## Calendar of Events

**REGULAR PROGRAM DATES:**

**Learning Treasures** – Term One  
9.00am - 10.30am  
Monday 15th February  
Monday 22nd February  
Monday 29th February  
Monday 7th March  
Monday 21st March  

**Term Two**  
Monday 2nd May - Monday 20th June

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 11th February</td>
<td>Whole School Mass</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 15th February</td>
<td>Learning Treasures Commences</td>
<td>9.00am - 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 16th February</td>
<td>Specialist Lessons Commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 17th February</td>
<td>Parents and Friends Meeting</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
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<td>Sun 21st February</td>
<td>Staff Commissioning Mass</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 22nd February</td>
<td>Mr Sharman attending North West Principal’s Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th February</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 25th February</td>
<td>Assembly - Grade 1, 3/4 JM and Grade 5 Presenting</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 1st March</td>
<td>Student Goal Setting Sessions</td>
<td>3.00pm - 8.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd March</td>
<td>Performance - Sean W Smith</td>
<td>1.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th March</td>
<td>World Day of Prayer, Prayer Service - Led by Grade 5</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<td>Thurs 10th March</td>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6 Class Mass</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<td>Mon 14th March</td>
<td>8Hr Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 17th March</td>
<td>St Patrick’s Day Prayer Service - Led by Grade 1</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 18th March</td>
<td>North West Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 21st March</td>
<td>Feast Of St Joseph Prayer Service - Led by Junior Joeys</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 22nd March</td>
<td>Palm Sunday Prayer Service - Led by Prep</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 23rd March</td>
<td>Good Friday Prayer Service - Led by Grade 6</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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Contact Us!  
**SAMPSON AVENUE, PO BOX 336, SMITHTON**  
**TAS 7330**  
**T:** (03) 64 521431  
**F:** (03) 64 522581  
**E:** spc@catholic.tas.edu.au  
**W:** [www.stpeterchanelsmithton.com](http://www.stpeterchanelsmithton.com)  

Search ‘St Peter Chanel Smithton’ to follow us on  

Twitter and Facebook

**2016**  
**Term One** - Thursday 4th February - Friday 8th April  
**Term Two** - Tuesday 26th April - Friday 1st July  
**Term Three** - Monday 18th July - Friday 23rd September  
**Term Four** - Monday 10th October - Thursday 15th December

**Banking Details:**  
**BSB 067 - 000**  
**ACCOUNT 10273413**  
**REFERENCE:** Your Name
A word from the Principal…

Aiming High in 2016

It is my pleasure to welcome you back to school for 2016. We are very excited about the year ahead. The staff have been working tirelessly to prepare for the commencement of school.

This year at St Peter Chanel Catholic School, we have an underlying theme in all that we do, based around ‘Aiming High’. Our school’s leadership have identified draft goals for our annual plan. We look forward to sharing these with you very soon.

It is very important that our community understands where we are headed. We are reflective. We are ambitious. We are motivated to achieve high standards. We make no apologies for this!

You will also notice in our school calendar that Goal Setting Sessions are coming up soon. We want to provide all members of our community with experiences and an environment that allows all with an opportunity to flourish.

Today is Ash Wednesday. This holy day marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day season of fasting that is considered preparation for Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Although there is no Biblical reference to Ash Wednesday or Lent, scholars of Christianity date the tradition of a 40-day fasting period back to 325 A.D.

Lent mirrors Jesus’ own 40-day period of fasting, described in the book of Matthew. Observers have ash placed on their foreheads in the shape of the cross as the words from Genesis 3:19 are spoken: “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” If your child returns home from school today with a dirty forehead, this is the explanation!

Fasting requirements for adult Catholics are outlined by the Code of Canon Law, and include eating no meat on the Fridays during Lent, as well as fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (fasting in this case refers to eating just one full meal a day.) Yesterday, many of the classes celebrated Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday, another Christian tradition, acknowledges that we are heading into the season of Lent; a time of prayer, penance and almsgiving. It is that last opportunity to feast, before the forty days of ‘sacrifice’ that follow before Good Friday.

The Lenten journey is a time to reflect on our personal journeys and where our preferred futures exist.

Best wishes for a great year,

Mr Gregg Sharman
PRINCIPAL
Skool Bag App & New Website
This year, our newsletter will be published on a fortnightly basis.

