

ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

LEADERSHIP NEWS

Greetings!

I hope that you and your child(ren) have had a good start to the 2025 school year. The beginning of the school year is always so interesting. We spend the first two or three weeks setting our students up for success by ensuring that they know all the rules and expectations for the year, start to make strong connections with their classmates and teachers and further develop their executive function, ready for the curriculum they will encounter in their new year level. Executive function is a set of mental skills. It includes 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. While we are setting our students up for a successful year, it is often said "We/They aren't doing any work." This is probably the most important work of all for without this preparation the students' executive function as well as their disposition for learning and in turn their well-being will be compromised.

At this time each year we bring the following documents to your attention

[Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy \(Archdiocese of Adelaide\)](#)

[Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum information for parents and carers](#)

Please take time to read them and familiarise yourself with them.

Keeping our students safe is of the utmost importance to us.

Next Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent in the Catholic Tradition. The day before Lent begins is known as **Shrove Tuesday**. Our Parent Network will provide Pancakes for our students on this day. Vanessa writes about this in her APRIM section of this newsletter.

If your child has any dietary requirements you need to notify their class teacher by the end of this week (Friday February 28).



Friday 21st March is Harmony Day. This is a day where we celebrate our amazing racial diversity at St. Martin's. This year we are celebrating with a **whole school picnic** on the oval from 5:00 - 8:00pm. You are welcome to bring your picnic rug, a picnic dinner and some drinks and wear either national costume or a touch of orange. There will also be a BBQ dinner (sausages, steak sandwiches or samosas) if you would prefer just to buy something when you are here.

The canteen will be open for drinks and treats and there will also be a coffee van. Come and join us for an evening of celebration, food and fun! I look forward to seeing you and your family at this picnic.

Friday 4th April is our **School Sports Day**. This year we are returning to Greenacres Reserve for this event. Greenacres Reserve is on the corner of Arunta St & Manoora St, Greenacres. We will meet at school and walk down together.

We will need lots of parent help on this day but to volunteer to help – scoring, supporting students, etc you will need to be a **registered volunteer**. If you are thinking about assisting on the day, now is the time to register as a volunteer, if you want to be able to participate in your child's Sports Day.

There is still plenty of information about Sports Day to come but this preliminary notice is to ensure you can help out as a volunteer.



Greenacres Reserve

See you at the picnic on Friday 21st March, if not before!

Susanne

Susanne Harding
Deputy Principal

APRIM NEWS

Welcome everyone,

Over the last 5 weeks we have been in Green Ordinary Time (Year C) which refers to a liturgical period in the Church calendar that focuses on spiritual growth, discipleship, and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Luke 9:23-25

"Then he said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?'"

This passage speaks to the cost of discipleship and emphasises the ongoing call to follow Jesus, even in the midst of ordinary life. It encourages spiritual growth through self-denial and commitment to the teachings of Christ, making it an appropriate reflection during the time of Green Ordinary Time.



Next week, the Church will observe two significant events: **Shrove Tuesday** and **Ash Wednesday**, marking the beginning of **Lent** and an important time of reflection and spiritual renewal.

Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day, is the day before Ash Wednesday and is traditionally a time of preparation for the season of Lent. The term "shrove" comes from the word "shrive," which means to confess or to be absolved of sins.

Shrove Tuesday was also a day to use up rich and indulgent foods, such as eggs, butter and sugar, before the fasting and abstinence of Lent began. This is why many cultures have developed traditions of making pancakes or other rich foods to enjoy before the season of fasting. The spirit of Shrove Tuesday is one of joyful celebration in preparation for the more solemn period of Lent, and it serves as a reminder to Christians to reflect on their lives, repent, and prepare for the journey of renewal that Lent. Thank you to the Parent Network and volunteers who will be making over 700 pancakes for our students and staff.



Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

The following day, **Ash Wednesday**, marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance leading up to Easter. On Ash Wednesday, we will gather for a Liturgy to receive ashes on our foreheads in the shape of a cross. This ritual is a powerful symbol of mortality, repentance, and humility. The ashes are made from the palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday, which is a sign of continuity and the connection between Christ's Passion and his Resurrection.

