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St. Peter's Newsletter Term 1 Week 2 2024

NEWS FROM MICHAEL HANNEY



WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

(Please click on this link)

<https://www.loom.com/share/e221eef40a464933a7f763afb6644911?sid=c30b92bb-7b2c-4d54-a416-90ff66555f0e>

The beginning of a school year brings the excitement of families new to St Peter's joining our community. On behalf of our community I welcome the following families with children starting in Years One to Year Six.

Abdelahad, Fernandez, Giraga Hewage, Hatzoglou, Kinch, Kochergina, Maling, Marcos, Mesaritis, Pehlivanas, Toey, Venkatesh.

I also welcome families who have their first child starting in Foundation at St Peter's.

Achari, Arena, Bowditch, Briggs, Britto, Cachart, Ellett, Filice, Fitzsimons, Goldberg, Huang, Kinch, Lien, Mesaritis, Mouzos, Mudrinic, Murphy, Nguyen, Patnaik, Patzel, Perera, Pow Iturrieta, Prendergast, Rizzo, Roach, Robinson, Rogers, Sali, Sandhu Sanabria, Sese, Smith, Stanbrook, Stevenson, Suleyman, Tinnirello, Torres, Tudor, Vandenberg, Watkins, Young.

STAFF UPDATE

Victoria Xiong - Victoria one of our Learning Support staff has requested and been granted Leave without Pay for the 2024 school year. We look forward to her return in 2025.

Chloe Power - We welcome Chloe Power who has joined us as a Sports Trainee. She will be working with Ben Cavarra supporting our PE lessons and Sports Program.

Zoe Power - (Not related to Chloe) Zoe is a graduate from St Peter's and is returning as a Business /Administration Trainee supporting Loretta and Trish in finance and the front office.

Jessica Mair - We welcome Jessica to the Learning Support team. Jessica is currently studying for a Bachelor of Education and will be working in Year Four Monday to Wednesday.

Gabby Collingwood - Gabby is also joining our Learning Support team having worked in a number of roles supporting children in their learning and development. Gabby will commence work on Monday, 19th February. Gabby will be working in Year Two Monday to Thursday.

MEET THE TEACHER

Classrooms will be open from 3:30pm to 6:00pm this Thursday, 8th February. Students are invited to show their parents their classroom and introduce their teacher. They are also able to show their parents around the school. This is a relaxed opportunity for the relationship between home and school to be enhanced. It is not a parent teacher interview as it is too early to discuss anything other than how students have settled in.

2024 SCHOOL THEME - *"Aspire not to have more but to be more"* Oscar Romero

Our 2023 theme will continue for 2024 *"Aspire not to have more but to be more"* this quote was made by Oscar Romero.

St. Oscar Romero (1917-1980) was a Salvadoran Roman Catholic Archbishop who was a vocal critic of the violent activities of government armed forces, right-wing groups, and leftist guerrillas involved in El Salvador's civil conflict. As a voice of the voiceless, he was an outspoken champion of the poor who were the ones most affected by the civil unrest and violence. His advocacy provoked several attempts on his life and on March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass.

This theme was the focus of much of our school approach to social justice and I look forward to sharing some of our 2024 projects with you in future newsletters.

CENTRE RD PROPERTY UPDATE

After a period of delay in being able to access one of the three properties on Centre Road, I am very pleased to advise that as of last Monday we have full access to all three properties. The asbestos audit of the third property is taking place today and we will then be able to progress the plans we have. While we have been in delay we have been able to progress a number of other steps and I look forward to being able to provide you with a more detailed update in the next newsletter on the 19th of February.

PHOTOS SWAP OF DATES

I have needed to adjust the school photo dates.

Friday, 1st March will now be Sibling Photos and Monday, 4th March will now be the Class School Photos and Individual Photos for the students. As Monday is a sports day for Year One and Foundation they will wear their normal summer uniform on this day. Reminders will be sent closer to the day. My apologies for any inconvenience.

Information on how to order the photos will be emailed closer to the date.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

School fee statements have been sent out today. If you have any queries regarding your statement please contact Loretta Ballas our Finance Officer on 9575 0909 or via email lballas@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au If you wish to discuss any challenges you may have paying your fee account please contact me via email principal@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS THIS FRIDAY, 9th FEBRUARY

Our beginning of year Mass will be celebrated this Friday, 9th February at 10:00am. All families are invited to join us for this celebration.

