



**ANTONIO
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

DATES TO REMEMBER

PUPIL FREE DAYS

- **OSHC Available**
 - Thursday 24 September
 - Friday 25 September
 - Thursday 10 December
- **No OSHC Available**
 - Monday 12 October
 - Friday 11 December

DON'T FORGET!



**SCHOLASTIC
Book Club**

orders are due:

Friday 11/9/26

[Click here for more School
News](#)

ANTONIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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TERM 3 | ISSUE 1 | AUGUST 2026

NEWSLETTER

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"EVERYONE MATTERS"



A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS WHERE EVERYONE MATTERS... AND MATTERS ABSOLUTELY!

Dear Families,

As we look ahead with hope and confidence, I would like to share two important updates with our school community. The first is about the value of school camps in helping children learn, grow and build confidence. The second is about the positive enrolment outlook for the coming years.

School Camps: Learning Beyond the Classroom

School camps are an important part of a rich and engaging Catholic education. They give children opportunities to learn beyond the classroom, build confidence and strengthen relationships with their peers and teachers. Camps also connect learning across areas such as Health and Physical Education, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Geography and Sustainability, while helping students develop important life skills.

Camp experiences give children many opportunities to grow in personal and social skills. These include cooperation, problem solving, resilience, communication and responsible decision-making. At camp, children practise being more independent, organising their belongings, following routines, managing their time, working as part of a group and taking responsibility for themselves in a safe and supportive environment.

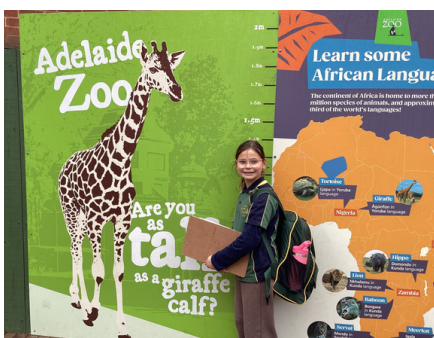
For many children, sleeping away from home is a significant milestone. It can bring some natural nervousness, but it is also a powerful opportunity for growth. With the care and guidance of school staff, children learn that they can try new things, manage challenges and become more confident in themselves. Camps also encourage teamwork, leadership, respect for others and appreciation for the natural world.

I recently had the privilege of staying overnight with our Year 4 students at the Zoo Snooze camp. I saw excellent learning, confidence and personal growth throughout the experience. It was wonderful to watch students share meals together at dinner, supper and breakfast, and take part so positively in the routines and responsibilities of being away from home.

During the evening and morning walks through the zoo, students spent time noticing, wondering and learning about a range of animals. These included alligators, giraffes, maned wolves, dingoes, Sumatran tigers, meerkats, wombats, penguins and many more. These experiences sparked curiosity and provided rich opportunities for observation, discussion and deeper understanding of the natural world.

The children also practised important life skills. They set up and packed away their bedding and belongings, slept in a different setting from home, followed camp routines and supported one another throughout the experience. These simple but significant moments help children grow in independence, organisation, resilience and confidence.

I sincerely thank our staff for the time, planning and care they give to make camp experiences safe, meaningful and memorable. I also thank families for supporting these opportunities, as they play an important role in helping children become confident, capable and independent learners.



Strong Enrolments for 2028 and Looking Ahead to 2029

We are also very pleased to share that enrolments for 2028 are looking excellent. This is an encouraging sign of the confidence families continue to place in our school and the strong reputation our community is building. It reflects the dedication of our staff, the positive spirit of our students and the ongoing partnership we share with families.

As we begin planning further ahead, we are also looking forward to welcoming new families for 2029. Families considering Reception enrolment for 2029 are encouraged to contact the school early so that we can support them with information, transition opportunities and enrolment processes.

Celebrating the Diversity of Our School Community

We are proud to celebrate the rich cultural and linguistic diversity within our school community. Current EALD data shows that Antonio Catholic School has 34 students who are learning English as an Additional Language or Dialect, representing 11.41% of our school population. This is a wonderful reminder of the many stories, languages, cultures and family experiences that help shape and enrich our community.

