



**ST CHRISTOPHER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# *Newsletter*

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## **PRINCIPAL**

**Adrian Glasby**

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

**Organisation & Faith**

**Colleen Mahoney**

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

**Students, Staff & Community**

**Lina Vescio**

**Term 1, Week 2**

**9 February 2024**

### *Message from the Principal*

Dear Parents/Guardians and students of St Christopher's,

It's been a wonderful and smooth start to the 2024 school year. A big welcome to all of our students and families, in particular our new 2024 Preps. They have settled in really well.

Just to let you all know my last official day at St Christopher's will be Friday March 1. During February, I will be working at St Christopher's and spending some time at my new school, Resurrection, Kings Park. My role at STC continues to be my priority.

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools(MACS) have begun the process of employing a new principal for our school. Part of this process involves speaking to our staff and a group of Year 6 students about what qualities and skills they believe STC requires in a new principal. This is happening in the coming days. This helps to create the selection criteria for the role. The role will then be advertised. Two parents will also be asked to be part of the panel that creates the criteria and ultimately then help make the appointment. Other people on the panels often include the Parish Priest, a Regional Leadership Consultant from MACS, another School Principal and a representative from the Parish.

Whilst the appointment is being organised Colleen Mahoney has been ratified to be Acting Principal. Colleen will be in a caretaker role. Much of my role during February is to ensure a thorough handover with Colleen and help her to be in the best position to fulfil that role. Colleen will be ably supported by our experienced leadership team.

In the coming newsletters I will have a long list of thank yous and treasured memories of STC.

Best wishes,

Adrian Glasby  
**Principal**



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

## 2024 Staff List ~ Semester 1 ~

### LEADERSHIP TEAM

<b>Adrian Glasby</b> Principal	<b>Colleen Mahoney</b> Deputy Principal (Organisation & Faith)	<b>Lina Vescio</b> Deputy Principal (Students, Staff, Community)
<b>Naomi Martret</b> Curriculum Team Leader Literacy and Data P-6	<b>Conchita Thomas</b> Curriculum Team Leader: Maths Inquiry Assessment and Reporting Data	<b>Stephanie Zammit</b> Information & Computer Technology (ICT)/ Digital Technologies (DT)/Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Leader & Compliance Leader

### OTHER LEADERS

<b>Linda Mullen</b>	Learning Diversity Leader
<b>Mardi Ripper</b>	Year 5 & 6 Literacy Leader
<b>Sonya Gerace</b>	Year 5 & 6 Maths Leader
<b>Michael Costello</b>	Student Wellbeing and Camps/P.E. Coordinator
<b>Elizabeth Moran</b>	Technologies Leader Choir Leader
<b>Nadia De Giovanni</b>	Graduate Teacher Mentor

### 2024 CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Year Level	GOLD	BLUE	MAROON	WHITE
Prep	Jane Maeland	Eliza Carew	Angela Rizzo (Mon - Thurs) Stacey Nikolakis (Friday)	Amalia Stefancic
One	Andrea Di Stefano	Stephanie Crevatin (NEW)	Shauna Clarke (Mon - Thurs) Sandra Harwood (Friday)	Yvonne Mizzi (Mon - Wed & Fri) Liana Decunto (Thurs)
Two	Melissa Fowler	Carla Tedesco	Gabriella De Francesco (Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri) Linda Mussel (Weds)	Melinda Karavias (Mon - Thurs) Linda Mussel (Fri)
Three	Mark Talbot	Sophie Robinson (Mon & Tues) Bianca Terranova (Returning) (Wed - Fri)	Sterling Rebeil	Julia Cosner
Four	Julie Boyer (Mon & Tues) Erin Spence (Wed - Fri)	Gemma Baggio	Stephanie Munro (NEW) (Mon - Thurs) Roselyn Ambali (Friday)	Nadia De Giovanni (Mon - Thurs) Daniela Day (Fri)
Five	Chris Del Prete	Amy Wissell (Mon - Wed) Vanessa Djopa-Kristo (Thurs - Fri)	Jessica Moore (Mon & Fri) Leah Kelly (Tues - Thurs)	Julia Robinson
Six	Roselyn Ambali (Mon - Tues) Mardi Ripper (Wed - Fri)	Connor Ferris	Chris Baba	Ashleigh Elmer

