



Queen of Peace Newsletter



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Queen of Peace – Guiding the Way

Dear Families, Staff, Students and Friends

Welcome to the start of another school year which we hope will be a rewarding year for everyone in our school community.

We welcome your presence at school, and encourage you to be active partners in the education of your children. We particularly welcome our new families and 77 new Prep children as well as 11 new students throughout the school. As we start a new year together, there are many who are new and many who will experience something that is new, this could be new roles, being in a new place or being challenged by new perspectives. A new year brings with it new opportunities, new friendships, new colleagues, new beginnings, enhanced with the warmth of welcome and hospitality. Each of us is called to be open in both mind and spirit to the endless possibilities ahead. As I begin my journey as Principal of Queen of Peace, I would like to thank staff, students and families who have made me feel so welcome. I particularly thank Anne Price for the smooth transition into the life of the school. I wish everyone all the best for the new school year and invite you to look for ways to support your children and our school team. Thank you to the staff of Queen of Peace for their preparation, ensuring that the start of the year has been so smooth and a welcoming experience for the families and students.

Darren Gibbons
Principal

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|---------------------|--|
| Term 1: | Friday 2 February – Thursday 29 March |
| Early Finish | Monday 19 February 1pm (for 3-Way Conferences) Uniform Shop open 1-2pm on Mon 19 Feb |
| Term 2: | Monday 16 April – Friday 29 June |
| | Pupil Free Day Thurs 17 May |
| Term 3: | Monday 16 July – Friday 21 September |
| Term 4: | Monday 8 October – Wednesday 19 December |

Prayer for the Beginning of the School Year

“Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers. We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months.

We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives.

Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith.

Help us to fulfil Your hope for us with honest intentions and works of faith.

Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy and love to others.

We ask this in your name.

Amen.”

Have you changed your Mobile no? Address? Email? PLEASE INFORM SCHOOL OFFICE

I would like to make it very clear from the outset that we begin supervising our children when the gates open at 8.30am. Before that, they are your responsibility. Therefore **NO** child should be dropped off or allowed to come to school unsupervised before 8.30am. If you have to get children to school before 8.30am then you **MUST** arrange for them to be placed in Before School Care which opens at 7.00 am. We will not take responsibility for any child who arrives unsupervised before 8.30am. Please make sure you adhere to these rules so all of our children can be safe. When children arrive at school, they need to take their school bags with them to the Sails area, they are not to be dropped on the decking.

In the afternoon, whilst waiting for the children to be dismissed we ask that all parents please wait on the concrete beside the decking to enable the teachers to finish their dismissal procedures smoothly. Unfortunately the noise out on the deck proved to be a problem with children struggling to hear instructions from their teachers. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Sunsmart policy

Queen of Peace is a Sunsmart school. This means that all children are required to wear their school hat and sunglasses when outside at recess and lunchtime as well as during outside activities. Children who forget their glasses or hats will have to sit under the sails during recess and lunchtime. If you need to buy hats or sunglasses you can purchase them from the office or Uniform Shop.

Term calendar

Today we are sending home a Parent Calendar Term 1. This Calendar will have all of the known dates for the term that effect either the children or families. Please place this somewhere you can refer to it during the term.

Parking in the car park

It is that time of the year again when I get to remind everyone of how the car park works. There are only a few rules that everyone needs to remember:

1. The only way into the car park is via a **left** turn from Everingham Road. Right hand turns from Everingham Road are not permitted.
2. Travel in the car park is walking speed, 5 kmph.
3. Please park only in the parking bays provided. Do not park in the disabled car parks. Do not park in the Presbytery reserved parking spaces. The lane closest to Everingham Rd is for parking only, not for stopping and dropping or picking up.
4. If using the Drop Off lane closest to the school, children can be dropped off anywhere **after** the crossing. You do not have to wait until the office end. Parents should not be getting out of the car to get things from the boot etc. If you need to do this, please park.
5. Please do not drive across the central walkway between the parked cars. This is reserved for pedestrians.
6. Pedestrians can only enter and exit the school via the walkway closest to the Parish house or the gate in the centre of the carpark. Please do not enter or exit via the car entrance.
7. Pedestrians must use the marked pathways and the crossing in the carpark.



