



From the Heart



Newsletter No. 01

31st January, 2024

COMING UP AT OLSH...

FEBRUARY 2024

Tue 13th Elmore Field Days AGM
Pancake Making and Burning of the Palms

Wed 14th Ash Wednesday Liturgy (3pm)
(beginning of Lent)

Thu 22nd Beginning of year Mass (6pm)

Mon 26th School Cluster Swimming Carnival

MARCH 2024

Wed 6th Yr 5/6 Puberty Night (7pm—8pm)

Friday 8th **Spirituality Day—Pupil Free Day**

Mon 11th **Labour Day Public Holiday**

Tue 12th School Photos

Wed 13th NAPLAN Testing begins (year 3 & 5's)

Wed 20th Lenten Mass (2:30pm, - 3:30pm)

Fri 22nd Ride to School Day
Open Classroom Day (2:30pm—3:30pm)

Thu 28th **Last Day of Term**

Fri 29th Good Friday

Sun 31st Easter Sunday

APRIL 2024

Mon 1st Easter Monday

Mon 15th **Term 2 Begins**

Thu 25th **ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

From the Principal...

February 7th,

Dear Families,

Thanks so much to everyone for your commitment to our Learning Conversations yesterday. It was wonderful to have nearly all our parents accounted for and to be able to begin the year with such a positive experience between our teachers and parents. In talking with the teachers afterwards, they really value these conversations and believe that they help provide them with very important information that will support the students throughout the year.

Now that we have completed these conversations, I would like to think that it allows us to communicate openly and freely for the remainder of the year and sets the tone for great year together.

Parent Survey Results

You might remember that towards the end of last year parents were invited to complete a 'School Satisfaction Survey', which was distributed by a group called ORIMA. We now have the results of those surveys, which were completed by 11 of our families and which were also completed by our senior students and school staff. I must admit that I was delighted with the results of the surveys, with all groups seeing school as a positive place for our children and where the school is seen as doing its job well.

I will include the parent graph as part of this newsletter so that you can see the results of your response on the

various aspects of school life.

One of the things that we have noted as a school staff, is that there are opportunities to grow a sense of school engagement for parents. For this reason we are attempting to get more parents along to our school assemblies on a Friday afternoon, beginning at 3.10pm and additionally, we are going to hold 'open classroom sessions' in the second last week of each term, which will allow parents to come through and have a look at what work has been taking place over the course of the term. More information on this a little closer to the date.

School Advisory Council

Just some further follow up in regards to our Advisory Council notice last week. We are looking for two people to come and join us to be part of this parent committee. If this is something that you would at least like to have a chat about, I would welcome this opportunity. I am very open to the option of having a couple sharing one of the roles, if that provided more flexibility from a family perspective.

These meetings are held once every school term on a Tuesday evening at 7.00pm and meetings last for between 1-2 hours maximum.

Back Paddock

Currently our school mower is being repaired which means we can't mow the back paddock behind the school. Is there anyone out there who might be able to run a slasher over it? With all the holiday rain that we have had it is much longer and lush than would normally be the case at this time of year, so it would be great appreciated if someone could help us out whilst our mower gets back in action.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

W: olshelmore.catholic.edu.au PH: 5432 6254 E: principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au