**SPECIALIST TEACHERS**

<b>Grant Mannix Michael Costello</b>	P.E.	
<b>Joanne Rudd</b>	Art	
<b>Josephine Bono</b>	Italian	
<b>Elizabeth Moran</b>	Music	
<b>Jessica Moore</b>	Positive Education	

**TARGET TEACHERS**

<b>Sonya Gerace</b>	Maths Target Teacher	
<b>Samantha Hatty</b>	Maths Target Teacher	
<b>Luisa Nigro</b>	English Target Teacher	
<b>Kath Saundry</b>	English Target Teacher	
<b>Loris Stone</b>	English Target Teacher	
<b>Daniela Day</b>	English Target Teacher	
<b>Fiona Rozario</b>	Maths/English Target Teacher	

**GRADUATE RELEASE AND SUPPORT**

<b>Julie Boyer</b>	Graduate Release	
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**SPECIALIST ROLES – Allied Health**

<b>Anna Liza Catingub-Raper</b>	Psychologist	
<b>Imogen Elsby</b>	Speech Pathologist	

**ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT STAFF**

<b>Dianne Marks</b>	Office Manager	
<b>Chantell Lipplegoes</b>	Receptionist	
<b>Diana Brezovec McKenzie</b>	Enrolments/Transition Officer	
<b>Jayne Sebastian</b>	Administrative Officer	
<b>Mardi Agnew</b>	First Aid Officer	
<b>Natalie Brooks</b>	First Aid Officer	
<b>Kathleen Cefai</b>	Library Technician	
<b>Gavin Bonnett</b>	Maintenance & Grounds	
<b>Andrew Evans</b>	Maintenance & Grounds	
<b>Kathleen Bellmunt</b>	School Cleaner	

**LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS**

<b>Helen Caruana</b>	<b>Sara Rutowski</b>	<b>Audrey Fambiatos</b>	<b>Danielle Cilione</b>
<b>Luisa Laguda</b>	<b>Amanda Pinto</b>	<b>Janet De Luca</b>	<b>Lana Tytler</b>
<b>Liz Olsen</b>	<b>Madeline Agius</b>	<b>Sandra Zoccali</b>	<b>Zeinab Khoder</b>
<b>Helen Ciavarella</b>		<b>Holly Keating</b>	

## **Religious Education at St Christopher's**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for 2024. What a beautiful sight to have the rows of sunflowers there to greet us as we returned for another year. Thank you to Gavin and Andy for preparing this garden for us.

Last year at our Advent celebrations, our wonderful parent community generously donated a total of \$609.25 which was handed to St Vincent de Paul Airport West for their Summer Appeal to help those in need prior to Christmas. Thank you so much for your generosity.



### **Ash Wednesday**

Next Wednesday the 14th of February is Ash Wednesday. Father Peter has invited our Year 3-6 children to attend the Parish Mass at 9.30am. This is entirely a Parish run mass and parents are welcome to attend. The year 1 and 2 children will have a small prayer service in their classrooms later that day. Some of the ashes that are used in the Parish Mass will be brought back to school so that the Year 1 and 2 children can receive the ashes as well.

Our Prep children don't attend school on that day and their teachers will organise a small prayer service on Thursday.

### **Confirmation**

Later this week the Year 6 children will take home a pink note with details about their Confirmation on it. This note will need to be completed and signed by a parent and returned to school for the tote box. This note will have details about the workshop, Sacramental nights and other details. Please read it carefully prior to returning it, or keep a copy of it for your records.

Bishop Terry will be visiting our Confirmation Candidates on Wednesday the 13th of March and we look forward to his visit.



### **Adrian's Farewell**

As you know, Adrian will be leaving us in a few weeks. We are going to miss him dearly and we are extremely sad to see him go, however we know that he is excited and looking forward to the new journey ahead of him. There will be an opportunity for parents and children to express their thanks for his commitment to the STC community over the past ten years or so and to say goodbye. We are currently working out some details and will share these as they are finalised.