In the event you do not receive correspondence from the school, you are able to go to our Skool Bag iTunes application. Simply search “St Peter Chanel Catholic School Smithton” and follow the prompts. The application will allow you to source previous letters sent. The application will be available on Windows and Android once the trial period has finished, in late February.

We also have a new website. Please be patient as we upload content. This process will completed soon.

Our school Facebook page is frequented daily by many members of our community. We do our best to respond quickly, however, please respect that our staff have families and after hours responses cannot be expected every time. We do our best to serve! Thank you for your anticipated understanding.

Requirement for Email Addresses
We will be asking families for email addresses. We have two purposes behind this request:
- To update our email list and decrease our carbon footprint
- All students have an online portfolio for parents and family members to access 24/7.

Newsletters are available via our school app, website and email. Should you still require a paper copy of the newsletter please contact the school office.

Although portfolios are digital, you have the capacity to print these in colour as well as recording on CD or DVD.

Welcome Barbecue
Thank you to everyone who attended last Friday’s Welcome Barbecue. Special thanks to Stuey Smith, Melissa Thorp, David and Debra Plaza for their work in preparing the food.

Well done to the mums, dads and children for joining in the games that were being played. Special mention must go to Doug Buckby. His fielding and direct hit throwing rivaled Ricky Ponting’s standards in the mid-2000s. Well done, Doug!

I hear the Parents and Friends would like to explore Staff versus Students versus Parents a little further this year. Stay tuned for more information.

Class Welcome Letters
We trust that you received your families class welcome letter in January. These provided you with information required for the year ahead. Physical Education is again held on Tuesdays, with the PE uniform to be worn on this day.

Online Book Orders
We have received nothing but positive feedback about ordering books online. Reports of prompt delivery to the homes of families, along with the ability to order numbers of specific items was appreciated.
Goal Setting Sessions
Goal Setting Sessions will be held on Tuesday, 1st March from 3.00pm to 8.00pm. Separate documentation will be sent home regarding these sessions.

School Leaders 2016
Opportunities for students across the school to take on key leadership responsibilities at St Peter Chanel Catholic School are as follows:
- Four (4) Grade Six School Captains
  School Captains will take the lead for a term each
- Six (6) Grade Six House Captains
  Two Gibson
  Two Marian
  Two Hanlon
- Two Class Captains from Prep – Grade Five
Students will be nominated in February and again at the commencement of Term Three (meaning four students will serve as Class Captains in Prep - Grade Five)

A reviewed selection process has been adopted. A new addition to the process includes that applications for leadership will be displayed publicly for all community members to observe. Grade Six nominations are due this Friday.

Students will meet regularly on Thursdays during lunchtime and will be under the guidance of Miss Pitt.

Forms and Documents
Last week, we sent home a documents pack to be completed and returned by Monday. If you have not returned these forms, we ask that they are returned as soon as possible.

Welcome to New Families
We welcome new families to our school community. The Greene, Cox, Madden-Evans and Evans families join us along with our new families with first time Kinder children. We hope this has been a smooth transition for you all.

Welcome to New Staff at St Peter Chanel
Assistant Principal: Early Years - Miss Ella Swinden
Grade Six - Miss Meghan Edwards (Wednesday/Thursday)
Grade Three/Four JM - Mrs Andrea Jaffray-Morf
Grade Three/Four H - Miss Kayla Hampton
Prep - Mrs Sussan Evans
Physical Education - Miss Jessica Smith
Teacher Assistant - Miss Amy Pegg
Teacher Assistant - Ms Rebecca Evans
Utility Officer - Mr David Plaza

In total, we now have 37 staff at our school. All staff are committed to providing the very best for the children in our care.
A message from Miss Ella Swinden...

A big thank you to the St Peter Chanel community for my warm welcome. For those of you I have not met, my name is Ella Swinden and I have been appointed Assistant Principal: Early Years. I will be working alongside Nicki Pitt, our Assistant Principal: Primary. Prior to this appointment, I taught across Years 1 to 3 at Our Lady of Lourdes in Devonport.

As AP: Early Years, I will be working predominately with years Kindergarten to Grade 2. My role will be very 'hands on', being involved in the planning, delivery, assessment and reporting across the Early Years. I am also looking forward to coordinating Learning Treasures and developing a Loose Parts Play area for our school grounds.

