcome to the new school year! A fresh start, filled with opportunities to learn, grow and connect as a community. Whether you're returning or just beginning the school journey, know that you are valued and supported.

We have welcomed 39 new Reception students and 20 continuing from the mid year intake in 2024, as well as Chloe (1R), Brax (1M) Jack (2A), Stella, Nevangi, Anika and Skyla (3EB), Ruby (3J), Jett and Sanskar (4PC), Nidhan (4G) and Simone (6M) who join our community.

We have also welcomed the following staff members to our school.

Courtney Elliott - Year 3 Classroom Teacher

Lauren Clayton - Year 4 Classroom Teacher

Sharee Grimshaw - Year 5 Classroom Teacher

Ori Mavrincac - Year 6 Classroom Teacher

Tahlia Darby and Allison Pirone - Curriculum Education Support Officers

Geoff Scott - Maintenance

We look forward to getting to know each and every one and we are sure they have felt warmly welcomed by our wonderful community.

New Parent Dinner

All new parents to the school are invited to attend the New Parent Dinner on Saturday evening, 15th February. This event is a long-standing event aimed at welcoming our new families to the school community. Please find a flyer for the event and further details below.

90 Years Open Morning

This year we commemorate our 90th year and each term we have an event planned to celebrate. This term we are holding an Open Morning and warmly invite all past and present students, families and staff to explore the school and reflect on how the school has grown over the 90 years. On January 29 1935, a new church-school was opened by the Sisters of St Joseph. Twenty three students were enrolled for that first day of school. This year we welcomed 370 students on the first day. Please find details regarding the Open Morning on the flyer within this newsletter.

School Theme

'Be the Light' is our 2025 School Theme. Amanda Razon (APRIM) introduced the theme to the staff during Week 0 and we know through last week each classroom teacher introduced the theme to the students. As a school community, we will continue to explore and reflect on the theme throughout 2025. The 'Be the Light' school prayer is introduced below.

Dear God,

You gave us your only Son,
who showed us the power of just one.

Jesus did all that he could
to be an example of everything good.

So send your Spirit to help us be,
a light to the world and bring unity.

Amen

Rock And Water Program

Our Year 5 and 6 students will again throughout Term 1 participate in the 'Rock and Water' Program. Rock and Water, which has its roots in martial arts, is delivered as a series of exercises and games to develop confidence and self-reflection. Students learn to stand strong, negotiate using "rock" or "water" verbal approaches, walk away from trouble, consider alternatives to aggression and develop understandings about who they are, their intuitive feelings and their personal direction. This program is again being facilitated by Mr. David Hilliard, a respected leader, teacher, and school counsellor, renowned for his expertise in guiding students towards emotional intelligence and resilience.

The Rock and Water Program is designed to equip our students with essential life skills, empowering them to navigate the challenges of adolescence with confidence, strength, and compassion. In a world filled with diverse experiences and interactions, it is imperative that our children are equipped with the tools necessary to build positive relationships, manage conflict, and foster resilience.

School Uniform

It has been wonderful to see the children setting the standard in the early part of this school year and presenting themselves in the correct school uniform. We draw particular note to school socks ensuring they are either grey or white, not black in colour, as per our uniform guidelines. Thank you for your support.

Dogs On School Grounds

A reminder that dogs are not to be walked into the school grounds during drop off and pick up times. If you have walked the dog to the school, please wait for your children outside the school gates. Thank you for your consideration.

Student Absences

Please be reminded that if your child is to be absent from school for any reason, please contact the school Absentee line prior to 9:00am on 8218 3300 or alternatively SMS on 0484 260 996 . Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

2025 Catholic Education Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Catholic Education Awards. The awards will be presented as part of Catholic Education Week in May. Please find further information at the link here.

Leadership Team



New Parent Dinner



15 February
6.30 - 10.00pm

School Hall
Entry via Mornington Ave

Celebrate connections at the New Parent Dinner! Savor delicious arancini, sizzling skewers & mouthwatering pizza as families come together for a warm & welcoming evening.