Our EALD learners bring strengths, perspectives and experiences that support everyone's learning. Across the school, students are developing their English language skills at different phases, including Emerging, Developing, Consolidating and Proficient. This reflects the ongoing growth of our students and the important work of teachers and support staff in helping each child feel known, included and successful.

We also acknowledge and thank our EALD families, who contribute so generously to the life of our school. The languages spoken and the cultures represented in our community are a gift. They help children grow in understanding, respect and appreciation for one another, and they remind us that Antonio is a place where every child and family belongs.

Reception Starting Ages for 2029

For families planning ahead for 2029 Reception enrolments, the South Australian starting age guidelines are as follows:

- Children who turn five years of age before 1 May 2029 can begin Reception at the start of the 2029 School Year.
- Children who turn five years of age between 1 May and 31 October 2029 can begin Reception through the mid-year intake in Term 3, 2029.
- Children who turn five years of age after 31 October 2029 will generally begin Reception the following year.

Children who begin Reception at the start of the year generally complete four terms of Reception, while children who begin through the mid-year intake generally complete six terms of Reception. If you know of families who may be interested in joining our school community in 2029 or beyond, please encourage them to contact the school office. We would be delighted to welcome them, answer their questions and share what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Communication, Concerns and Feedback at Antonio

Strong partnerships between home and school are an important part of supporting every child's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging. At Antonio, we encourage families to communicate with us early if they have a question, concern, idea or feedback. In most situations, the best place to begin is with the person most directly connected to the matter, as this helps us respond in a timely, respectful and helpful way.

- **Your child's classroom teacher:** Please contact your child's teacher for matters relating to classroom learning, friendships, daily routines, homework, behaviour in class, general wellbeing, or if you have information that may help us support your child at school.
- **Kerry Cornelius, Inclusion and Wellbeing Leader:** Kerry can support families when there are concerns relating to student wellbeing, inclusion, additional learning or social-emotional needs, adjustments, personalised planning, or when a child may require extra support to feel safe, included and successful at school.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL - ANTHONY

- **Andrea Broadbent, Leader of Learning:** Andrea can assist with questions or feedback about curriculum, teaching and learning, assessment, learning progress, intervention, extension, or how classroom programs are supporting student growth.
- **Sarah Sweeney, PBIS Leader:** Sarah can support communication around Positive Behaviour Interventions and Supports, school-wide expectations, behaviour support processes, social skills respectful relationships and how we help children make positive choices.
- **Anthony Garton, Principal:** Families are always welcome to contact me for broader school matters, unresolved concerns, feedback about school operations, significant wellbeing or learning matters, enrolment questions, community matters, or when you are unsure who is the best person to speak with.

Our front office staff are also an important first point of contact for many day-to-day matters. They can assist families with administration, attendance, student absences, late arrivals and early departures, first aid communication, messages to staff, forms and general school enquiries. Families can also speak with Nadia Leonello for support with school uniform matters, including uniform purchases, questions and practical assistance.

Keeping the Driveway Clear for Safe Access

We ask all families to please keep the driveway area in front of the new classroom building clear at all times. This area is an important exit point for vehicles leaving the front car park and must remain accessible so traffic can move safely and efficiently.



A yellow line has been marked across the front of this area to indicate that it is a no parking zone. Keeping this space clear is especially important to allow emergency vehicles, service vehicles and private vehicles to exit or move through when required. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and accessible school environment for everyone.

Learning Conversations with Teachers

Families will have recently received communication inviting them to book a learning conversation with their child and classroom teacher. These conversations are an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and achievement to date, celebrate their growth, and identify ways we can continue to support their learning and wellbeing.

I strongly encourage all families to book a meeting time so you can stay informed and connected with your child's learning journey. At Antonio, we place great importance on strong communication and genuine partnership between families, students and staff. When we work together and keep the lines of communication open, we are better able to support each child to feel known, valued and successful.

Book Week

This week we celebrated the joy, imagination and fun that comes from reading as part of Children's Book Week. Our wonderful parade on Monday morning was a highlight, with students proudly sharing their favourite characters and bringing this year's theme, "Symphony of Stories," to life in such creative ways. It has also been lovely to see many children enjoying the wide selection of new fiction texts recently added to our library, helping to spark curiosity, conversation and a continued love of reading across our school.