I am excited to have joined the staff at St Peter Chanel and am looking forward to getting to know and work with our community.

*Congratulations to Ella as she has been nominated for Tasmanian Young Achiever Award 2016 under the criteria of - University of Tasmania, Faculty of Education Teaching Excellence Award

Congratulations Mrs Coombs

Mrs Amelia Coombs and her husband Joe are expecting the arrival of their first child in the middle of the year. Congratulations Amelia and Joe!

Student Excellence - End of Year Awards 2015

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of the following former students at Marist Regional College for their recently achieved awards:

- Caitlin Fowlie (Year 7 College Commitment Award)
- Bejai Cobbing (Year 8 College Commitment Award/General Excellence)
- Emma Spinks (Year 7 General Excellence)
- Tori Williams (Year 7 General Excellence)

Our former students are also shining at Smithton High School:

- Billy Izzard (Grade 7 Academic Excellence)
- Sarah Saville (Grade 7 Care for People Award)
- Bailey Grey (Grade 8 Outstanding Citizenship)

It is with great pride that we highlight the excellent work of our past students. It is pleasing that the foundation provided at St Peter Chanel is holding these students in good stead for the future.

PIPS Testing

This week Miss Swinden will be conducting PIPS testing with Prep students. PIPS is a computer based test to assess the reading, phonics and mathematical knowledge of students at the start and end of Prep. This test is carried out in a one-on-one situation with Miss Swinden and student. PIPS testing is carried out in both government non-government schools throughout Australia in February and October.

Glass Jars (with steel lids)

Stuart Smith would love any glass containers that you may have. Please leave these in the foyer in the front entrance to the school. Can you please help?
Grade Six Leadership Camp
Special thanks to Mrs Danielle Hodgetts, Miss Meghan Edwards, Miss Nicki Pitt and Stuart Smith for accompanying our Grade Six students on their Leadership Camp this week. It takes huge commitment and planning to undertake camps. This effort underlines the importance we place on leadership and the positive impact that our Grade Six students can have on the remainder of the school. It is an expectation that all of our Grade Six students are ‘aiming high’ in every facet of their approach, at school and at home.

Headlice
Back to school for another year and unfortunately this often means the start of the head lice season too. We see an increase in the number of head lice cases in the February to March period, particularly amongst school aged children. Head lice are extremely contagious. Early treatment is recommended to kill head lice and their eggs and to limit school and family contamination.

95% of lice are transmitted through close head to head contact and by sharing objects such as hats, hair brushes, headbands, pillows and towels.

It is a part of school policy that students may return to school after being treated, but please keep in mind hair needs to be checked regularly, thoroughly, eggs removed and including possibly re-treating over the following 7 days.

Assembly
Our first assembly will be the 25th of February, classes will present on a rotation. These details are published on the front of this newsletter each fortnight.

Ash Wednesday Prayer Service
Today we held our Ash Wednesday Prayer Service. This was led by our Grade Two students. Thank you to Mr McMahon and Mr Bellinger for their preparation, as well as Fr Phil for presiding.

Whole School Mass
Tomorrow is our first Whole School Mass for 2016. All families, friends and parishioners are welcome to join us in the church at 9.00am

Learning Treasures Commences
Learning Treasures commences this coming Monday 15th February. Please see the flyer further in this newsletter for more details.

Kinder Expression of Interest 2017
We are now taking expressions of interest for enrolment for 2017. If you would like an expression of interest form please contact the school office.

Specialist Lessons
Specialist Lessons will commence next Tuesday. This has allowed more time for our students to settle into class routines.
Learning Treasures

Our Learning Treasures program (Birth – 4) commences on Monday 15th February. This is a free program for young children and parents to attend and explore a range of play-based activities on offer. It is a great opportunity for families to become familiar with St Peter Chanel in a relaxed and friendly environment.

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We look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks!

Miss Ella Swinden
Mrs Jo Cartledge
Learning Treasures Co-ordinators
Loose Parts Play

‘Play is our brain’s favourite way of learning.’

Diane Ackerman

Children learn so much through play. It allows them to explore, discover, negotiate, take risks, create meaning and solve problems – all the important foundations for developing literacy, numeracy and social skills.