All the best to you and your families,

**Colleen Mahoney**

**Deputy Principal of Organisation and Faith**



## 2024 Sacramental Dates

Sacrament	Year Level	Time	Date	Family Workshop Nights (online)
Confirmation	6G	5.30pm	Weds 20th March	7pm Thursday 7th of March
	6B	7.30pm	Weds 20th March	
	6M	5.30pm	Thurs 21st March	
	6W	7.30pm	Thurs 21st March	
Penance (Reconciliation)	3G & 3B	6pm	Thurs 20th June	Thursday 6th of June
	3M & 3W	7.30pm	Thurs 20th June	
First Eucharist (First Communion)	4G	5pm Parish Mass	Sat 27th July	Thursday 25th July
	4B	5pm Parish Mass	Sat 3rd Aug	
	4M	5pm Parish Mass	Sat 10th Aug	
	4W	5pm Parish Mass	Sat 17th Aug	

### Deputy Principal (Students, Staff and Community)

## Wellbeing at St Christopher's

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

I hope your time was filled with all that you expected. It has been great to see our students settle back into school life with ease. We hope that everyone's year is one of contentment and growth.

### **New Classes**

In returning to school, our classes' focus is about establishing routines, clear expectations and making new connections with their new class.

There are so many benefits in the opportunity to be in a new class.

These include:

- An opportunity to meet new friends, expand their social network and learn from different people
- Develop important social skills
- Engage with different teaching styles which enhance their learning experience and adaptability
- Be exposed to new perspectives and ideas, encouraging growth and broadening their understanding of the work around them.

It is when children are exposed to these opportunities that they learn, grow and flourish.

### **Establishing a New Year**

We start the year in each of our classes establishing routines and expectations by revising our school rules and co-creating class rules and expectations.

We have started the year with the theme of RESPECT.  
At this stage we are focusing on RESPECT to OTHERS.



**At STC we show respect to everyone.**

**We show respect to each other with  
our words and our actions.**

These are the continual conversations we have with our students about how we show respect to others:

- Be kind and courteous.
- Be polite, avoid interrupting or causing disturbances.
- Listen to others and respect differences in beliefs and opinions.
- Think before you speak, your language and tone.
- Lend a helping hand or ear and practice compassion.

We know that when children hear the same messages between home and school they have more of an impact. We encourage you to continue these conversations at home with your child/ren, redirect them when the behaviour is not as expected, as well as recognise positive behaviours.



## Communication

If you have any concerns regarding your child, the first point of contact is with the class teacher via email.

I look forward to a new year of learning and connections.  
Together we can achieve great things.

Keep smiling.



**Lina Vescio**  
**Deputy Principal of Students, Staff and Community**



### ENGLISH TARGET TEACHING 2024

We are very lucky at STC to have a suite of interventions to help support and extend our students. Our Target Teaching English programs are due to begin in Week 5 this term. This year, we will be offering the following programs:

General Prep Target Teaching

Group Reading, Rereading Easy Text Aloud Daily (GRREAD)-Years 1-2 and Prep in Semester 2

MiniLit Program- Year 1 and Year 2

MacqLit Program- Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5

Writing Support- Years 3-5

Reading Enrichment- Years 3-5

General English Target Teaching- Years 3-6

If your child has been selected to participate in a program such as MiniLit, MacqLit, GRREAD, Writing Groups or Reading Enrichment, you will receive a letter outlining the program in the week prior to the program starting. You will need to sign that you have received notification of the program before your child can participate. General Target Teaching groups are more fluid and form part of our everyday practice. Children will move in and out of these support groups as needed and no formal notification is required for this support. Students are selected for support based on school data and assessments. School data will also direct the choice of support programs offered for that year and are subject to change each year.

Naomi Martret

**English Leader**

## ICT/Digital Technology & OHS Leader



Seesaw is one of the tools that St Christopher's uses to empower students to understand themselves as learners and to actively drive their learning.

More specifically, at St Christopher's, Seesaw is used for:

- Teacher-to-Parent Communication - Eg: Reminders about events, things to bring/wear to school, Weekly homework
- Teachers to share snapshots of learning or of specials with parents - Eg: A photo and caption of a group of students engaged in a task, photos from a special school event, photos of students on an excursion, photos of students displaying positive behaviours
- Students to share snapshots of their learning with their parents/carers - This can look like a digital learning portfolio

Seesaw messages will only be used to broadcast announcements school-wide or to specific year levels.