Thank you to all our families for your wonderful support in helping your children engage so enthusiastically and have so much fun together throughout this special celebration of reading.

Warm Regards

Anthony Garton- Principal

Dear Families,

As we move through Term 3, there are many exciting opportunities and initiatives emerging across Catholic Identity, Wellbeing and Inclusion at Antonio. Our commitment to nurturing the whole child remains at the heart of all we do, ensuring every student feels known, valued, supported and inspired to grow academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

This term, students will engage in a range of faith formation, wellbeing and inclusion initiatives designed to strengthen their sense of belonging, connection and personal growth. We are also delighted to welcome several new professionals to our community who will further enhance the support available to our students, families and staff.

Catholic Identity - Father's Day Community Prayer 🙏

We warmly invite fathers, grandfathers, special men in our students' lives and all members of our community to join us for our Father's Day Community Prayer on Thursday 27 August at 9:00am in the Gymnasium.

This special prayer experience will be led by our Year 6 Faith Leaders, who have been working thoughtfully to prepare a meaningful celebration of gratitude, love and family. We look forward to gathering as a community to honour and give thanks for the fathers and father figures who enrich the lives of our children.

Made in the Image of God ❤️

This week, teachers have commenced teaching the Made in the Image of God curriculum across the school. This curriculum supports students to explore themes of human dignity, respectful relationships, identity, belonging and God's love for every person.

Learning experiences are carefully designed to be developmentally appropriate and encourage students to develop empathy, respect for self and others, and an understanding that every person is uniquely created in the image and likeness of God. We look forward to partnering with families as students engage with this important learning throughout the term.

Religious Literacy Assessment Tool (ReLAT) 📅

In Week 8, our Year 4 students will participate in the Religious Literacy Assessment Tool (ReLAT). This assessment provides valuable information about students' understanding of key Religious Education concepts, scripture, traditions and teachings explored throughout their learning.

The assessment is not used to grade individual students. Rather, it assists schools and teachers to better understand student learning and informs future teaching and learning in Religious Education.

Wellbeing and Inclusion

Supporting the wellbeing and inclusion of every child remains a key priority at Antonio, and we continue to strengthen the services, programs and supports available to our students and families.

This term, we are delighted to welcome Natalia Johansen as our School Counsellor, whose experience and expertise will further enhance the support available to students and families. We are also fortunate to have two Social Work students, Bella and Summer, joining our community and contributing to a range of wellbeing initiatives across the school. In addition, we welcome Jenn Cullen (Psychologist), Natalie Papps (Occupational Therapist) and Jordan Johns (Speech Pathologist) from the CESA CILAH Allied Health Team.

These additions reflect our ongoing commitment to creating a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where every child feels known, valued and supported to thrive. Please read on as we introduce these wonderful people and share the positive impact they will have within our school community.

Personalised Plans for Learning (PPLs) ✅

Throughout this term, teachers have been reviewing and updating students' Personalised Plans for Learning (PPLs) to ensure adjustments, supports and learning goals continue to reflect each student's strengths, needs and progress.

These plans play an important role in supporting inclusive learning environments where all students can access and engage meaningfully with the curriculum. Over the coming weeks, updated PPLs will be shared and discussed with families during our Parent, Teacher and Student Learning Conversations.

We greatly value the insights and perspectives that parents and caregivers bring to these discussions. Family voice is an essential part of the planning process and helps us to better understand each child's experiences, strengths and needs across both home and school settings. These conversations provide an opportunity to review the effectiveness of current adjustments, celebrate growth and work collaboratively to identify future supports that will enable students to thrive.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and commitment to supporting your child's learning, wellbeing and success. Together, we can ensure every student feels supported, included and empowered to reach their potential.

R U OK? Day 🧡

On Thursday 10 September, Antonio students will participate in activities recognising R U OK? Day. This important national day reminds us of the power of connection and encourages meaningful conversations about wellbeing.

Students will engage in age-appropriate learning experiences focused on kindness, empathy, inclusion and recognising trusted adults who can provide support. These activities align closely with our ongoing commitment to fostering a culture where every child feels safe, connected and confident to seek help when they need it.