BYO Esky & Drinks

RSVP:
info@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Education Awards



**2025
NOMINATIONS
NOW OPEN!**

**Catholic
Education
AWARDS**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Do you know someone making an
outstanding contribution to Catholic
Education?**

The Catholic Education Awards are your opportunity to shine a light on a teacher, support person, leader, volunteer or program making a positive difference!

9 AWARD CATEGORIES
Nominations Open: January 20 2025 to March 17 2025

  awards.cesa.catholic.edu.au

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

Catholic Identity

It has been a lovely start to the school year, seeing so many excited and smiling faces. I hope that you have all had a wonderful time over the Christmas break. Now we are back into the school routine!

Beginning of Year Mass

To mark the beginning of the school year, the whole school will be attending Mass tomorrow morning at 9:30am in St John the Baptist Church. Families are most welcome to attend.

Year level Mass

As with each term, we will be having year levels attend Mass with the parish on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am. You will find which week your child or children will be attending Mass, as per our school term calendar. We look forward to having families join us at these Masses.

Sacramental Programme 2025

We are still accepting enrolments for the 2025 Sacramental Programme. If your child or children are aged 8 or over, or will be turning 8 before August 2025 and you believe they are ready to be involved in the program, please complete the details in the [form](#) provided and send a copy of your child's Baptism certificate to the Parish Office or email address: plymptonparish@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au

Plympton Parish Quiz Night

You are welcome to join the parish Catholic Quiz night on Friday 28th February at 7:00pm.

Entry is free. BYO Supper and Drinks. Please book through the Parish Office: 8293 6600 or through trybooking.com/CYHHN

Amanda Razon

APRIM

In Sympathy



Our Prayers are with those who have recently lost loved ones.
May God keep them close.

To the family of Hamish & Adaline Kelly for the loss of their Grandfather.

To the family of Gabriella & Paolo Akele (old scholars) for the loss of their Grandmother Georgette.

To the family of Carlo & Loretta Sasso (old scholars) for the loss of their father Mauro.

**"Eternal Rest grant unto them O'Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they Rest In Peace."**

Finance News

Welcome to 2025, I hope you had a lovely Christmas & New Year break. School Fee statements will be posted out in Week 3, so if you do not receive yours by 20th February, please contact me and I can resend it. Thank you to the many families who have already completed and returned their direct debit forms last year, these have all been loaded into our system and payments will be starting as requested. If you would like another form, please let me know. Otherwise, other payment options are cash or EFTPOS via the front office, Qkr payments via your phone app, Bpay and direct to bank details are on the bottom of your statement. If you have changed your postal address, please ensure the school has your current information as statements are posted out each term to all families with a balance.

2025 Fees

Our Annual School Fees are:

Full Fee - \$3,280

Lower Income Fee - \$1,795

The fees include all tuition and excursion levies for each child's education. Extra-Curricular activities, sport, camps and uniforms are excluded and will be charged separately.

If you pay your fees in full by the **7th March** you will qualify for the 5% upfront discount of \$164 for 1 child, \$296 if you have 2 children, \$415.75 if you have 3 children. Please deduct this amount and pay the remainder of the fees. If you would like assistance to work out what to pay please contact me on accounts@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au

For further information regarding fees, please visit our website [here](#).

To be eligible for the lower income fee, you need to apply & qualify as a low-income family via the SA Government School Card Scheme **each year**. This is determined by your family's gross 2023-24 income and is set by the State Government. Your family's gross income needs to be below \$74,189 for a family with one school aged child (the limit will vary depending on how many dependent children you have increasing by \$1,426 per additional child).

School Card

Please follow the link below to apply for the 2025 School Card Scheme and apply online via the School Card – apply now button.

The School Card scheme provides low-income families attending a non-government school with financial assistance for school fees (materials and services charges).