***Please note, the Seesaw direct message feature is disabled. The teacher's email address is to be used as the direct communication between Parents/Carers and teachers.***

Steph Zammit

**ICT/Digital Technologies & OHS Leader**

## Curriculum Team Leader - Maths

### **MATHS TARGET TEACHING**

At STC, all Maths support and extension programs will begin shortly: Years 3 and 5 will commence the week beginning on Monday 19th February and Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 will commence the week beginning Monday 26th February. Students are selected for the programs following detailed analysis of school based Maths data and assessments at the end of 2023 and at the start of this year. The programs provided in Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2) are as follows:

Foundations in Numeracy (Year 1 - 2)

Maths Target Teaching (Year 2 - 6)

Maths Extension (Year 3 - 6)

Modified Maths (as required)

If your child has been selected, you will receive a letter, which you will need to sign to let us know that you have received notification. The letter will outline the purpose of each program and their structure, such as the number of sessions per week and the names of the teachers who will be working with the children in the program. Please note that these groups are constantly monitored and students may move in and out of these groups as needed, and parents will be informed of any changes.

**Conchita Thomas**

**Curriculum Team Leader: Maths, Inquiry, Assessment and Reporting Data**

## Reminders

### **School Photo day is on Thursday, 22nd February.**

Please remember that students should be in:

- Full Summer Uniform
- Black shoes
- Navy socks
- No jumper/jacket for the photo



Emails have been sent out regarding how to order photos.

If your child is sick please **do not** send them to school. We will have a portrait make-up day later in the year.



## KEY UPCOMING DATES 2024

Thursday 22 February	Photo Day
Friday 8 March	School Closure Day
Monday 11 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Thursday 14 March	Parent/Teacher Interviews - 12PM Finish
Thursday 28 March	End of Term 1 - 12PM Finish
Monday 15 April	School Closure Day
Tuesday 16 April	Start of Term 2

### Student Dates to Remember ~ 2024 ~

Term	Event	Date
<b>TERM 1</b>	School Closure Day	Friday 8 March
	Labour Day Public Holiday	Monday 11 March
	12pm Finish Parent/Teacher Interviews	Thursday 14 March
	12pm Finish End of Term 1	Thursday 28 March
<b>TERM 2</b>	School Closure Day	Monday 15 April
	Start of Term 2	Tuesday 16 April
	Anzac Day	Thursday 25 April
	School Closure Day	Friday 26 April
	12pm Finish End of Term 2	Friday 28 June
<b>TERM 3</b>	School Closure Day	Monday 15 July
	Start of Term 3	Tuesday 16 July
	12pm Finish Parent/Teacher Interviews	Thursday 12 September
	School Closure Day	Friday 13 September
	12pm Finish End of Term 3	Friday 20 September
<b>TERM 4</b>	Start of Term 4	Monday 7 October
	School Closure Day	Monday 4 November
	Cup Day Holiday	Tuesday 5 November
	12pm Finish End of Term 4	Tuesday 17 December

**\*Good Friday (29 March), Easter Sunday (31 March), Easter Monday (1 April) 2024**

## Prep Enrolments 2025

# OPEN

2025 Prep Enrolments are **OPEN**

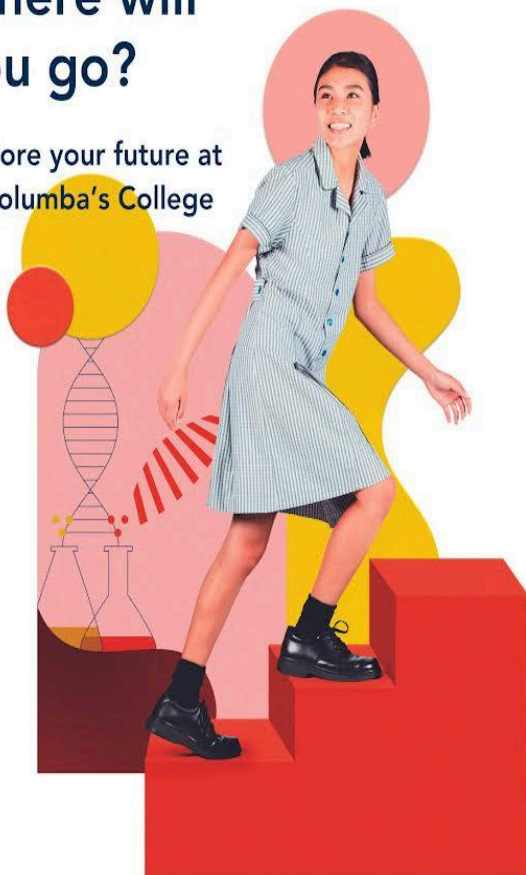
Visit our website: [www.stcapw.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stcapw.catholic.edu.au)  
to complete an online enrolment form

