



# NEWSLETTER



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

## Principal – Anthony Garton

Dear Antonio Families.

As the end of the 2024 school year comes to a close I am filled with tremendous gratitude for the many contributions from everyone across our community.

Our school welcomes, supports and stretches the capabilities and understandings of many young people within the framework of an inclusive and collaborative community that is built on the contributions of many. Each of us can provide many things for our children and when we collaborate in the relationship of a community our children are supported even more.

I would like to acknowledge our School Board chaired by Chris McInerney for their listening, solution-focused thinking and advice. Our PFC lead by Kirstie and Lucy have provided an amazing arrangement of opportunities for us all to build community and raise valuable funds for enriched programs and resources for our students. Our Friday lunch crew that cooked, prepared and warmed the hearts of many students and staff each week with their dedication, commitment and care in providing a lunch treat.

A huge thank you to our volunteers that supported our classroom, sports, performing arts and food programs, excursions, fundraising stalls and events and more. Your energy and time have brought joy to so many children, families and staff.

When asking many of the children about their highlights across the year some of them shared the following...

Aria - 'Being part of everything in music.'

Niall - 'Playing soccer with my friends.'

Marina - 'The double water slide at the Beachouse was fun.'

Hamo - 'Scoring goals in soccer and having fun with my teammates at Cardijn Cup.'

Joel - 'Having fun at camp with friends.'

Riley - 'Having Miss Sweeney this year as my teacher.'

Ben - 'Going on camp and having fun with friends.'

Beau - 'My favourites were investigations and going to the zoo.'

Maya - 'The activities at camp were fun.'

Mason - 'Singing with Brooklyn.'

Kashika - 'I loved the Christmas dance and the choir song at Carols.'

I am especially proud of our students at Antonio. So many of our students stretched themselves to achieve new milestones this year when they undertook new team sports and carnivals, represented the school in our bigger Wakakirri troupe, undertook new leadership roles, planted new plants and gardens across the school, made new friends and connections and more.

This semester saw the highest number of A's and B's being awarded to students across our school. The improvement in our number of A's and B's highlights the growing capabilities and skills of our students and the clear pathways provided by teachers that assist our children in stretching themselves.

I hope you are all looking forward to a restful and peaceful Christmas and New Year time with your family, friends and neighbours. May you find the time and space to stop and be present with the people you love in the spaces that replenish you.

Anthony Garton  
Principal

## **APRIM and Leader of Wellbeing – Kerry Cornelius**

Dear Families,

As we wrap up the 2023 school year, let's celebrate the hard work and perseverance that brought us here. Our achievements show what we can do together. As we say goodbye for now, let's look forward to the exciting adventures that lie ahead for us all in 2024.



### **Advent**

In the heart of Advent, the second Sunday brought us the symbolism of peace with the lighting of the Bethlehem Candle. It prompted reflection on preparing our hearts for the joyous arrival of the Holy Child. On the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, marked by the pink candle representing joy, we rejoiced in anticipation of Christmas. Amidst the hustle, these moments of reflection deepen our connection to the true spirit of the season. May the themes of hope, peace, and joy guide us all as we approach the celebration of Jesus' birth. Wishing everyone a blessed Advent season filled with warmth and anticipation.

### **End of Year Thanksgiving Mass**

Reflecting on our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass which was held in the Antonio Gymnasium on Tuesday last week, we extend heartfelt appreciation to Father Christopher for his guidance and inspiration in celebrating Mass with us as a whole school community for the first time since he joined us as our Parish Priest. Special commendation also goes to our 2023 Year 6 Graduates, whose leadership and participation enriched this important occasion. A sincere thank you also extends to our dedicated students and staff whose efforts contributed to the meaningful celebration. As we look back on the year, let us carry the spirit of thankfulness forward, recognising the importance of practicing gratitude in our daily lives.



## Mini Vinnies Christmas Hampers – Thank you!

A huge thank you to all who generously contributed to the 2023 St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Your kindness and generosity have made a significant impact, bringing hope and joy to those less fortunate during the holiday season. Your contributions will undoubtedly brighten someone's Christmas, embodying the spirit of giving and compassion that defines our Antonio school community.



## Early Explorers Liturgy

Last Thursday marked the completion of our Early Explorers program for 2023 with a heart-warming Early Explorers Liturgy. The event was graced by the presence of the families of our young explorers, who were also joined by their Year 5 buddies with whom they've shared learning and adventures with this term. The Liturgy served as a beautiful conclusion to a Term of growth, discovery, and camaraderie. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated, making it a memorable and enriching experience for our students. As we bid farewell to this year's Early Explorers, we eagerly anticipate welcoming them as the newest members of our community next year in 2024 when they join us as new Reception students.