SHROVE TUESDAY - Tuesday, 13th February

Historically Christians abstain from all meat and items that came from animals, including butter, eggs, cheese, and fat during Lent which begins the next day on Ash Wednesday. In preparation for this period pancakes were often cooked to use up any eggs and butter before Lent. A number of classes will be making pancakes next Tuesday. If your child's class is involved you will receive a separate communication. Not every class or year level will make pancakes.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS - Wednesday, 14th February

Our Year Three to Year Six students will be attending Mass next Wednesday, 14th February for Ash Wednesday. Mass will begin at 10:00am and families are invited to join us. Students in Year One and Year 2 will be receiving the ashes during an age appropriate prayerful liturgy at different times during the day depending on specialist lessons.

LUNAR NEW YEAR

Happy Lunar New Year to our Chinese, and Vietnamese families. I hope your celebrations will be joyful and there will be many opportunities for families to gather together to celebrate. People born in the year of the Dragon are powerful, endlessly energetic and full of vitality, goal-oriented yet idealistic and romantic, and a visionary leader.

SCHOOL THERAPY DOG - TITO!

In 2024, St Peter's will continue to have a trained Therapy Dog on site with one day a week visits. The dog's name is Tito and he has undergone extensive training through 'K9 Support' to complete his certificate in Animal Assisted Therapy. Tito is a Labrador / Golden Retriever who is three years old, and has had experience working with primary school aged children from the age of 16 weeks.

His visits to the school community are designed to reduce stress, manage anxiety and build positive relationships. In different classroom settings, this will be presented differently.

We understand for some families and students this is a very exciting opportunity, however others may have concerns. We recognise that some students may have allergies or a fear of dogs. If this is something that applies to your child, please email your child's teacher so we can ensure that all children are comfortable.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Hair - Fashions come and go and there are very few restrictions on hair styles at St Peter's. There is one constant that applies to all students at St Peter's and that is if hair is beyond collar length then it needs to be tied up, Mullets included. This is not the fashion police, it assists in preventing the potential spread of head lice.

School Shoes - Our uniform guidelines that the shoes worn with the normal uniform must be a black school shoe. This allows for any black shoe to be worn BUT it must be all black, black runners with white emblems etc are not acceptable. Please make sure your child is in the correct shoes for school. When wearing black shoes with the grey shorts uniform the socks MUST be grey not white. When wearing the summer dress the socks are white.

Sports Uniform - Every level has advised it's families which days children need to wear sports uniform. Starting this week I will be catching up with students, particularly in Year 5 and 6 who are wearing sports uniform on non-sports days. Consistency on the little things helps us ensure that the high standards we aspire to for everything at St Peter's are achievable.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

This is a special way to start the day as it relaxes the children and prepares us all for learning. Please respect this sacred time. Families, including babies and toddlers, are welcome to stay for meditation. However, it is important that it remains a quiet time

so that the students are not distracted, it is their time. If you have a smaller child who is struggling to sit quietly with you, we ask that you please leave meditation time and try again another day. If your child is late, please encourage them to leave their bag near their locker and quietly join the circle. Families staying for meditation for Foundation will commence once they are full time which is the week beginning the 4th of March.

PLAYGROUND BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

When students arrive at school they are to go to their lines and are not allowed to play on any of the adventure playgrounds. After school I ask that families limit play under parent supervision to a couple of minutes as gates need to be locked and staff on duty have to head to different after school meetings. On Friday afternoons we extend this time to 10 minutes. On any occasion that students are in any play areas after school they must be under parent supervision. Some children have been playing while their parents/carers are waiting in their cars and this is not allowed. Teachers on duty at these times are monitoring gates, not play spaces.

PARKING

Front Car Park

- A huge thank you to families who have waited until the gates open in the afternoon to be able to enter the front car park. One week in and there have been no cars queuing in Centre Rd and I have even seen cars indicate to drive in, see the gates closed and drive around the block. It makes a huge difference to safety and our school's reputation within the community.
- When parking in the front car park please make sure that the gap between cars is reasonable and not too large.
- If arriving later in the day to pick up students from OSHC please be aware of students using the car park for basketball training and other members of our local community.

Florence Street Parking

- When parking in Florence Street morning or afternoon it is very important that time restrictions are observed. The limit is two minutes. It is **not** a parking area that allows for parents to park and enter the school grounds. Council no longer issue paper tickets when booking cars. They record car registrations and issue parking tickets using that information.

USE OF BASKETBALL COURTS AFTER SCHOOL

If using the Basketball Courts in our front car park after school please make sure you and children you are responsible for are aware that cars are using this car park for a number of reasons and everyone needs to be aware of cars to ensure safety for all.