2025 Enrolments **CLOSE** on **21st March 2024**

## Community Information

### Where will you go?

Explore your future at St Columba's College



Book your tour today  
[columba.vic.edu.au](http://columba.vic.edu.au)



**HALL'S TAEKWONDO**  
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### OPEN NIGHTS 'NEW MEMBER OFFER'

MONDAY 05 FEB - SATURDAY 10 FEB

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT TAEKWONDO?**

Introducing friends & family to Hall's Taekwondo. Choose as one of OPEN NIGHTS & SATURDAY.

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**NEW MEMBER OFFER: ONE FREE UNIFORM MORE THAN \$99 VALUE - ALL WELCOME!**

**VISITING TIMES:**  
MONDAY 05 FEB - THURSDAY 08 FEB: 4pm - 7pm  
and SATURDAY 10 FEB: 9am - Noon

**PROGRAMS TO SUIT EVERYONE**

- Benefit from more than 40 years of consistent HALL'S TAEKWONDO success.
- Student performance is based on a strong link between physical, intellectual, emotional and social skills. The diversity of the four skill areas is reflected in our age specific Taekwondo programs developing students to reach their full potential.
- Highly qualified instructors work together as a single team to ensure our focus are always the best sport in support of individual and overall growth. Taekwondo is learning, pattern and discipline. But more than that, at Hall's Taekwondo you're not just doing Taekwondo. Our content includes a range of separate modules and applications including learning, mentoring, and good and evil debates.

**CLASS HIGHLIGHTS:**

- See Taekwondo routines in action
- Check out line art class
- Park optional
- Instructors: A, Facility: B & C's

**CONTACT US!**  
[www.hallstaekwondo.com.au](http://www.hallstaekwondo.com.au)

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- 2** Select 'Where to play'
- 3** Enter your suburb
- 4 REGISTER**  
Find your local club and register!

[play.afl/auskick](http://play.afl/auskick)



# INTERESTED IN PLAYING NETBALL IN 2024?

JOIN AIRPORT SAINTS NETBALL CLUB

Email [airportsaints@gmail.com](mailto:airportsaints@gmail.com)  
or call 0417030037  
or visit Airport Saints webpage for more information



## JOIN THE FUN!

**Airport West Auskick Centre**

**Etzel Street Reserve, Airport West**

**Friday's 5:00pm-6:00pm**

Contact Information:  
**Jason Mason - [JMason@taf.com.au](mailto:JMason@taf.com.au)**



Scan the QR Code to register!







# COOL CODERS CLUB



Saturday Morning Online Coding Classes, 9am - 10 am

with Elizabeth Moran



Introducing an exciting online coding course designed specifically for young students!

Unlock the world of technology and creativity for your child with this engaging and interactive coding program.

With 23 years of experience as an educator, I have developed a unique online program based on a specific curriculum tailored to suit the needs and interests of children today. In this digital age, coding is a fundamental skill that challenges children to think critically and logically, helping them develop problem-solving skills to assist in all areas of life.

Using the 'Scratch' coding platform, students can unleash their creativity by designing games, animations, creating and recording music tracks and much more. My program has a particular focus on The Arts while incorporating elements of basic robotics later in the term.

If you would like to register your interest please click on the red link below to receive a more detailed overview of the 'Cool Coders' program.

Places will be very limited with online classes beginning in late February this year.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Moran



[Cool Coders hyperlink to Google Form](#)

**Dance Classes in Airport West!**

*Free trial class!*

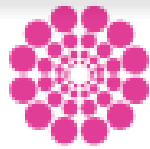
- \* Tap
- \* Jazz
- \* Ballet
- \* Urban
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Our senior performers have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Hugh Jackman, Amy Shark and Kylie Minogue. You may have seen our girls perform for the FIFA Women's World Cup or AFL Grand Final; or on television appearances on Sunrise, Today, Carols by Candlelight and Carols in the Domain.

Now accepting 2024 enrolments for our rehearsal venues in Berwick, Box Hill, Caulfield North, Essendon, Glen Waverley, Greensborough, Heidelberg, Ivanhoe, Kew, Mentone, Ringwood and Yarraville.



## JOIN US AT OUR **FEBRUARY** OPEN DAY

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AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