Eligibility

School Card is available to:



- families with children aged four years and over who attend a school full-time
- independent full-time students studying year 10, 11 or 12
- adult re-entry students undertaking subjects to complete their SAC

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding the above.

Qkr! Notifications

Please ensure that you have your notifications on for Qkr! Notifications may be sent out for special events and this will ensure you don't miss out. See instructions below regarding turning on notifications.

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

How do I enable notifications on my phone so I can receive Qkr notifications from my child's school?

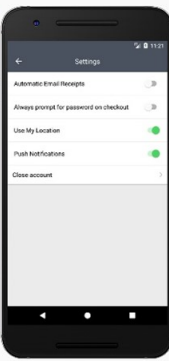
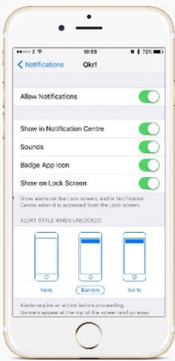
Ensure your Notifications settings are activated for the Qkr app.

Step 1
Select settings in your iOS or Android device

Step 2
Select Notifications.

Step 3
Look for the Qkr app and ensure the toggle is switched on to allow notifications.

Step 4
Open the Qkr app on your phone, open settings and ensure the 'Push Notifications Enabled' toggle is switched to green.



Please note that whilst we control the sending of the notification, the delivery and receipt of the notification is entirely controlled by your phone operating system.

If you have any queries regarding fees or payments or if your circumstances have changed and you are experiencing difficulties making payments, please contact me via email on accounts@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au

Jodie Veldhoen

Finance Officer

From the Sport Coordinator



Dear St John's Community,

Welcome back! It's excellent to begin a new sporting year and I very much look forward to a promising 2025 in the area of Sport here at St John the Baptist School. What a great opportunity we have all had to break routines and spend time relaxing with those who mean the most to us. Personally, I thought it was great to get away and spend some time building new memories with my family.

In the initial weeks of school, we have spent some time together in our class groups going through some Physical Education routines and expectations:

Reception – Year 2 Expectations

1. Showing kindness always
2. "Red Faces" always
3. Be the best we can be always

Year 3 – Year 6 Expectations

1. Respect everyone through words and actions always
2. Being "1% Better" everyday always
3. Striving for personal growth always

It is great to be back and seeing the students settle into a new year level with additional responsibilities and more maturity.

Already in our community we have had some students achieving wonderful things. We wish to congratulate Jaya (6M), Nash (4PC), Albie (4G), Judd (4G) and Syd (3EB) for recently competing in the State Athletics Relay Championships which were held at the SA Athletics Stadium. All students did a fantastic job and posted some very impressive results. We would like to further congratulate both Nash (4PC) and Syd (3EB) for obtaining medals for the following results: Nash – Gold in 4 x 100m Relay Team and Syd – Gold in 4 x 200m Relay Team, Gold in 4 x 100m Relay Team and Bronze in Field Relay. Keep up the great work athletes and I look forward to hearing about more students and their achievements throughout the course of the year.



We wish to also congratulate Ethan (3J) who attends the Glenelg Surf Club and was involved in the Brighton Jetty Swim. Ethan was the

first swimmer home and received a wonderful Gold medal, well done on your efforts here Ethan.



Our first SACPSSA school carnival will be held during Term 1 – Week 9. After taking the overall honours last year we have been upgraded into Section 2 and will be heading to Burnside Swimming Centre on the 25th March. Trials for making this team will be held at the Immanuel College iSwim facility on Wednesday 19th of February. (Week 4)

Through Cricket Australia and SACA we have secured a 4 Week 'Growing Girls in Cricket' program for all girls in Years 5/6. This is a great opportunity for the girls to get together for an additional 40 minute session of PE on a Monday afternoon to learn new skills whilst having fun together.