UPCOMING PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING

Our first Parents and Friends meeting for 2024 will take place next Monday, 12th February. This meeting is our Annual General Meeting and will take place at 7:00pm in the staff room

with entry through the front office via the Centre Road car park. All families are welcome.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Dogs are an important part of life for many St Peter's families, and as such, are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school.

While the school appreciates this inclusion and values pet ownership as an educational experience, it also acknowledges other families (and individuals) can find contact with dogs stressful, even frightening.

For this reason we have a Dog Management Policy which applies particularly at pick up and drop off times.

If you have a dog that you walk at drop off and pick up time please read carefully. Thank you for your co-operation.

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3068/dog_policy.doc.pdf

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

As part of this newsletter I have organised two community sections. One is to advertise for local community organisations ie sporting clubs etc with information that may be of interest to our families.

The second is a section where St Peter's families can advertise their businesses. If you are seeking a particular service there may be a St Peter's family who you could use. If you wish to add your business to this section of the newsletter please send details to Trish Ticca in our office tticca@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3055/dad_s_night_march_2024.pdf



SACRAMENTS 2024 - YEAR 3 / YEAR 4 / YEAR 6

2024 Sacramental Program Dates

Here are the important dates for ALL sacraments this year.

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3038/2024_re_dates.pdf

Further information regarding bookings for the Masses will be sent out closer to the date of the sacrament.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Gibson or Chris Joplin.

Many thanks,

Michelle Gibson

RE Co-ordinator

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ST. PETER'S INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

St Peter's has two Instagram accounts - one is private and includes photos of school activities, camps, excursions and other pieces of information. Only current school families can access this account. The other is a public account, which features more general information about the school.

Every year we remove ALL followers from the private account, as a child safety measure, due to many families leaving the school.

If you would like to be added to the private St Peter's Instagram account please complete this Google form . (You will need to do this, even if you are currently a follower.)

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SEND A REQUEST TO THE SCHOOL INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT @STPETERSPS so you can be Accepted.

Please contact community@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions.

CLASS REPS FOR 2024

A huge thank you goes to all our wonderful parents who have volunteered to be a Class Rep for 2024. These people are your first point of call if you need to ask questions or be reminded about anything relevant to your class (which uniform to wear, what day is library etc.) The class rep will also pass

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 2

Wednesday, 7th February – No School for Foundation Students

Thursday, 8th February – Meet the Teacher – 3.30pm – 6.00pm

Friday, 9th February – Beginning of Year Mass – 10.00am – All Families Welcome

WEEK 3

Monday, 12th February – P & F AGM – 7.00pm

Tuesday, 13th February – SHROVE TUESDAY / Fr. Elio Family Faith Formation Evening – 6.30pm – Year 3 / Year 4 / Year 6 Families Only

Wednesday, 14th February – ASH WEDNESDAY / No School For Foundation Students

Thursday, 15th February - Fr. Elio Family Faith Formation Evening – 6.30pm – Year 3 / Year 4 / Year 6 Families Only

Friday, 16th February – Walk Ride To School

WEEK 4

Monday, 19th February – NEWSLETTER

on information from the Parents and Friends and may organise class catch ups and social events.

By now, most Class Reps have set up a What's App Group for class communication and sent out a class contact list. If you DID NOT get a chance to complete the [Google Form](#) to go onto the Class Contact List, please complete it ASAP, and your details will be forwarded to your Class Rep.

Just a reminder with the class contact list, that it is important to maintain the privacy of your fellow class members. The list cannot be shared with anyone outside of your class.

Please see below the 2024 Class Reps.

FHK Hyein Kang	Claire Achilleos Vicki Giggins Brooke Groenewald
FMB Imogen McKillop & Monica Bramich	Katie Kissane Kim Patzel
FMM Meg Mulally	Jennifer Bowditch Karmel Papworth
FEL Emma Longmuir	Ciara McLean Bianca Taylor
1BG Ange Bligh & Helen Groves	Stephanie Greco Megan Holt
1MS Maddy Salt	Martha Pavlou
1RE Jess Reaper & Clare Ebdon	Chelsea Trathen Michelle & John Mavriopoulos
1MH Mia Hunt	Rhiannon Nyskohus Lyha Truong Jacinta Van Eeden
2PG Marian Peake & Helen Groves	Tammie Siegert
2RN Rebecca Nielsen	Petra Siskos
2AM Abby Moore	Annette Crosse Rebecca Clarke
2SS Sam Stasiak	Katherine Macken
3MS Tricia Melanaphy & Dianna Seoud	Izabela Trantalis Nicole Pollio
3ES Eliza McNamara	Katherine Macken Martha Pavlou