Please abide by the 'no right turn' sign at the carpark entry, when turning in from Everingham Road. Our neighbours have complained about parents causing traffic problems because of these illegal turns. Please be considerate and do the right thing to ensure the safety of our students and other drivers.

3 Way Conferences

On Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 February we will be holding our 3-Way Learning Conferences. A letter went home this week with the information you will need to book an appointment time through PTO. The children will also be bringing home a Home Learning Activity for you to work with them as well as a yellow 'Getting to Know You' sheet to be returned at the conferences. The teachers are looking forward to meeting you and hearing all about your child.

Notes sent via CareMonkey

There have been a number of notices coming home through CareMonkey. These are all very important and need to be completed ASAP. Please assist us with the smooth beginning of the year by completing these notes.

CareMonkey

Please ensure your child's CareMonkey profile is up to date.

FlexiBuzz App

In a major effort to become more sustainable and use far less paper, we will be using the FlexiBuzz App more this year to communicate to the whole community. Paper newsletters will be phased out during the year and will no longer be available in the Foyer. It will be shared via Flexibuzz and uploaded onto the school website. Please make sure you have downloaded the App so you can receive updates. Instructions about how to download it have been sent through CareMonkey.

Newsletter

The QoP Newsletter is published fortnightly. A hard copy of this first newsletter is going home to all families. Please note that newsletters are not usually sent home. The newsletter is available on the FlexiBuzz App and the school's website, under 'Parents'.

Reminder from Sick Bay

If your child requires **medication** at school, a medication form must be completed by parents. Medication **will not be given to children** unless we have written permission from parents. Forms are available from the office foyer and the school website.

Asthma Action Plans

QoP is an Asthma Accredited School and requires all children who suffer from asthma to provide the school with an Asthma Action Plan **ANNUALLY**. **New** Asthma action plans were sent home with children's medication at the end of last year. Forms are also available on our website and from the office. Please return completed forms to school with your child's **asthma medication & SPACER**. Using a spacer with a puffer ensures that more medication reaches the airways. Spacers are an essential part of the Asthma First Aid procedure that Victorian schools/preschools are instructed to follow.

Anaphylaxis

Allergies are becoming more prevalent in our society. Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Minimising risk protects vulnerable children and reduces opportunities for incidents. **We ask that all families avoid sending peanut butter and other nut products in your child's lunch.** We also ask that you are very careful in the choice of foods that you include in your child's recess/lunch box and we discourage sharing of food. If your child is diagnosed with anaphylaxis please contact the office.

Birthday treats at school

If you wish to send something along to the class to celebrate your child's birthday, it needs to be limited to a lollipop e.g. Chuppa Chup or a Freddo Frog. These are both safe alternatives for most children and are quick and easy to distribute. Anything other than these items will be sent back home with the birthday child.

Photo Day

TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY All Photo Envelopes must be returned to school **before this day**. Family (more than 1 student at QoP) photo envelopes are available from the office foyer. Full Summer School Uniform must be worn.



Religion News

Parish Masses

Sacrament Family Nights 2018

Confirmation – Thursday 26 April at 7pm
Eucharist – Tuesday 17 July at 7pm
Reconciliation – Tuesday 18 September at 7pm

Sacraments for 2018

Confirmation - Sunday 27 May 2018
First Eucharist – Sunday 12 August 2018
Reconciliation – Thursday 18 October 2018

Please note that these dates are currently correct but may change due to circumstances beyond our control.

SCHOOL AGED BAPTISMS

If you would like your school aged children baptised, they will need to attend class on Wednesday 8 March in Queen of Peace Church 4:00 – 5:00pm.

One parent must be a baptised Catholic. For inquiries, please call the Parish Office on 9369 6877.