Important Events Next Week

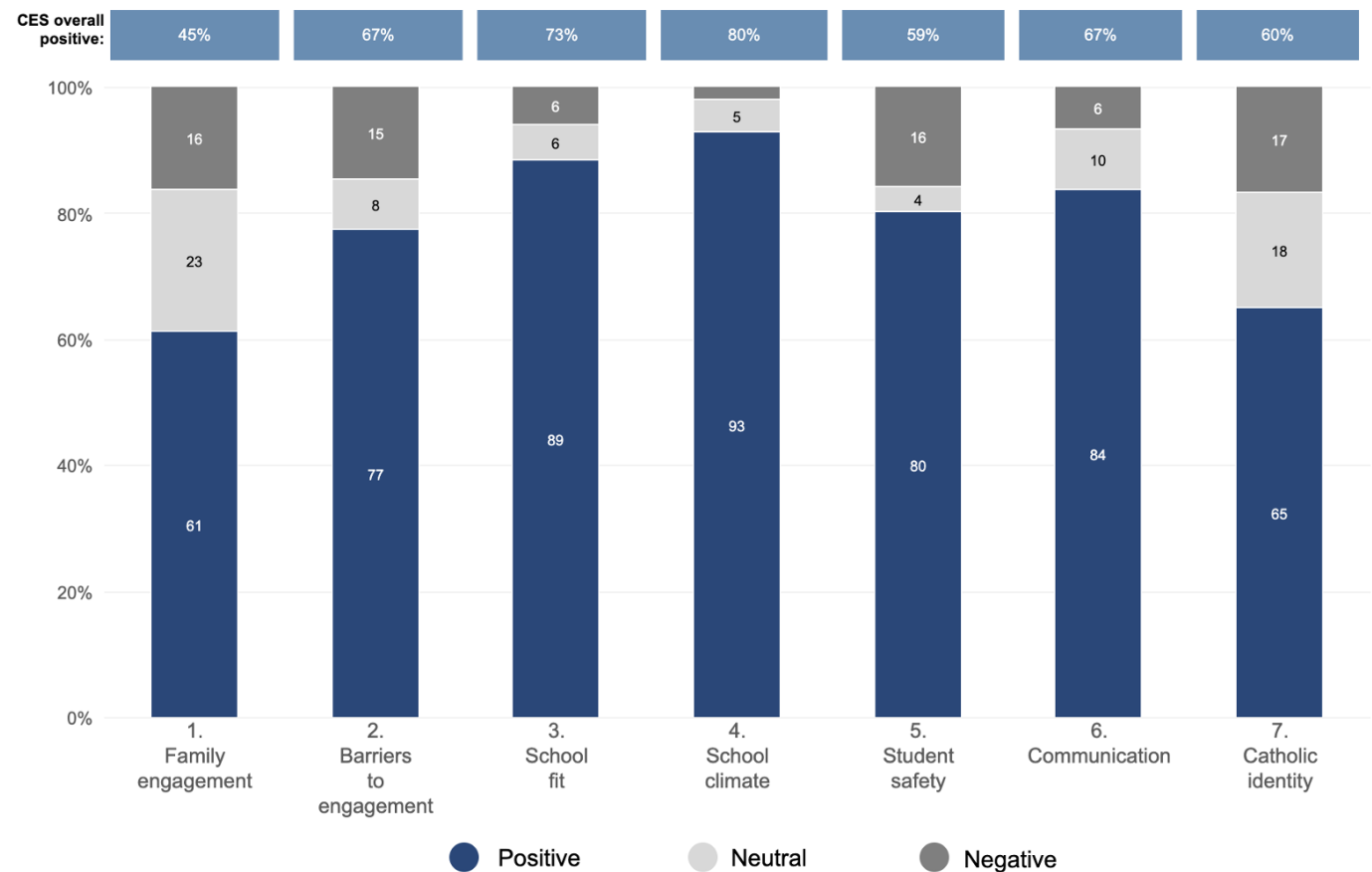
Next week we have a couple of important events on the calendar, which you can read more about inside this newsletter, these being:

- Tuesday - **Shrove Tuesday**, pancake making in the morning followed by the burning of the palms
 -
 - Wednesday - beginning of Lent, **Ash Wednesday** Liturgy 3.00pm
 -
- Parents are warmly invited to come along to these events.
- Craig.

Parent Survey Responses

2023 Family Responses Overview by Domain

2nd Level Comparison



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms can be ordered at any time:

- Phone Hip Pocket on 5480 1027 or
- Visiting Hip Pocket at 173 Pakenham St, Echuca.