## World Game Changers – Pollination Garden Project / Grant Update

Our young World Game Changers have been hard at work fostering positive change in our community, with a special focus on our ongoing grant project—the creation of a pollination garden. This week, our Year 4 students, soon to be Year 5 leaders, collaborated with Jeremy from Green Adelaide to plant the remaining native plants acquired for this green initiative. Their efforts signify a commitment to environmental stewardship. Looking ahead to the coming year, our dedicated students plan to construct bird boxes for installation in our yard, expand the garden with additional native plants, and design a podium sign to highlight the significance of our collective efforts. Together, as a community, we are making a difference in the world and fulfilling our responsibility to care for our common home.



### **Wellbeing – Character Strengths Focus**

Over the past fortnight, our Antonio school community has delved into the enriching exploration of two more fundamental Character Strengths—gratitude and honesty. In cultivating gratitude, we've discovered the transformative power of recognising and appreciating the goodness in our lives, fostering a spirit of thankfulness that radiates through our school family. Similarly, our focus on honesty has emphasised the importance of integrity, trust, and the courage to uphold truth in all our actions. These character strengths serve as guiding principles, shaping the moral compass of our students as they navigate the journey of personal and academic growth. Together, we celebrate the cultivation of these virtues, integral to the foundation of our shared values. Our Character Strengths focus will continue next year into 2024.



**Gratitude**



**Honesty**



## Community News from Alicia Benz

**Coming in 2024 Term 1, our own beautiful Grow Free Cart!**

### **What is a Grow Free Cart?**

Grow Free is an initiative encouraging growing and sharing of food and produce with your local community. It fosters a community spirit, increases our connection with nature, minimises wastage and enables access to organic food with zero footprint. Essentially, it is a 'cart' located at a community hub (like our beautiful school!) where you can visit to leave produce / take produce. Fruit tree dropping lemons in abundance? Made too much jam and wish to share? Excess flowers in bloom or tomatoes producing by the kg? Share them with your fellow community!

### **What is accepted on the cart?**

Fruit, vegetables, eggs, seeds and handmade items / condiments / spreads etc. If giving a handmade product, ingredients and date of production need to be labelled.

### **Can I still take if I have nothing to give?**

Yes, absolutely! The entire idea behind a Grow Free is to give or take without expecting something in return. If / when you can give back in some way or form another time, that's great!

### **Where will it be located?**

Near the front gate, by the butterfly garden.

Please keep the Grow Free Cart in mind when in your backyard these school holidays and help us connect back to nature by sharing in the form of food!



## Community News from Kirsty Rolls



The other night Lucy & I, together with our families, visited the Morphett Vale CFS to present them with a \$250 donation from PFC. The donation was to say thank you for attending our Colour Run earlier in the year and for the selfless work they do within our local community.

We received a very warm welcome from the brigade and our children were lucky enough to be shown around the station.

## Student Reporter - Leah

This is the last week of school for the year 6's and the rest of the school.

Today we said farewell to our year 6's who will hopefully find a new community to develop their learning. Most year 6's will be going to Cardijn and the others will be going to other High schools.

Yesterday, the year 6's went to the Beachouse it was so much fun especially going on the bumper cars it was exciting and I also got to bump into some teachers. Especially Ms Ireland.

The water slides were fun if you would like my review on them here it is:

The one called the "Chiller" is nice and slow. "Speed" was a bit faster but there were lots of bumps so this hurts your back if you are laying down and last but not least is the "Raft". It's called that because two people have a raft or a floaty if you want to call it that, once you go down it is so dark I thought I was closing my eyes that's how dark it gets.

Overall it was an exciting and thrilling time.

I am going to miss Antonio because there is always someone to play with and the fun of learning.



Enrol for Year 7 2026 before  
**APRIL 12 2024**

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2026 will close on 12 April 2024. Enrolments for other year levels will be subject to vacancies.

A portrait of a young woman with blonde hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a maroon school blazer over a maroon sweater and a light blue collared shirt with a striped tie. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

## We offer the following Programs:

- Water Babies Program (6mth to 2.5yr)
- Tadpole Program (2.5yr to 4yr)
- Learn2Swim Lessons (4yr onwards)
- Squad / Fitness Program
- Beginner Lessons for older children
- Private Classes
- Adult Learn2Swim Lessons
- Aquafit Program
- Hydrotherapy Exercise Sessions
- Lap Swimming
- Indoor Heated Pool



We take pride in offering families a warm, friendly atmosphere in which all members of our community feel welcomed to enjoy the many benefits gained from being safe in and around an aquatic environment.

**Proudly serving our local community for almost 50 years!**

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# School News

[Click Here](#)

**Friday 15th December - Pupil Free Day (OSHC available)**

**18th December - 22nd December - Vacation Care**

**25th December - 13th January 2024 - Vacation Care Closed**

**15th January - 27th January 2024 - Vacation Care**

**Monday 29th January 2024 - Meet the Teacher and Pupil Free Day (OSHC available)**

**OSHC - Vacation Care (Bookings essential) Mobile Number: 0419866581**