This year we are excited to be introducing a ‘loose parts’ space to our school grounds. Loose parts are items and materials that children can use in their play. They are items with no defined use that can be moved, adapted, controlled, changed and manipulated. Loose Parts Play provides a range of creative and decision-making opportunities: to build, to invent, to choose, to collaborate and consider. The possibilities are endless for how they can be used.

We are therefore beginning to build up items for our loose parts area. These items could range from pots and pans to tyres and wood. Basically anything that a child can play with! It would be wonderful if you could work alongside your child to donate any unwanted items from the list below.

- blankets
- cardboard boxes
- netting
- clothing, hats, scarves
- old computer screens
- old musical equipment
- plastic garden pots
- ropes
- sticks
- hammers

- buckets
- crates
- bicycle wheels
- fancy dress costumes
- key boards
- tennis rackets
- poles
- rugs
- sticks
- traffic cones

- sinks
- cushions
- wood
- helmets
- goggles
- pipes
- ribbon
- sheets
- string
- watering cans

Old kitchen items such as old pots, pans, spoons, baking tins, jugs, bowls and cable wheels.

If you have any questions or would have items to donate, please contact Ella Swinden (AP:EY).
Our 1st meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday at 6.30pm at the school. All new and old members are welcome.

Meeting Dates for the Year:
Term 1 – Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 6.30 p.m.
Term 2 – Wednesday 4th May 2016 at 1.00p.m.
Term 3 – Wednesday 27th July 2016 at 6.30p.m.
Term 4 – Wednesday 19th October 2016 at 1.00p.m.

We value everyone who chooses to join the P&F and like to hear of anything that will enhance our children’s learning and experience at St Peter Chanel Catholic School. Please come along and see if there is something you may be able to contribute to your children’s school. There is always something. We don’t require you to “do” everything. It may be you sell raffle tickets down the street one day, you may know someone who could donate prizes for our raffles, you may be able to cook, good at taking minutes, help in the kitchen at our disco or quiz night, wrap prizes for the raffles, serve sausages at the athletics carnival or sell one of our chocolate boxes! There are a lot of things you can involve yourselves in but it doesn’t need to be everything! Just one or two things make life easy for everyone. Many hands make light work. We look forward to meeting you.

Current Members of The Parents and Friends

Natalie King     Karissa Howard     Shona Sheehan
Maryanne Plaza   Rebecca Evans     Michelle Gale
Tarsha Corrigan  Sharni Richardson Melissa Poke
Cadice Gale      Jackie Smith      Emma Pinner
Yvette Buckby    Kurtis Grey       Leah Wescombe
Carmen Clifford  Melinda Dwyer

Easter Raffle

Parents and Friends will be having an Easter Raffle again this year. It is early this year! For those new to our school, this fundraiser has been very successful in the past – mostly due to the wonderful efforts made by our parent community. We ask that parents kindly donate an Easter Egg or Easter item that can be used as raffle prizes. Could these please be dropped off to our school office by Monday 7th March.

All families will be provided with a raffle book containing 20 tickets that can be purchased for $1.00 each. Please write on both sides i.e. Mr Smith on one side, next ticket on other side would be Mrs Jones. Each ticket is to have a name and a phone number. Any confusion please ask at the office or a P&F member. We would appreciate families selling tickets if able. Can you please return all sold or unsold books to the office by Monday 14th March. If you are able to sell more tickets, extra books will be available from the office. We will be drawing the raffle on Thursday 17th March in the afternoon. Many thanks for your help to make this successful and for supporting your children’s school.

Football Tipping Competition

Natalie King will be running the AFL Footy Tipping Competition again this year for the Parents and Friends. The season consists of 23 rounds. We don’t include the Finals. It is too difficult to get forms out to paper option tippers so it will finish at the end of Round 23. The cost will be $2.00 per round which will mean $46.00 for the complete season. There is a weekly prize of $20.00 per round at this stage. This weekly prize will be dependant on how many tippers we get. More people mean a higher weekly prize! The same applies to the end of season prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Students will be given a sheet with two options to be involved. Online option or Paper Option.

