



**ANTONIO
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 ISSUE 2 | SEPTEMBER 2026

"EVERYONE MATTERS"

DATES TO REMEMBER

PUPIL FREE DAYS

- **OSHC Available**
 - Thursday 10 December
- **No OSHC Available**
 - Monday 12 October
 - Friday 11 December



**Community Christmas
Evening
9th December**

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As we reach the end of Term 3, it is a wonderful opportunity to pause, reflect and celebrate the many moments of learning, growth, community and achievement that have taken place across Antonio Catholic School. I hope this article provides parents and carers with a snapshot of the energy, care and commitment that continue to shape our school each day.

I also want to acknowledge and commend the strong commitment of our staff, across all roles, to providing the best possible education and care for every child at Antonio. Their contribution to the learning and wellbeing of students extends well beyond what can be captured in any position description. Each day, our staff uphold the dignity of each child, work with faith in what is possible, and respond with respect, love and compassion to the joy, achievement, hard work and challenge that come with school life. They listen, learn, grow professionally, follow quality procedures and policies, and seek just and thoughtful ways to support children and families with diverse experiences, qualities and needs. I am deeply grateful for a team that continues to strive to do its very best for every child in our care.

Term Highlights and Achievements

As we come towards the end of another full and productive term, there is much to celebrate across our Antonio community. Our students, staff and families have continued to show the care, commitment and partnership that help make our school such a welcoming and hope-filled place of learning.

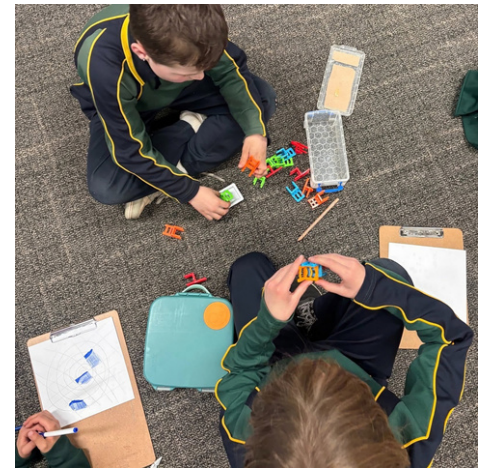
Student learning has continued to be a significant highlight. Our revised intervention model is supporting 84 students in literacy, 15 students in numeracy and 21 students in extension learning. Year 1 students also achieved an average score within the Fluent Decoder range in the Phonics Screening Check, reflecting strong growth in foundational reading skills.

Across year levels, students have engaged in rich and varied learning – from our Mid-Year Reception students settling into school routines, early literacy and numeracy, through to Year 6 students preparing for camp, researching information texts, exploring Blueback and strengthening their understanding of decimals. Learning across English, Mathematics, HASS and Science has included Indigenous texts and caring for Country, measurement, time, writing, animal life cycles, cyber safety, leadership learning and comparisons between Australia and countries of Asia.

Students have also grown through specialist learning, sport, The Arts and experiences beyond the classroom. Highlights included Year 4 Zoo Snooze camps, Year 5 Leadership Day, Auslan learning linked with Deaf culture and communication, strong participation in AFL, SANFL Girls SuperKick and basketball, Art Club's Royal Adelaide Show scarecrow, and hands-on Science investigations exploring forces, sound, heat, friction, light, shadows and electricity.

Our wellbeing, inclusion and behaviour support work has also continued to strengthen. We welcomed Natalia Johansen as School Counsellor, continued our partnership with Flinders University through Social Work student placements, and received affirming feedback through our PBIS review. The review recognised the visibility of our ANTS values – Achieve, Nurture, Teamwork and Safe – and the school achieved a Tier 1 fidelity rating of 89%.

A particular **PBIS highlight** this term has been the wonderful balance of pom poms across all four school values: Achieve, Nurture, Teamwork and Safe. This reflects the active teaching, learning and living of our values by students and staff each day. It has also been exciting to see the whole school working towards and enjoying the Teamwork value reward on Wednesday – a celebration of the way our students continue to encourage, support and learn alongside one another.



Our community and faith life has remained strong, including a well-attended Father's Day Community Prayer led beautifully by our Year 6 Faith Leaders and the commencement of the Made in the Image of God curriculum across year levels. Behind the scenes, staff have continued to engage in significant professional learning, new systems and future planning, while strong enrolment demand reflects the confidence families continue to place in Antonio.