We are grateful to them for working with us to provide school uniforms.



School News



Pictured, are Lachlan Down from Elmore Primary and Josh Skeers, who were the flag raisers at recent Australia Day celebrations in Elmore. Many thanks to Josh for taking on this responsibility on behalf of our school.



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



WEEK 8: Congratulations to Jack, Trey, Chevi, Charlie, Zara and Josh for being named our Learners of the Week!

Coming up at OLSH

Shrove Tuesday Breakfast

8:30am breakfast

Followed by Year 6 Pancake Competition and burning of the palms



February 13th



Please let us know if you can help by getting in touch with Lauren Holmberg or Amanda Phillips

Ash
WEDNESDAY
LITURGY
14TH FEB
3PM



Ash Wednesday is a celebration of Christian communities. It also reflects concerns of the wider world. In Australia it recalls the 1983 Ash Wednesday bush fires and reminds us of the consequences of global warming. In other nations it is associated with the destruction and grief of war. Our view of Ash Wednesday is shaped in part by the large events of our world



Join Us

Beginning of the Year Mass

6 pm

Thursday 22nd February



ASSEMBLY

CELEBRATING LEARNING

SINGING

PRAYER



FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

3:10PM

In the Junior Room



Fr Junjun from Yarrawonga Fr Jinjo, Hospital Ministries in Bendigo
Fr Junray Fr Nathan, Wangarrata Bishop Shane Fr DJ, Cathedral Fr
Rene, St Mel's Shep Fr Novie, Echuca

This year's theme for Sandhurst schools is-



As we continue to be people full of grace, we are given the hope of transformation and renewal through God's promise of making all things new.

It stands as a testament that, despite our brokenness, God's love can restore and revitalise us. This same promise of transformation can be found in the sacraments, particularly in the sacrament of reconciliation, where our relationship with God undergoes profound renewal.

And while we celebrate all things new, in 2024 we will also give prominence and pay tribute to our considerable heritage in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Sandhurst Diocese. In Catholic education, we stand on the shoulders of giants and in the days, weeks and months to come we will honour their names and share gratitude for their legacy.

150 year celebrations – Sandhurst Diocese:



Celebrations will take place throughout the year to mark this significant milestone, including an exhibition of historical items to be displayed around the diocese in three regional centres.

The main two events will take place in Bendigo on **Palm Sunday, 24 March** and at the **Mass of the Oils, 11am Tuesday 26 March**.

On Palm Sunday, a pilgrimage will take place from St Kilian's Church following 8.30am Mass to Sacred Heart Cathedral. It would be wonderful to see as many staff and students from our schools take part in this historic event.

Recreational Fishing in Victoria

The Victorian Government is proactive in encouraging all Victorians to fish, specifically focusing on the involvement of women, children, and people from diverse backgrounds. We educate fishers and the community about responsible fishing practices and promote stewardship of our precious aquatic and animal resources via our Marine and Freshwater Discovery Centre, Education and Engagement Unit and funding of Fishcare Victoria Inc.

Recreational fishing offers terrific opportunities for people of all ages, skills, abilities, and backgrounds to enjoy a fun and healthy activity and build social connections. Our aboriginal heritage is also deeply linked to fishing, with thousands of years of indigenous fishing history in Victoria.

The VFA run a range of free community fishing festivals across the State, stock 10 million fish into Victoria's waterways each year, including a range of threatened species, install fishing and boating infrastructure to improve access, install recreational fishing reefs and improve habitat and undertake important research into Victoria's many different species of seafood.

For more information about the VFA, recreational fishing opportunities in Victoria and/or a potential future career in natural resource management for your students, please visit www.vfa.vic.gov.au.

Little Anglers Hub

The VFA has created the kid-friendly Little Anglers Hub website (www.vfa.vic.gov.au/littleanglerkit), written specifically for children with useful information, instructional videos about how to safely set up and use the kits, being safe around the water, as well as advice on where to go fishing in Victoria.

