

### Important Dates

Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630) Friday 7 March 2025 SACPSSA Swimming Carnival Wednesday 2 April 2025

Good Friday Friday 18 April 2025 Sportsday Friday 4 April 2025 End of Term 1 for 2025, 3pm Finish Time Friday 11 April 2025

Easter Monday Monday 21 April 2025

Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630) Monday 28 April 2025

Term 2 Begins Tuesday 29 April 2025 Friday 4 April 2025

Easter Sunday Sunday 20 April 2025

Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630)

Monday 21 July 2025

Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630) Friday 26 September 2025

Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630) Thursday 11 December 2025 Pupil Free Day (No School - OSHC Booking- pls call Jenn 0437609630) Friday 12 December 2025

# From the Leadership Team

Hello and welcome to the 2025 school year. We hope your holiday period was a time of rest and relaxation and you are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We are looking forward to getting to know each member of our school community and encourage you to introduce yourself to us over the coming weeks.

There is always an enthusiastic buzz around that first day of school. Packing the school bag for the first time and putting on the uniform can bring about a mixture of emotions. Our staff cannot wait to work with your child to settle them into the new school year and set them up for success. We encourage you to maintain open, positive communication with your child's teacher and keep them informed of anything along the way. As a school, our teachers use Seesaw as a way to keep in touch and share your child's learning journey. Please see your class teacher to ensure you are connected.

It has been a very busy time for me (Gareth) as my family and I relocated from Whyalla to join this vibrant community. I am very much looking forward to immersing myself into the St Mary Magdalene's school community and working alongside you to ensure the best outcomes for your child/ren.

You will also see Belinda Bennett regularly at our school. Belinda is our new Principal and is bringing a wealth of knowledge and

enthusiasm to our team. Belinda will work across both St Mary Magdalene's and St Thomas More schools throughout the week.

We also welcome Richard Symons to our teaching staff. Richard will teach AUSLAN to our students for one lesson each week. As this is a new language for our school we are excited by this opportunity. Here are a few fun facts....

- Aslan is over 200 years old and relies on a mix of hand shapes, movements and facial expressions to convey information.
- Hand shapes There are 38 hand shapes with 28 variants in Aslan
- Direction The direction of your palm and hand to your body can change the meaning of words or add context.
- Location Signs are made near different body parts to convey meaning Movement Big or small movements of the head, arms, and hands can suggest other words
- Expression Head and facial gestures or expressions convey emotion and emphasis

This year we are also fortunate to have Aimee Tullio as our APRIM. Aimee will work in collaboration with Melissa Musolino (St Thomas More), Fr Santosh and the Elizabeth Catholic Parish to lead the religious dimension and faith formation of our school. We look forward to Aimee's leadership and support of our staff and families.

We also welcome a whole host of new students into our school community:

Reception / 1 Drewett: Naira, Muna, Abbas Ali, Zohair, Cecila

Reception / 1 Shapcott: Dante, Navi, Lilly, Elvis, Lavie, Zaiden

Reception / 1 Hill: Prisha, Sabriella, Zyah, Mykah, Zeik

- 2 / Petersen: Jaxon
- 3 / 4 Haylock: Dave, Anum, Amiah, Oliver,
- 3 / 4 Dickson: Jackynziie, Jhennifer (Sophia), Heidi, Noorpret, Memenyas, Minha,
- 5/6 Rose: Manu (Emmanuel)

5/6 Tullio: Alisha, Arpan

In the early days of this term your child will bring home some paperwork for you to sign and look over. These important documents help us know who to contact throughout the day if required.

A reminder that the yard access gate closes at **8:45am** each day. Students who are late need to enter the school via the Front Office, collect a "late" pass and be signed in by a parent or guardian (if available).

A reminder to always drive safely within our school zone. Please adhere to the appropriate speed limit, respect our road crossing monitors and park in designated areas.

Finally, our Meet and Greet Night will be on **Tuesday of Week 3**. This evening provides a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your child's 2025 teacher. More information about this evening will be circulated soon.

Both Belinda and I are very much looking forward to the year ahead and 'shaping our future together'.