Lent is a time of transformation, modelled after Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the desert. During this period, we are encouraged to engage in deeper prayer, fasting, and practices that allow us to grow closer to God. It is a time to reflect on Christ's sacrifice and to prepare spiritually for the joy of Easter, celebrating the Resurrection. The colour purple remains a constant visual cue for this period of Lent and helps the faithful prepare their hearts for Easter. Purple calls us to enter a deeper relationship with God, striving for renewal through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. This brings us to our community's support of our Lenten journey through **Caritas Australia's Project Compassion**.

God of our journey,

*We are all pilgrims of hope, brought together by Your love and
Your desire that we may all be one.
We pray that in this Year of Jubilee,
when we are called to greater justice and care for our common
home,
we may Unite Against Poverty.
May we work in unity for the freedom of the oppressed
and the renewal of creation.
May our compassionate minds and generous hearts
help bring about a world where all can live in peace.
May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer
bring us closer to Your loving heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
Amen.*

Creation Carer

The Creation Carers have officially held their first meeting with Mr. Kuerschner and Mr. Bolding. During this meeting, they began discussing the school's bin system and strategies to reduce waste. Their initial goal is to educate the school community on the proper sorting of waste into the correct bins, emphasise the importance of collecting 10c containers, and promote awareness of correct waste disposal practices. The Creation Carers' role extends beyond waste management and recycling. This group will also be actively involved in gardening and addressing environmental concerns throughout the school.

Year 6 Justice Group: Leading from the Heart- Student Leadership Workshop

On Tuesday, 24 February 2025, the Year 6 Justice Group participated in the *Leading from the Heart: Student Leadership Day*. This leadership workshop, which brings together schools united by the OLSH Charism, offers students an opportunity to:

- Deepen their understanding of the history and mission of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
- Recognise the shared values that connect schools, despite their unique contexts, through the OLSH pillars.
- Reflect on the relevance of the OLSH pillars in all aspects of their lives.
- Identify ways to embody the OLSH pillars as leaders within their own school communities.

The Justice Group had the opportunity to share our story of St. Martin's with other schools and further develop essential leadership skills.

Outreach

Last Friday, the Year 4 Unit officially launched their Outreach Project in support of Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This Lent, Project Compassion invites us to Unite Against Poverty and take meaningful action to create lasting change. The Community Hall was filled with vibrant colours as students wore their house t-shirts and contributed gold coin donations to their respective house buckets. Congratulations to the Blue Team, Hartzler, for collecting the most donations. The students and staff raised \$889.75. Throughout the term, the Year 4 classes will be hosting a variety of activities during recess and lunch to raise funds for Project Compassion. Some of the planned events include a colouring competition, a sports activity, and a "Guess How Many Lollies in the Jar" challenge.

We encourage families to send an additional 50c to school to allow students to participate in these activities. More details will be provided soon. The school goal is to raise money to go towards a 10,000-litre rainwater tank for a school in Samoa.

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

**Unite Against
Poverty This
Lent**



Diary Dates – Term 1

Week	Date	Time, Celebration & Hosting Year Level
5	Friday 28 th February	Whole School Wellbeing Session
6	Wednesday 5 th March	11am Ash Wednesday Liturgy of the Word with Eucharist Year 3D & 3J Hosting
7	Friday 14 th March	2.15pm Assembly Student Voice Hosting
8	Friday 21 st March	9am Assembly Year 1's hosting
9	Friday 28 th March	9am Liturgy of the Word with Eucharist 2M and 2T hosting
10	Friday 4 th April	Sports Day
11	Friday 11 th April	Liturgy of the Word: Justice Group Pre- Holy Week

Sustainability

At our first meeting we welcomed our new members Helen Williams, Leigh Turbill and Elena Sorgini. It was great to see the return of our parent representative Marie Stylianou. Peter Kuerschner led us on a walk through the various garden areas, including the raised beds, saltbush, sensory garden, ponds, and vertical garden. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th March at 3.20pm** in the staffroom. All welcome.

Greenacres Walkerville Parish News

2024/2025 Sacramental Program: During Masses Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th April.