Online Option: Please login to www.footytips.com.au/comps/spcschooltipsters, Password : winners. You will need to make yourself a profile and then you can load your tips. You can also download the footytips app to your phone or ipad. Please send your form with your name, alias, phone details, funds and class number (should you win Natalie needs to know where to give the winnings).

(Previous tippers, please check, you may still be able to use last years username and password)

Paper Option: Fill out the manual form, Label envelope Footy Tipping and hand to the office with your $2.00. Please have your tipping to the office by 9.00am every Friday morning. If there is a Thursday night game you need to have it in to the office by 9.00am on the Thursday morning. This is due to personal commitments by Natalie. We are hoping to get at least 30-40 participants. Our end of year top three should receive a substantial sum as well as the P&F raising some funds for our school and students. And most of all it is a fun thing to be involved!

If anyone has any questions please contact Natalie King 0417 968 110.
Welcome to the beginning of a new year with lots of new changes ahead for 2016. This year I have joined the leadership team as well as providing pastoral care. Exciting new ideas & expectations are in process to make your child/ren’s time here at St. Peter Chanel a quality & rewarding experience. We want the utmost best for our students, so identifying social & emotional wellbeing issues that may be hindering the learning process is very important. Please approach me at anytime if you have any concerns about your children here at school or at home.

BREAKFAST CLUB – Started this week with Foodbank of Tasmania Inc. on board. This company is a ‘not for profit’ organisation that supplies food to over 200 Tasmanian welfare agencies plus 85+ School Breakfast programs. Luckily we are able to source a majority of the products that we use but do still need some donations of Butter, Milo & Vegemite. If you would like to help us out by donation please leave at the office. I also require parental assistance on a Friday if anybody can afford approximately an hour of their time, please let me know.

Do you have empathy and compassion for people in need? Do you want to make a difference? Our school St. Peter Chanel has formed a St Vincent de Paul Society Conference, which provides Emergency Relief assistance to local people in need. We are seeking a parent/guardian or grandparent who would be willing to join our group & be able to volunteer a couple of hours a week to provide necessary essentials to members of the broader community who need our support. For further enquiries, please see our Pastoral Worker Donna Porteus at the school, or contact St Vincent de Paul Society State Membership Manager, Melissa White on 63 330822, or melissa.white@vinniestas.org.au

“The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society“
Lenten Reflection: Begin with the End in Mind

Before you decide what to give up for Lent this year, I want you to consider something very important. Don’t forget Easter. Easter is the end of Lent. Easter gives meaning to Lent, indeed to time itself. Easter celebrates the greatest joy known to man: new life! Easter marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ and our invitation to share in the mystery of God’s life and love. Easter is the reason for the season of Lent.

The second habit of Steven Covey’s The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is called “Begin with the End in Mind.” Covey writes, “To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you are going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction” (p. 98).

We don’t earn the right to rise with Christ during Lent. There is no amount of candy, pop, fast foods, TV, and internet fasting that will prove our holiness. Neither will extra prayers make us worthy of salvation. This, we will be reminded of during the Ash Wednesday liturgy.

But our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving are opportunities to prepare for the Easter Rising. We do these things as RSPVs for the Resurrection. We take up our crosses daily because we know, like Jesus knew, that we will rise again.

This season of Lent – no matter what you decide to give up or take on – don’t forget Easter. The end gives meaning to the journey.


Mr Gerry McMahon - Prayer and Liturgy Co-ordinator
Canteen Special

Friday 12th Feb
Fish & Chips
$6.00
or Fish & Chips

Hot Shots Tennis

Hot Shots Tennis starts Sunday 14th February and runs till Sunday 20th March. Open to all children 5-12 years old. Registrations will be taken on the first day from 9.45am, with a 10am start.

Sessions run for approximately 1 hour and are followed by a free BBQ. There is a cost of $20 per child for the 6 week program.

For more information contact Leanne Gifford 0499 206 396 or musclechick@bigpond.com

Student Bus Fares 2016

The standard student bus fare in 2016 will be $1.60.

Fare paying students can access discounted fares by purchasing a ten ride ticket* or via an electronic ticketing system** on eligible services.

Students who are eligible for free travel can apply for, or renew, their expired Student Bus Pass at www.transport.tas.gov.au

*maximum ten-ride ticket cost will be $12.80.

**maximum individual fare on electronic ticketing systems is $1.28.