Laverton Catholic Parish

Parish Office – 9369 6877 laverton@cam.org.au

Fr John Healy – Parish Priest
Fr Daryl Montecillo – Assistant Priest
Sue Sherman – Secretary
Grace Gingco – Bursar
Liz Nissen – Baptism Coordinator

LAVERTON PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY

2nd and 4th weekend of the month (except January)
11am and 6pm at Queen of Peace 9am at Stella Maris

Laverton

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|---------------------|------|----------|---------|
| St Martin de Porres | Mass | Sunday | 10:00am |
| | | Tuesday | 9:15am |
| | | Thursday | 9:15am |

Reconciliation by request

Altona Meadows

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Queen of Peace | Mass | Saturday | 9:15am |
| | | | 6pm |
| | | Sunday | 8:00am |
| | | | 11:00am |
| | | Wednesday | 9:15am |
| | | Friday | 9:15am |
| | Reconciliation | Saturday | 10:00am–10:30am |

Point Cook

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|-----------------------|------|-----------|--------|
| Stella Maris | Mass | Sunday | 9:00am |
| St. Mary of the Cross | Mass | Wednesday | 9:00am |
| Lumen Christi | Mass | Thursday | 9:15am |
| Stella Maris | Mass | Friday | 9:15am |

PARISH OF LAVERTON

PREP 2019 PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

If you are considering enrolling your child in a Catholic Primary school in Laverton, Altona Meadows or Point Cook, we invite you to come along and join us at the Parish of Laverton Enrolment Meeting

Tuesday 13 March at 7pm

QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL (HALL)

Information about school and Parish boundaries and the enrolment process will be shared.

Enrolment packs will be available for collection after the meeting

Parents of preps 2019 who already have children at Queen of Peace need not attend. Please come to the office instead on Wednesday 14 March to collect an Enrolment Pack.

Story time for Pre schoolers

Starts again this Thursday 15 February, every Thursday at 9am in the School Library with Mrs Favata. Come along for some stories, singing, and activities!



Wool for Art

If you have any leftover or unwanted knitting wool it would be greatly appreciated for the children to use in the Art Space. Sadly, so far we have only one person donate wool. Please ask grandparents or neighbours if they would like to donate wool for our students to use. Many thanks - Sue Rigby, Visual Arts Teacher

Peace Garden Maintenance

Thank you to the parents and parishioners who have assisted in maintaining the Peace Garden over the last year. Their assistance has ensured that this space continues to be in beautiful condition. If you have a 'green thumb' and are interested in having your name added to a rotating garden maintenance roster for term one or longer, please provide your details (name, phone, email) to the school office. Maintenance includes basic tasks like weeding, removal of debris from paths and sweeping. More information will be provided if you express an interest in helping. The more volunteers we have, the less workload there is for others. Please consider helping out.



Collecting children early

To avoid disruption to classrooms, if children need to be collected early they should be picked up at the lunch break (at 1:30pm Monday or 1:40pm Tuesday to Friday). It is also very disruptive for classes and the office to be passing on messages to children in the afternoons. It would be appreciated if these interruptions could be kept to a minimum.

Canteen volunteers urgently needed

The Queen of Peace school canteen needs your help to keep it running. Volunteers are a vital part of making sure the children get their lunches on time. There are no special skills required. Volunteers help our Canteen Manager, Mrs Antoinette Kelly with preparing the lunch orders for the children. The canteen is open each weekday and helpers are usually required between 10am – 2pm. If you are unable to commit to the full four hours, perhaps you could help out for one or two hours. A roster is organised each term for volunteers and all help is appreciated. Forms to respond can be found on FlexiBuzz.

QoP Uniform Shop

Open Fridays 2:30-3:30pm. *Also opening Monday 19 Feb 1-2pm.

Orders can be left with the school office if you are unable to attend at this time. Returns will only be accepted with receipt. Please click on the link for the QoP: [Uniform Policy](#)

Commbank School Banking -

School banking day is every TUESDAY, **beginning next Tuesday, 13 February**. Any new students to the program will receive your student number with your first deposit at school. The process for school banking is as follows: Students bring in their deposit books with their money on a Tuesday morning, give them to their classroom teacher, where it is then sent to the office in the note tub to be banked. Students receive a Dollarmite token each time they bank. Once they have 10 tokens, they can then send them in with their next deposit to redeem the tokens for a reward.