Children's Liturgy: During Masses Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd March.

Vinnies News: St Vincent de Paul Society will be holding a Sausage Sizzle and Cake Stall after the 9.30am Mass at St Martin's Church on Sunday 16th March. There will also be a cake stall after 6.00pm Mass at St Monica's on Saturday 15th March.

God's blessings,
Vanessa Dibbens

Ride for a Reason Challenge 2025 'KidCrew'

Congratulations to our 3 students Max, Chip, Ari and Flynn who are competing in the 'Ride for a Reason' Challenge in 2025 as part of a team called 'KidCrew'.

The boys have pedalled 522kms between them over the month of January, far exceeding their 100km individual distance target and their \$1000 fundraising target. Current tally is over \$2500! Well done boys, what a fantastic effort, we are all so proud of you!

All the money raised goes towards supporting Cancer Council SA's life-saving cancer prevention, research and support programs.



PE and Sport at St Martin's is varied and busy.

There are numerous opportunities for all students to be involved in physical activity at school.

Information concerning School Sport and Sports Carnivals can be found

- on Sports notice boards
- on "Fridge Notes" (handed to students)
- in school newsletters
- on the school's QKR App

Registering and payment for sports teams and carnivals is electronic through the QKR App

REMINDERS:

The school has and enforces a **NO HAT – NO PLAY** sun protection policy.

MR. GEORGE'S RUNNING CLUB

All enthusiastic runners are invited to attend Mr George's Running Club. This term, Running Club will run from 8:00am-8:30am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please wear PE uniform. This is a great opportunity to practise running for fun or in preparation for the first Cross Country Carnival held in early Term 2.

ST MARTIN'S AUSKICK (Reception – Year 3)

The St Martin's Auskick Centre will operate on the school oval on Wednesdays after school (3:15 pm– 4:00 pm).

Students in Reception – Year 3 are invited to register (be quick - limited places available) through the "Auskick" website or on the link below:

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/ae8a71>

NAB AFL Auskick is FREE with the use of the ORSR Sports Voucher or \$100 without.

Enter your 11-digit voucher code (medicare number + child's ref number) in the comment box at payment **then** select apply and the price of your order will reset to \$0.

Queries to ... Mikayla Kafi – Mikayla.Kafi@sanfl.com.au

CRICKET (Years 2-6)

This term, St Martin's has two teams representing the school on Saturday mornings.

The draw for fixtures has been finalised by SACA and is available at:

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/org/adelaide-strikers-primary-school-cricket/bc4537f8>

Thank you to those who volunteered to help make these teams happen.

LACROSSE (Years 1-6)

Last weekend, St Martin's students participated in their first lacrosse games of the iLAX Indoor Lacrosse season at Lightsview. St Martin's has two teams in this competition. The teams compete on Saturday afternoons between 12:30-3:30pm.

SAPSASA BASKETBALL (Year 5-6)

All Year 5-6 boys and girls interested in playing in a school basketball team are urged to sign up via the QKR App as soon as possible.

Being a part of the SAPSASA Basketball Squad requires two terms commitment and will involve attending training sessions (TBC). The squad may attend up to three Basketball Carnivals during Terms 2 and 3 with the SAPSASA contest being held in mid-August.

Without sufficient interest, prior to the **March 14, QKR App due date**, teams cannot be entered.

SAPSASA VOLLEYBALL (Year 4-6)

All Year 4-6 boys and girls interested in playing in a school volleyball team in a competition-based carnival in Term 3 are urged to sign up via the QKR App as soon as possible.

Without sufficient interest prior to the **March 14, QKR App due date**, teams cannot be entered.

WINTER NETBALL (Year 3-6)

All Year 3-6 boys and girls interested in playing in a school netball team outside of school hours are urged to sign up via the QKR App as soon as possible.

Winter Netball will run during Terms 2 and 3 on Saturday mornings. Team members will be required to attend after school training sessions one afternoon a week during Terms 2 and 3.

Without sufficient interest and registered parent volunteers, prior to the **March 14, QKR App due date**, teams cannot be entered.