Thank you to our students, staff, parents and carers for the many ways you have contributed to such a positive term. These achievements reflect the shared commitment, care and partnership that continue to shape Antonio Catholic School as a welcoming, inclusive and hope-filled community.

Warm Regards
Anthony Garton
Principal

Rest is Not a Reward - It is a Necessity

As we reach the end of another busy term, many children and adults are likely feeling the effects of a full and productive school term. While term breaks often bring opportunities for travel, activities and catching up on jobs around the house, they also provide something equally important: the chance to rest.

Rest doesn't always mean doing nothing. For some children, rest looks like sleeping a little longer, reading a favourite book, spending time outdoors, building with Lego, drawing, playing sport, or simply enjoying unstructured time at home. These moments allow children to recharge emotionally, physically and mentally.

Research tells us that downtime supports wellbeing, learning and resilience. When children have opportunities to slow down, they return to school better able to concentrate, manage challenges and engage positively in their learning.

As we begin the term break, I encourage families to make space for simple moments of connection such as sharing a meal, visiting a playground, taking a walk, playing a board game, or enjoying a conversation without rushing to the next activity.

In a world where schedules are often full and children move quickly from one activity to the next, there is also great value in allowing time for boredom. While boredom can sometimes feel uncomfortable, it often creates space for creativity, imagination and problem-solving. It encourages children to invent games, explore interests, build, create and discover what brings them joy. Not every moment of the holidays needs to be planned. Sometimes the most meaningful learning happens when children are given the time and freedom to simply be.

The holidays also provide an opportunity to strengthen family connections. Children thrive when they feel loved, valued and connected to the important people in their lives. Often, it is not the big events that children remember most, but the small moments of togetherness: baking in the kitchen, kicking a ball in the backyard, sharing stories, enjoying a movie night or laughing over dinner. These everyday experiences help build a strong sense of belonging and security.

As Term 3 ends, it is also worth taking a moment to celebrate growth. Growth is not measured only by academic achievements or report grades. It can be seen in the friendships formed, challenges overcome, kindness shown to others, confidence gained and resilience developed. Every child has grown in some way throughout the term, and these achievements are worthy of recognition and celebration 😊

A Simple Family Wellbeing Challenge

Over the holidays, see if your family can tick off as many of these wellbeing activities as possible:

- ✓ Spend an hour outdoors
- ✓ Share a meal without devices
- ✓ Read a book for pleasure
- ✓ Play a board game together
- ✓ Take a family walk
- ✓ Complete a random act of kindness
- ✓ Tell someone what you appreciate about them
- ✓ Try something new
- ✓ Have a "boredom hour" with no screens and no planned activities
- ✓ Share one thing you are proud of from Term 3



Wishing all our families a safe, restful and joy-filled term break. Thank you for your continued partnership throughout Term 3. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for a wonderful and exciting Term 4!

Warm regards,
Kerry Cornelius
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SPECIALIST TEACHER - Auslan Leonie Boulden

National Week of Deaf People

Congratulations to the students from across all classes for their engagement in helping us to increase deaf awareness in our school community. The students have listened to stories, watched videos and conducted their own research around deafness in the community.



The students also became very creative and made flags, key chains, badges, fridge magnets, posters and canvasses to promote the message of deaf awareness.



Ask your child what they can tell you about how life might be different for deaf person.

- How does a deaf person know there is someone at the door?
- Can a deaf person drive a car? (The answer is yes, BTW)
- What can you do to get the attention of a deaf person?
- Why is it important for a deaf or Hard of Hearing person to see your mouth?



Catholic Schools Music Festival 2026 - Many Voices, One Journey

On Wednesday 23rd of September, the Antonio Choir proudly performed at the Catholic Schools Music Festival at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre, joining more than 300 students from Catholic schools across South Australia in a spectacular massed choir performance.

Since the beginning of Term 1, selected Year 5 and 6 students have dedicated themselves to learning an extensive repertoire of nine songs. Throughout months of rehearsals, students developed a range of musical skills, including vocal technique, harmony, diction, pitch accuracy, performance confidence and ensemble singing. Their commitment and perseverance were evident in the high standard of their performance on the night.

The concert culminated in an exciting and memorable John Farnham medley featuring - One, Sadie, Help, Freedom and You're the Voice. This energetic finale had the audience captivated and provided a fitting celebration of the students' hard work and passion for music.

Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's Catholic Schools Music Festival. Their dedication, enthusiasm and musical excellence were a credit to themselves, their families and our school community. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they represented Antonio Catholic School on such a prestigious stage.