	Lyha Truong (assisting)
3GJ Genevieve Jones	Gemma Baker Janine Mercuri
3AM Alyssa Marrone	Rebecca Clarke Paula de Blasis
4MH Mimi Hunter	Amanda Phillips Fiona Norsworthy
4MM Mandi Mackey	Jess Gesterkamp Lucy Delahey Loretta Conheady
4OG Liz Opie & Josie Gleeson	Nicola English
4MK Michelle Knight	Melinda McMerrin
5MH Marie Heneghan	Foula Voukelatos Sharon Devon
5HG Peter Hurst and Josie Gleeson	Jacinta Van Eeden
5AC Andrea Crough	Joanne Smith Katie Tiberi
5PC Anna Pullan & Pip Cahill	Di Rayner
6SH Sean Hanrahan	Jade Recupero Georgina Neeson
6LM Laura Mason	Mel Stephen Michelle Mather Izabel Trantalis
6LD Laura Doran	Maree Deeth
6BG Renee Burchell & Carmel Godino	Tash Abbondanza Corrie Camfield

PROJECT COMPASSION

At Assembly on Friday, our Year 6 leaders will be launching our annual Project Compassion Appeal. Each year our St Peter's Community supports the wonderful work of Caritas by generously donating to this appeal. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to assist communities around the world through income generation, water and sanitation, food security, education and disaster risk reduction programs.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow for all future generations.



Meet Ronita from the Philippines. Ronita lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children.

Meet Leaia from Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

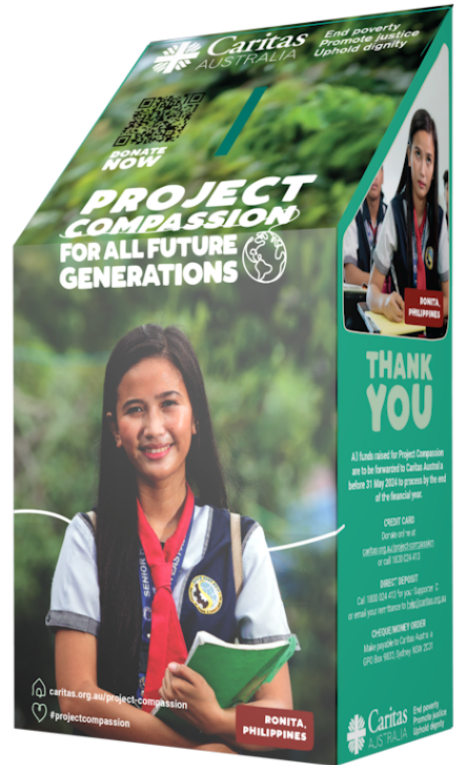
Meet Memory from Malawi. Memory, the eldest daughter from a rural Malawian family, trained to become a carpenter and is now a trailblazer for future generations of women in her village.

Throughout Project Compassion, you will get to know the stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory. Journey with them as they forge a path to a brighter future for all generations.

Watch a short film: [Introduction to Project Compassion](#)

Please donate to Project Compassion.

The eldest student in each family will be bringing home a donation box this week. Alternatively, you can donate using our unique school QR Code:



Michelle Gibson
Community Engagement Leader

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

ST. PETER'S JUBILEE TREES

In 2022, St Peter's Primary School applied to participate in the community-based tree planting events to be held across Australia to mark the Jubilee (70 years of service) of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. With the support of our local MP the Hon. Claire O'Neil, we were successful in our application to plant more trees in our playground.

On Friday, Ms O'Neil with the help of some children from Year Two, Five and Six officially declared that in planting our beautiful new trees along the Florence Street fenceline, St Peter's was part of creating a legacy of tree plantings across Australia in celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee and her commitment to sustainability.



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

P & F NEWS



WELCOME BACK 2024 !

Hope all our St Peter's families had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break.

Our first P&F meeting for 2024 will be on Monday, 12th February at 7.00pm onsite at school.

We look forward to seeing all our existing P&F members and welcoming our new parents to the team.