Belinda, Gareth, Michelle, Aimee and Matt

SMM Leadership Team

# **Recent News**

# Morning Circles

#### New year, New Class, and New Routines

In Year 5/6 Tullio / Storrie, we have been learning about each other, our classroom and our new class routines.

### Soft Starts:

We start our mornings with a soft start as soon as students arrive, where we get straight into our morning learning and settle out bodies for the day. You will notice, if you visit in the morning that students are working with a whisper on learning that is self-directed. Sometimes this will be paper, or iPad based or a mixture of the two.

### Morning Circle:

Prior to school starting, all staff participated in Berry St Training which is a program to support students in the classroom.

One of the most impactful learnings that we had was the introduction of the Morning Circle into our routines. Our class has participated in this since starting back at school.

Each part of the morning routine is crucial to helping us start in a positive and energetic way, but the Positive Primer is something that allows each of us to have a giggle and let the positive emotions flow through our bodies providing us with a more open, curious and flexible mindset helping us to be ready to learn for our first lesson.

The Morning circle includes the following:







### 6. Maaaaate

Have fun exaggerating these cracy sayings and form positive connections with others.

Ask students to form small groups and to stand in a circle, facing each other.

Everyone looks down at the ground, counts beckwerds from three then looks up at someone else in the circle.

If the person you're looking at also looks at you, say 'masaate', 'duuuuude' or 'heesey' and point fingers at each other.











# TUESDAYS 9am - 10:15am

\*During Playgroup



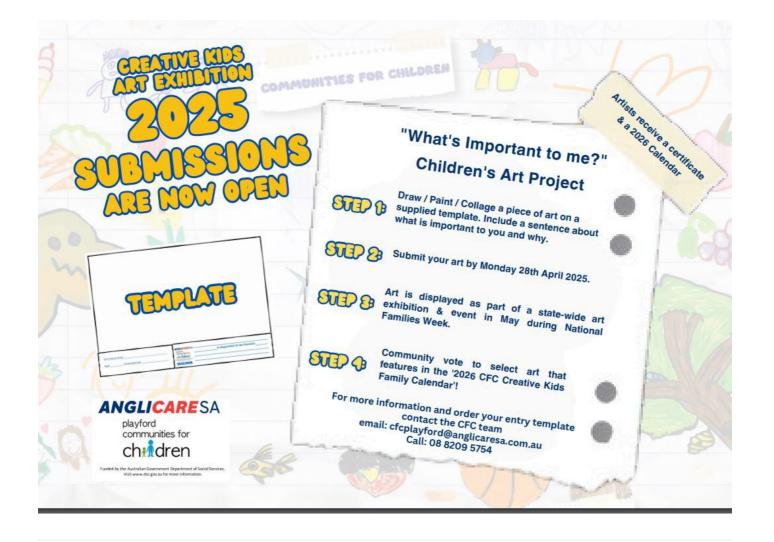
www.facebook.com/CommunityHubSMM

CONTACT KERRYN - 0437 609 976

\*We are volunteer run, Please check we are open before making a special trip







# Join Us for Sing&Grow!



part of the **plgy matters** family

## What happens at Sing&Grow?

Sing&Grow provides Music Therapy services in the community for families with children aged from birth to 5 years. Groups usually meet for an hour, once a week, for 8 weeks.

During sessions, a Music Therapist will lead you in singing, dancing and playing instruments with your child. We use familiar and original songs to help you and your child have fun playing together and learn new ways to support child development.

## **Group Information**



Copyright © 2022 Sing&Grow is part of the Play Matters Australia Family https://playmatters.org.au/sing-and-grow



# Why MyTime?

MyTime is for parents and carers of a child with a disability, chronic medical condition or other additional needs including developmental delay. Unwind and share experiences with others who understand

### FIND US AT:

St Mary Magdalene's School 82 Fairfield Rd. Elizabeth South Tuesday 1-3pm (6 sessions)

### CONTACT:

Keryn Baker-Cocks 0414 912 816 or 0403937 956 Keryn.baker-cocks@sa.gov.au

### mytime.net.au



All Content Copyright 2025 ©