Greetings to our New School Counsellor – Natalia! 🙌

My name is Natalia Johansen, and I am the new School Counsellor on Thursdays at Antonio. Since starting in Week 3 this term, it has been wonderful getting to know students, staff and families while supporting the school's strong focus on student wellbeing.

I bring experience from working in a children's hospital as a play therapist, counselling neurodiverse clients in a psychology practice, and supporting children living in DCP homes. These experiences have shaped my approach to be trauma-informed, supportive and child-focused, helping students feel safe and understood as they navigate challenges both at school and at home.

The school counselling program supports students and families experiencing a range of difficulties, including anxiety, school refusal, emotional regulation challenges, friendship and social concerns, grief and loss, family separation and more. To access support through the counselling program, families or staff can request a referral form from myself, their child's teacher or the school reception.

Each referral is triaged based on:

- Existing supports already in place (such as psychology, OT or speech services)
- Strategies already trialled within the classroom
- The impact on the student's wellbeing, learning and school attendance

Support through the counselling program may not always involve regular one-on-one sessions with a student; however, every referral will be responded to with appropriate support and guidance.

This may include:

- Providing strategies and recommendations to teachers and school leadership
- Supporting parents and caregivers with planning and strategies at home
- Linking families with external support services
- Informal student check-ins to encourage wellbeing strategies and connection

Please feel welcome to reach out to myself or the school if you would like to discuss whether the counselling program may be beneficial for your child or family.

Email: Natalia.johansen@antonio.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 0409 945 051

A Warm Welcome to our Semester 2 Social Work Students! 🙌

Bella

Hi! I'm Bella, and I'm currently completing my Social Work placement here at Antonio. I'm in my third year of studying Social Work at Flinders University and will be spending the next few months getting involved in the Antonio community.

During my placement, I'll be working alongside students and staff, spending time in the Wellbeing Room, supporting wellbeing initiatives and exploring ways we can continue to strengthen wellbeing across the school. I'm particularly interested in early intervention, mental health and creating spaces where young people feel comfortable, supported and heard.

Outside of Uni, I love spending time with my family, friends and my two dogs, going for walks, reading, and probably spending a little too much time planning and organising everything! I'm really looking forward to getting to know more of the Antonio community during my time here.



Summer

Hi everyone! My name is Summer, and I'm studying a Master of Social Work at Flinders University and completing my first placement here at Antonio.

You may see me around the classrooms, Wellbeing Room, playground or joining different school activities. I have really enjoyed getting to know the students and staff and becoming part of the school community. I especially enjoy spending time with students, listening to their stories, and learning about the different ways they communicate, connect and express themselves.

I'm very grateful to be here and excited to see what the rest of my placement brings!



Welcome to our CESA CILAH Allied Health Staff! 🙌

In the area of Inclusion and Wellbeing, we also welcome Jenn Cullen (Psychologist), Natalie Papps (Occupational Therapist) and Jordan Johns (Speech Pathologist) to Antonio.

Jenn, Natalie and Jordan will be onsite at school every second Thursday until the end of the school year, working with selected students, families and teachers in a variety of ways to support optimal learning, wellbeing, engagement and participation. Their expertise will assist us to further strengthen inclusive practices and support student success across a range of settings.

Please make them feel welcome if you see them around our school community!

		
Jenn Cullen Psychologist	Natalie Papps Occupational Therapist	Jordan Johns Speech Pathologist

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in supporting the faith, wellbeing and learning of every child at Antonio. Together, we continue to build a community where all students can flourish and experience a strong sense of belonging.

Warm regards,
Kerry Cornelius
kerryc@antonio.catholic.edu.au

FINANCE - Gary

We would like to remind those who have not returned their direct debit form to complete one and submit it to the school office or email to - accounts@antonio.catholic.edu.au.

The direct debit form is available on the school website or Gary will email you one if you request through accounts@antonio.catholic.edu.au.

The next School fee statements will be emailed out in week 2 of term 4.

For those wishing to apply for financial assistance, please contact Gary Sampson on 83254500 extension 3 to obtain the necessary forms.



For families whose child was included in a special group photograph on photo day, please use the attached link if you wish to place an order.

[Please click here](#)

[Password: ACSpg26](#)