SWIMMING TEAM and CARNIVALS (Year 3-6)

All Year 3-6 students interested in participating in this year's swimming team must attend the St Martin's Swimming Trials.

All swimming trials and carnivals will run during the school time:

- St Martin's Swimming Trial No. 1 (postponed from February 12) - **March 26**
- SAPSASA Carnival - **March 6**
- St Martin's Swimming Trial No. 2 - **March 12**
- SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Carnival - **March 31**

SCHOOL SPORT SA (SAPSASA) EVENTS IN 2025

St Martin's is a SAPSASA affiliated school and encourages students to be involved in SAPSASA sport opportunities.

Information concerning SAPSASA trials and carnivals will be distributed to students (usually in Years 5-6) as they become available. General SAPSASA information is also available via the QKR App.

Please note that SAPSASA District Teams and State Carnivals are run independently of Sport at St Martin's and cannot be signed up for via the QKR App.

SCHOOL SPORT SA - STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY PROGRAM OF EVENTS 2025

Program of Events for Primary Students (Years 5-6):

1. Ten Pin Bowling
2. Basketball
3. 5-a-side Soccer
4. Tennis
5. Regional events - (date TBC). These events are open to primary schools.

Important Information:

Nominations are due 2 weeks prior to the event date. The program of events, along with links to nomination forms, can be found on our website:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/schools-and-educators/programs-students/school-sport-sa/competitions/students-disability-events>

2025 Sports Dates (so far...)

Term 1

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb 1 (Thu) | Mr George's Running Club starts – school oval, 8-8:30am |
| Feb 19 (Wed) | St Martin's Auskick starts – school oval, 3:15-4:00pm |
| Mar 7 (Fri) | North Adelaide/Adelaide North East Swimming Carnival |
| Mar 26 -28 | SAPSASA Softball State Carnival |
| Mar 31 (Mon) | SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Swimming Carnival |
| Apr 4 (Fri) | St Martin's School Sports Day |
| Apr 4 (Fri) | SAPSASA Swimming State Championships (Divisions 1 and 2) |
| Apr 7 (Mon) | SAPSASA Swimming State Championships (Divisions 3 and 4) |

Term 2

All Term	Jump Rope for Heart
May 5 (Mon)	North Adelaide, Adelaide North East Netball Carnival
May 16 (Fri)	Walk Safely to School Day
May 19-23	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Lacrosse Carnival
May 26-28	SAPSASA Boys Australian Football State Carnival
Jun 5 (Thu)	Cross Country Championships
Jun 12-13	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Basketball Carnival
Jun 18-20	SAPSASA Girls Metro Netball State Carnival
Jun 23-25	SAPSASA Girls Country and Boys Netball State Carnival
Jul 1-3	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Netball Carnival

Term 3

Aug 6 (Wed)	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Cross Country Carnival
Aug 6-8	SAPSASA Metro Football (Soccer) State Carnival
Aug 12-15	Year 5/6 Basketball Metro Minor Rounds (statewide schools competition)
Aug 19-22	Year 5/6 Basketball Metro Minor Rounds (statewide schools competition)
Aug 22 (Fri)	ANE District Athletics Carnival (Bridgestone Athletics stadium)
Aug 27-29	Year 5/6 Basketball Metro Minor Rounds (statewide schools competition)
Sep 3 (Wed)	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Touch Football Carnival
Sep 8-10	SAPSASA Hockey State Carnival
Sep 18-19	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Cricket Carnival
Sep 19&22	SAPSASA Track and Field State Championships

Term 4

Week 5	PE Week
Oct 20-22	SAPSASA Girls Australian Football State Carnival
Nov 3 (Mon)	SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Athletics Carnival
Nov 10-12	SAPSASA Tennis State Carnival
Nov 24-26	SAPSASA Cricket State Carnival

Dates to be confirmed...