There is an electronic copy of the Kids Guide to fishing that was included in the kits available on this site, both in English and five other languages.

Key Safety Messages

Going fishing is awesome and so much fun! When it comes to fishing, it's important to stay safe, especially around water!

Students can keep their fishing safe by:

- going with a friend;
- being careful with hooks and lures;
- looking behind before casting;
- handling fish carefully;
- being conscious of the dangers associated with water;
- protecting yourself against the elements (sunscreen, drinking water);
- letting someone know before you go; and
- washing your hands after handling lead sinkers, especially before eating or drinking.

The link below is to a short safety video that is posted on the Little Anglers hub website, reinforcing the above safety messages to students.

<https://youtu.be/drPLpKC3w>

Please note that fishing equipment is not for human consumption. If swallowed, hooks can cause serious harm and lead sinkers can be toxic. Young children and those with some disabilities including pica disorder are especially vulnerable and should be supervised whilst fishing. If a child does swallow a hook or lead sinker, seek medical assistance immediately—don't wait for it to pass.

If you would like any additional information about this exciting commitment, please visit the Victorian Fishing Authority's Little Angler Kits [FAQs for parents](#) located on the VFA's website (www.vfa.vic.gov.au).

Community News



JOIN THE FUN!

Register to the 2024 Auskick Season for the opportunity to be involved in a clinic with North Melbourne or Carlton as part of the AFL Community Camps in Bendigo! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!

Find your closest centre & register!



Note: clinics occurring mid Feb



Club Open Day

All welcome - New & past members

Saturday February 10th

1pm-3pm

Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve

- Come & try soccer - there'll be games & activities for everyone
- Get information about the 2024 season
- Register to play this year (must be 4yrs+)
- Order club merchandise

2nd Hand Uniform Drive

If you have any 2nd hand Epsom FC uniforms - boots, socks, shorts, shinpads - we are looking for donations. Drop them off & we'll find a new home for them!

BBQ provided by Rotary Club of Eaglehawk

If you can't make it, but want further information email secretary@epsomfc.com.au or check us out at facebook.com/EpsomSoccer



RUNNYMEDE JFC REGISTRATION NIGHT

Wednesday 21st February
Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve

5.00pm

U10's & U12's

Light training & BBQ

New & old players/families encouraged to come along

Contact Craig 0428694648 or Tymika 0434100521 if you are keen to play but can't make it on the night

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend "Live Your Best Married Life in Love"

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can cause you to lose touch with your spouse.

This experience gives married couples the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living.

The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details.

12-14 April 2024 in Melbourne

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James**
0409 183 676 or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: wwwme.org.au



61ST ANNUAL

ELMORE FIELD DAYS

OCT 1, 2 & 3 2024

@ELMORE
 FIELDDDAYS

ElmoreEventsCentre

Elmore Equestrian Park



Community News

The Elmore Events Centre is hosting the 2024 Elmore Tractor Pull on Saturday 16th March. We are holding a colouring competition for the chance to win free family passes to the event. We would be grateful if you could distribute the attached form or include it in a weekly newsletter, so your students have the chance to participate!

Entries close Friday 8th of March and winners will be announced on Tuesday 12th March.

For any interested students/families, tickets can also be purchased via https://www.123tix.com.au/events/40537/elmore-tractor-pull?fbclid=IwAR3MXf4eSv_ZxIBCdmMW3GPysBNibuk18tagzzQJFY0h2oNYqoi8BBK80wo

ELMORE TRACTOR PULL

16TH MARCH

2024





PRIZES FOR WINNERS: FAMILY PASSES AND CHILDREN'S PASSES!
ENTRIES CLOSE 8TH MARCH 2024.

Name: _____ Age: _____
School: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please post to:
Elmore Events Centre
PO Box 27, Elmore VIC 3558
Or scan to:
info@elmorefielddays.com.au