We are pleased to see our 'After School' Sport programs getting started in 2025. During Term 1 we are offering Basketball, Cricket and T-Ball. Well done to the students and families who have found that additional time to get involved in these opportunities. Thank you to the parents too who have so willingly offered their precious time in order to be Mentors and Managers for these teams. These opportunities simply couldn't go ahead without the support of these people. So, if you see a Mentor or Manager of a team, say thank you and tell them that they are doing a wonderful job. I look forward to getting out to support these teams and to see them all in action.

I would like to remind all families that we are affiliated with the Airport District for SAPSASA opportunities. If your child has a passion and outstanding skills in a certain area and would like to be considered for teams or events please visit the following website to see the calendar: [SAPSASA Calendar](#) Term 1 SAPSASA opportunities consist of the District Swimming Carnival, State Softball Carnival and District Football Carnival. Please email me well in advance if your child has an interest in a particular area and I will be more than happy to supply them with the paperwork required when it becomes available to me.

If there is any other information you would like to know, our school handbook is a great resource. Please click on the following link in order to see this handbook: [Sports Handbook](#)

I look forward to a very promising year of Sport here at St John the Baptist School, we hope you and your children are equally as excited.

Yours in sport

Sam Putland

SPORTS COORDINATOR



Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club catalogues will be sent home this week. If you would like to order please do so by the 17th February. The school gets a percentage of items sold in \$ rewards to spend on new books/resources for our library

We have over \$300 worth of rewards from last year to spend in Term 1. Thank you.

Overdue Books

If your child has outstanding books from last year please keep looking for them. One was found in someone's chook shed at the end of last year...but I wouldn't recommend reading in there!

Please let us know if they are lost so that your child can borrow this year.

Maria French and the Library Team

90th Anniversary

OPEN MORNING

We warmly invite all past & present students, families & staff to join us for an open morning. Rediscover familiar classrooms while exploring exciting new spaces and grounds that reflect how we've grown over 90 years.

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2025

Between 11.30am & 1.00pm

Please RSVP
on 8218 3300
or via QR
Code





All orders for both recess and lunch are to be ordered via our Qkr! app.

Canteen orders close each canteen day (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) at 9.00am.

Healthy Canteen (Tuesday & Thursday) orders close on Mondays at 12pm.

Canteen Roster

Term 1

Friday 7th February - Jo & Jo Rowett

Monday 10th February - Julie

Tuesday 11th February - Jo

Wednesday 12th February - Julie

Thursday 13th February - Jo

Friday 14th February - Jo & Liza Coombes

Monday 17th February - Julie

Tuesday 18th February - Jo

Wednesday 19th February - Julie

Thursday 20th February - Jo

Friday 21st February - Jo & Sarah Dennis

Monday 24th February - Julie

Tuesday 25th February - Jo

Wednesday 26th February - Julie

Thursday 27th February - Jo

Friday 28th February - Jo & Cara Finneran

Canteen Feedback

We would love your feedback regarding the canteen.

Is there anything that you would like to see on the menu that we may be able to consider adding on?

Please send your feedback to jfitzgerald@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au

Julie Henschke & Jo Fitzgerald

Volunteering at St Johns



St John the Baptist School provides a safe environment for all while valuing the partnership between school and home.

As a Catholic community, we welcome and value volunteers. To be able to volunteer, and/or attend at other times throughout the school year, we ask that you hold a current Catholic Police Check (parents/caregivers attending excursions, reading in class, helping in class, attending community events), a current Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care for Volunteers certificate and have completed the volunteers application package.

A Catholic Police Check for volunteers is free for our current parents and caregivers. Application Forms are available in our school office.

This process ensures we maintain a child safe environment. To avoid disappointment, we encourage you to apply for a Catholic Police Check through the school office as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school office on 8218 3300 or email Julia Roy on jroy@stjohnpl.catholic.edu.au.

Bright Ideas



We value your insights and involvement in enhancing our school community. Please share any suggestions or ideas you have regarding school improvement. Your input is crucial in creating a positive and effective learning environment for our students.