Coles Sports for Schools

When you shop at Coles you'll receive Sports for Schools vouchers that we will be able to exchange for sports gear. You can donate these to the school by placing in the special box in the office foyer. The promotion runs until 11 May.

News from Emmanuel College

Congratulations to our Year 7s on their excellent start. Books are safely stored in lockers, subject timetables recorded and their new laptops are being well utilised. Homework has begun and the three-day camp program at Portsea commences next week. Students are very much enjoying their Maths Pathway, Life to the Full and Instrumental Music programs. It was great to welcome their parents to this week's presentation by the Year 7s on Project Based Learning.

Well done to our VCE High Achievers: Michael Mazzeo 97.6, Reece Hodges 95.75, Hung Lam 94.75, Suvarna Soni 93.7, Duy Tran 93.5, Madeleine Chetcuti 93.45, Thien Nguyen 92.25, Chiara Petrelli 91.2, Marie-Grace Mueller 90, Liam Murray 90, Katrina Poloni 89.9



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the 2018 school year. As a parent of three children (Prep, Yr 3 and Yr 4) I can honestly say the holidays go by too fast but I always look forward to the routine of school and the Term's challenges. I'm honoured to take on the role of P&F President for 2018 and look forward to a busy but rewarding year...

Our Queen of Peace Parents and Friends Committee consists of all parents and carers that belong to our community. By default – we are each a member of the committee. I encourage you all to come along to the meetings throughout the year – to listen and participate in discussions that impact our children and our school. Our first General Meeting is on Tuesday 20th February at 7pm- 8:30pm in the Staff Room.

Please take the time to consider being an active member of our community through one of these roles (or sharing a role is also an option). The Role Descriptions can be found on the new Queen of Peace Website (in the Parents section under Parents & Friends) or email any queries to Pandf@qopaltonameadows.catholic.edu.au. Without these roles being filled we can't run a committee.

These are currently the Executive Committee positions vacant for 2018:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| Treasurer | Secretary | Social and Pastoral | Fundraising |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|

To assist with your planning for the school year, below is the current outline of the Fundraising Commitments for 2018:

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|--------|--|
| Term 1 | Hot Cross Bun Day –Holy Thursday, 29 th March The Entertainment Book |
| Term 2 | Altona Bunnings BBQ- Sunday 29 th April Mother's Day Stall Tony's Pie Drive |
| Term 3 | Disco Father's Day Stall Raffle for Fete |
| Term 4 | Fete – (Separate Committee) Friday 19 th October, 3pm -8pm |

Working Bees are also intended to run throughout the year with more details to follow during the year. Our children benefit from all the extra effort that we make to ensure a thriving, loving and safe educational environment.

Darren and I look forward to seeing you at the first meeting on the Tuesday 20th February at 7pm. I'm looking forward to the coming year and your continued support in making 2018 another great year for QOP.

Yours sincerely

Teresa Prissall
2018 P&F President

Dear Queen of Peace Parents

Can you please ensure you book your children online

www.oshclub.com.au as this enables us to have adequate staffing, you avoid the late booking fee and we are aware which children should attend the program. Please update your Child's medical condition online if any. Further, any children who have Allergies, asthma, anaphylaxis **MUST** have their Action Plan duly signed by the Doctor. Please submit the document when your child first attends the Program.

queenofpeace@oshclub.com.au **OSHC program phone: 0421 287 254**
Coordinator: Geeta Ankhi. Assistants: Antoinette Kelly & Bridget Sherrin.

OSHClub Head Office phone: 8564 9000 [OSH information](#)

All families must be enrolled to attend the program - it is free to enrol. Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au

All bookings and cancellations can be managed via your online account.

For on the day bookings, please contact the Coordinator 0421 287 254