Crows Cup Knockout Football (usually Term 2)

NE Catholic School Basketball Carnival (usually Term 3)

SACPSSA (Catholic Schools) Tennis Carnival (usually Term 3)



The poster features the school crest at the top, which includes the motto 'LS MALINGA' and 'OL SH' with 'GENERICUS' and 'LOVE AND KNOWLEDGE' below it. The main title is 'Term 1 School Tours'. Below this is a list of tour dates and times: MON 10 FEB 11:30AM, WED 12 FEB 1:30PM, FRI 14 FEB 9:30AM, TUES 18 FEB 11:30AM, THURS 20 FEB 1:30PM, THURS 27 FEB 9:15AM, MON 3 MARCH 1:30PM, and FRI 14 MARCH 9:30AM. At the bottom, it says 'For Tour Bookings: www.smg.catholic.edu.au'. The background of the poster shows a school building and a blue sky.

MARTY'S PLAY FOREVER PLAYGROUP

Join us for a fantastic weekly program bringing together parents, children, and seniors in a fun and creative way!

Marty's Play Forever Playgroup is an intergenerational practice program purposefully bringing together different generations. Held every Friday from 9:00am to 10:30am during school terms, Playgroup is open to children aged 0-5 years and allows both adults and children to interact and share experiences that are mutually beneficial. Children will learn through activities that are child-centred and are designed to get them to experiment and experience learning through play.

Each session is \$4 per child, \$5 for more than 1 child, and FREE for our older friends. For all playgroup enquiries, contact Dora Bouras at dbouras@smg.catholic.edu.au or call 8211 2400.

Week 11
11/4
Egg-citing Easter

Week 10
4/4
School Sports Day
NO PLAYGROUP

Week 9
28/3
Minibeasts

Week 8
21/3
Harmony Day & School Values

Week 7
14/3
St. Patrick's Craft

Week 6
7/3
Pupil Free Day
NO PLAYGROUP

Week 5
28/2
Nature Nurturers

Week 4
21/2
Community Heroes

Week 3
14/2
Love Bugs

Week 2
7/2
Make a Splash

Week 1
31/1
Let's Play Forever!

Marty's Play Forever Playgroup
at
St Martin's Catholic Primary School
56-80 Princes Rd, Greenacres
8211 2400

Open to children 0-5 years
Fridays 9-10:30am
during school term

TERM 1, 2025
*subject to change

SPiCE
Supported Playgroups in Catholic Education

ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Marty's Play Forever Playgroup

Calling all those aged 50 and above!

Join us for a fantastic, free weekly program that is all about bringing parents, children, and seniors together in a fun and creative way.

Let's build amazing connections and have a blast while doing it!

Frídays 9am - 10:30am
(during school terms only)

St. Martin's Catholic Primary School
80 Princes Rd, Greenacres 5086

Program starts 31st Jan. 2025
Email: dbouras@smg.catholic.edu.au

catholic education
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPiCE
Supported Playgroups in Catholic Education

2027 RECEPTION INTAKE

Do you have a child aged 0-4 years who is yet to be enrolled for school? St Martin's Catholic Primary School is finalising enrolments for children starting Reception in 2027.

To obtain an Application for Enrolment form, please contact our Enrolment Registrar, Natalie Tompkins, on 8211 2400 or email ntompkins@smg.catholic.edu.au

Interviews for the 2027 Reception intake will be conducted in August this year.



ST MARTIN'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

2027 Reception Intake

ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Do you have a child aged 0-4 years who is yet to be enrolled for school?

APPLICATIONS ARE CLOSING SOON!

St Martin's Catholic Primary School is finalising enrolments for children starting Reception in 2027. Interviews will be conducted in August this year for 2027 Reception placements.

- If your child turns 5 between 1 May 2026 and 30 April 2027, they are eligible to start school in Term 1, 2027.
- If your child turns 5 between 1 May 2027 and 31 October 2027, they are eligible to start school in Term 3, 2027.

Applications are also being accepted for children starting school from 2028 to 2029.

If you are yet to submit an Application for Enrolment, please contact Natalie Tompkins, Enrolment Registrar, as soon as possible:

p: 8211 2400 | e: ntompkins@smg.catholic.edu.au

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THEIR FUTURE STARTS HERE!



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St. Martin's Catholic Primary School Greenacres



ST MARTIN'S
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