Insights may be discussed at future School Advisory Board meetings or you may be contacted personally for further follow up!

Please find link [here](#) for your suggestions.

Community News

Plympton Parish

Plympton Catholic Parish Mass Times



DAILY MASSES - MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY AT 9.30AM

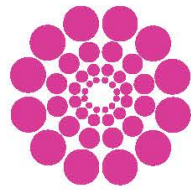
VIGIL MASS - SATURDAYS AT 6PM

MASS - SUNDAY'S AT 8.30AM & 10AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - FRIDAY'S 10AM - 12PM

ROSARY - MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY AT 9.10AM

RECONCILIATION - SATURDAY'S FROM 11.30AM



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



Is this your daughter?

Look no further than the **Australian Girls Choir** because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to **sing**, **dance** and **perform**.

**Join us at our
FEBRUARY OPEN DAY**



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS





AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



Australian Girls Choir

An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

Girls blossom as members of the AGC, both on and off the stage. Your daughter will develop confidence, self-esteem, public speaking and presentation skills, all while gaining friendships that will last a lifetime.

Our senior performers have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Hugh Jackman and Kylie Minogue and have performed at dazzling events including the Australian Open, Prime Minister's Olympic Dinner, Carols by Candlelight and Carols in the Domain. We're proud to have represented Qantas in the iconic 'I Still Call Australia Home' advertising campaigns for 26 years.



Now accepting enrolments for our rehearsal venues in Glenelg, Glen Osmond and Walkerville.

JOIN US AT OUR FEBRUARY OPEN DAY

Register now at ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc or phone 08 8271 1622



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS



Open Day

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir (AGC) because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform. School aged girls are invited to come along to our February Open Day to try our fun and inclusive classes and learn more about being part of the AGC! Please visit our website to register to attend our free Open Day: ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc

Disclaimer

The links and information that are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only. They do not constitute an

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Absences



If a student is absent from school due to illness, parents / caregivers are asked to contact the school office by 9.00am via:

- Absentee Line 8218 3300 – available 24 hours a day to leave a message
- SMS Messaging 0484 260 996

Birthdays



Congratulations to those who celebrate their birthday in the coming weeks!

February Birthdays

6th Feb - Ezra P (4PC) & William T (1R)

7th Feb - Aahaan W (2TS)

8th Feb - Alexander B (REC K)

9th Feb - Louie v K (REC B)

10th Feb - Lyla G (6M)

12th Feb - Emily C (1R)

13th Feb - Ruby H (2TS)

14th Feb - Matilda G (1SM)

15th Feb - Jewel N (6W)

19th Feb - Lachlan C (4PC) & Sujal P (REC K)

School Uniform



QUALITY UNIFORMS

Our uniform is available for purchase from Brandmode, 83 Glen Osmond Road, Eastwood. Ph - (08) 8357 0022

To purchase uniform online please click [here](#).

To book an appointment please click [here](#).

For further information on our Uniform Guidelines, please click [here](#) and for uniform booklet, please click [here](#).

Instrumental Tutors

We currently offer the following instrumental tutoring:

Piano

(currently a waitlist)

Tutor - Christine Davies

Ph: 0403 546 091

Email - christineonpiano@gmail.com

Guitar & Ukelele

Tutor - Dido Durmanovic

Ph: 0407 719 836

Email: didodurmanovic@hotmail.com

Singing

Tutor - Lindi Jane

Ph: 0413 536 327

Email - snapskakaduclub@optusnet.com.au

Acknowledgement



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live, learn and work.

We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual connection and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to this country and commit to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Artwork - Unknown artist

Camp Australia



To make a Your OSHC booking, you need to register with Camp Australia first.

Registration is free and can be done online, or with our smartphone app.

www.campaustralia.com.au

Southern Cross Newsletter



[Click here](#) to read the latest news from the Southern Cross News.

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