Term 1 Events:

-   **Foundation Play and Disco Night** - Friday, 23rd February - A great night for all Foundation students to play, have fun while parents get to know each other. Siblings are invited to join in the fun as well. Information will be sent out to all Foundation classes.
-   **Family Fun Night** - Friday, 15th March - Our annual night of family fun held on the school grounds. Get your face painted, enjoy the rides, eat some yummy food, bring a rug and catch up with school families in a relaxed atmosphere (no alcohol). We are always looking for

volunteers to help with the sausage sizzle, face painting, hair braiding, canteen and rides. If you would like to help out please email us

- pnf1@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au

-   **Easter Egg Raffle** - Tickets will be sent out in March. Raffle drawn Monday, 25th March
-   **Sausage Sizzle/Casual Dress Day** - Monday, 25th March - Orders will be open closer to the date

Follow St Peter's P&F for news and updates on:

Instagram - [stpeterspanf](#)

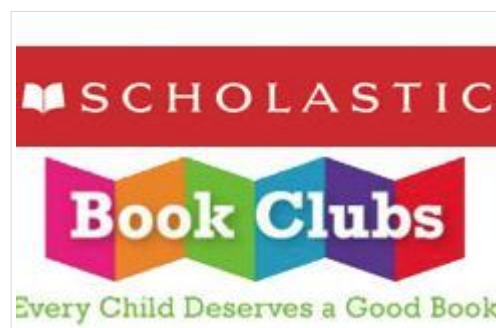
Facebook - [St Peter's Primary School Bentleigh East - Parents & Friends](#)

P&F email: pnf1@spbentleigheast.catholic.edu.au



The P & F Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open this **Wednesday, 7th February - 8.30am - 8.50am**

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB



The first Scholastic Bookclub Brochures for 2024 were distributed to students on Friday. **Please order either in cash through the School Office or online by No Later than Wednesday, 14th February. Please note that No Late Orders can be accepted.**

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3060/fedpas_2024_advert.pdf

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3059/come_shopping_with_me_flyers_.pdf

AUSKICK AT ST. PETER'S

NAB AFL Auskick is coming to St Peter's Primary School!

AFL Victoria will be running a 5-week Auskick program at the school!

Auskick (Ages 4-8): An intro to Australian Football and invaluable life skills. With game-based activities kids love, learning is disguised as playing. You don't need Aussie Rules experience — children can start Auskick in the calendar year they turn 5!

The total price for this program is \$50. You will receive a size 1 football and pump as part of your Auskick registration.

REGISTER HERE - <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/806827> or scan QR Code in the flyer!

St Peter's Primary School Auskick Centre will run from Wednesday, 21st of February from 3:45pm – 4:45pm on the school oval. For more information, please contact Aslyn at aslyn.witney@afl.com.au or Sam sam.howell@afl.com.au



COMMUNITY NEWS

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: wwme.org.au

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3066/kelly_sports_term_1_2024_st_peter_s.pdf



RITCHIES IGA + LIQUOR



NOMINATE US TODAY

AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

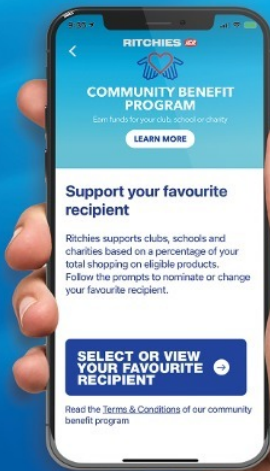
and help us generate extra funds.

- 1 Download or update the Ritchies Card App



- 2 Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity

- 3 Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3047/ritchies_community_benefit_organisation_a4_v2.jpg

SAVER PLUS PROGRAM

Saver Plus is a program for people on lower incomes. It's about bolstering their financial skills, so they can develop (and keep) good savings habits.

Since 2003, Saver Plus has supported more than 58,000 people to start saving. It's helped overcome the barriers around education expenses. And it's set them up for a brighter future.

85% of our past participants said they're better prepared to manage environmental changes (such as cost of living pressures or unexpected bills) since completing Saver Plus.

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and Brotherhood of St Laurence, Berry Street is proud to be the delivering partner for the Saver Plus program in your school's area.

<https://9now.nine.com.au/today/videos/latest/aussie-parents-to-spend-estimated-2-5-billion-on-back-to-school/c1rqdubr001s0jpc4l5szbf3>



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<https://beanstalkmums.com.au/life/money/school-lunchboxes/>



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<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-11/back-to-school-cost-of-living-pressure/103301306>



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TSR MARTIAL ARTS

KIDS CLASS FREE TRIAL



Defensive training that addresses aggressive confrontation
with a realistic approach

COMBATIVE TRAINING

Time:

6pm-6.45pm (7yrs +)

Location:

Cheltenham Community Centre CNR Chesterville Rd & Pine
Street, Cheltenham, Vic

Dates

Term 1,2,3,4 / Wednesdays / Bookings Essential

0430 282 080



www.tsrcombativetraining.com.au

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3050/bmba_basketball_at_westallps_promoflyer.pdf

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3056/tennis.pdf

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3057/rock_climbing.pdf

Australian Girls Choir 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 Days 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

https://spbentleigheast.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3065/agc_open_day_february_2024_vic.pdf

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