

ST. LEONARD'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
349 SPRINGVALE RD
GLEN WAVERLEY 9560 8491



PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET



At the heart of St Leonard's is
the desire to develop the infinite
potential of every person.

THE JOURNEY BEGINS

A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings
You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities
that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new
opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new
friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



A message from the Principal

Dear Families,

At the heart of St Leonard's is a desire to develop the infinite potential of every person. Our vision of *'Aspiring to Excellence,'* underpins our work and is reflected in our outstanding academic results. *'Aspiring to Excellence'* refers to much more than academic outcomes. At St. Leonard's we foster positive attitudes and teach contemporary programs to engage spiritual, academic, social, emotional and physical development.

In 2023, our whole school theme is, **'Hear Me Roar.'** The theme reflects our focus on harnessing the voices, interests and ideas of the students to be active and confident learners and to stand up for what's right and make a difference to our world.

At St Leonard's we encourage our learners to have high expectations of themselves and to demonstrate perseverance. When children have a growth mindset they can face their challenges courageously and learn from them. We encourage our students to celebrate their strengths and have the mindset to dream, to question, to create and to innovate for the future THEY are going to make for the local community, Australia and the world.

Please feel welcome to visit our school on our Open Days. I know that you will be impressed by our capable and confident students, our caring and dedicated staff and our amazing facilities.

You may ask what makes our school different to others. The eight characteristics of our Catholic school are mean that we strive to :

Honour the sacred dignity of each person

Search for truth

Embrace difference and diversity

Build a culture of learning together

Engage in the deep questions of life

Honour equitable access and opportunity for all

Commit to achieving the highest standards possible

Make a difference in the world

Please feel welcome to visit our school on our Open Days. I know that you will be impressed by our capable and confident students, our caring and dedicated staff and our amazing facilities.

I look forward to meeting you.

Rob Horwood

THE POWER OF YET



VISION

Aspiring to Excellence

MISSION

In the spirit and tradition of Catholic Education, we aim to provide a safe and caring Gospel based Christian education environment for the children of St Leonard's Parish.

SCHOOL MOTTO

The School's motto "All My Life For God" was established in 1959 and truly reflects our Christian philosophy.



A Catholic School

Father John Dowling is currently the Parish Priest of St Leonard's Parish, Glen Waverley and was appointed to this position in 2017. St Leonard's Parish was established in 1955 from funds provided by the Parish Community and St Leonard's School was built and began operation 1959. In 2019, we celebrated our 60th anniversary.

School and Parish Prayers

School

This is our school
Let happiness dwell here
Let the rooms be full of contentment
Let love be here
Love one another
Love of being alive
And love of God
Let us remember that many hand build a house
So all of us together
Make one happy school
Amen

Parish

O God, the creator and giver of all things
Bless St Leonard's Parish in this our united endeavour.
Strengthen our faith,
Grant us the spirit of sacrifice so that with your grace,
We will glorify You, grow in love, and provide for the needs of our Parish,
Through Christ, Our Lord.
Amen

In 2022 our St Leonard's enrolment is 265 children. St Leonard's Catholic Primary School teaches and practices Catholic ideals and attitudes through example, prayer, religious instruction and by offering the students the opportunity to receive the following sacraments;

- Reconciliation (Year 3)
- Eucharist (Year 4)
- Confirmation (Year 6).

Our highly qualified and committed staff provide stimulating and varied learning experiences for all children. Each term, the children are involved in social justice initiatives to make a difference to the world.

We challenge our learners to make a difference in the world, inspired by the Gospel and led by the Holy Spirit to grow in virtue and act for justice and the common good.

Religious Education

The 'religious dimension of the Catholic school' is its identity and mission, always founded in the person of Jesus Christ as it comes to us through the Good News. In very explicit ways the religious dimension ensures a thorough integration of identity and mission into the whole of the educational experience of every learner.

From the first moment that a student sets foot in a Catholic school, he or she ought to have the impression of entering a new environment, one illuminated by the light of faith, and having its own unique characteristics. The (Second Vatican) Council summed this up by speaking of an environment permeated with the Gospel spirit of love and freedom. (Congregation for Catholic Education 1998)

These unique characteristics have their foundation in the way the school engages with the story of Jesus Christ: his life, death and resurrection. These events find new expression in the life of the school, bringing the love and joy of the Gospel to all it undertakes.

This love and joy is demonstrated by:

- nurturing each person's development and relationship with God
- bearing witness to this love and joy through the quality of personal relationships
- ensuring that Catholic beliefs, teachings and values permeate learning experiences
- bearing witness to the possibility of a truly personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- building community permeated by freedom and love
- inviting learning that integrates the light of faith, the joy of discovery and the richness of diverse cultures
- guiding learners as they make meaning for life and form their identity
- supporting learners to imagine and work towards a world of justice, peace and flourishing for all of creation.

In this way the school lives out a Catholic worldview which sees the world as both holy and broken, finds the face of God in others, and makes love the foundation for action. (H of H, Religious Dimension p.3)



Catholic schools were founded to proclaim Jesus' message of God's love for all. Our Catholic faith calls us to embrace the contemporary world with a Catholic imagination.

Student Wellbeing

The wellbeing landscape of St. Leonard's incorporates all aspects of student life at school. Our focus encompasses students physical, intellectual, moral, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing and the provision of a safe and supportive environment in which they can learn (Horizons of Hope). The connection between the promotion of wellbeing and positive learning outcomes is clear. Children who are happy, confident and able to establish meaningful relationships are better placed to achieve positive learning outcomes. For this reason, the role of Student Wellbeing and Learning Diversity coordination are intertwined.

Our Wellbeing approach encompasses three key areas:

Tier 1. The provision of high quality classroom instruction in academic, spiritual and social and emotional learning

Tier 2. Targeted early intervention for students who are not meeting expectations

Tier 3. Intensive intervention accessing appropriate quality professional support for students deemed at-risk

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) - Tier 1

Each term, whole school SEL units are developed to build competency in social and emotional skills, attitudes, and behaviours. Units are chosen to respond to demonstrated needs and to provide a vehicle for teaching the Victorian Capabilities Curriculum. Units have a core focus in one of the following competencies:

Self-awareness: The ability to accurately recognise one's emotions and thoughts and their influence on behaviour. This includes accurately assessing one's strengths and limitations and possessing a well-grounded sense of confidence and optimism.

Self-management: The ability to regulate one's emotions, thoughts, and behaviours effectively in different situations. This includes managing stress, controlling impulses, motivating oneself, and setting and working toward achieving personal and academic goals.

Social awareness: The ability to take the perspective of and empathise with others from diverse backgrounds and cultures, to understand social and ethical norms for behaviour, and to recognise family, school, and community resources and supports.

Relationship skills: The ability to establish and maintain healthy and rewarding relationships with diverse individuals and groups. This includes communicating clearly, listening actively, cooperating, resisting inappropriate social pressure, negotiating conflict constructively, and seeking and offering help when needed

Responsible decision making: The ability to make constructive & respectful choices about personal behavior and social interactions based on consideration of ethical standards, safety concerns, social norms, the realistic evaluation of consequences of various actions, & the wellbeing of self and others.



Nourished by a strong sense of belonging is the foundation upon which our community can flourish.

Curriculum

Learning brings HOPE at a Catholic school.

Learning brings hope at our Catholic school, St Leonard's and that hope is based on the experience of God's love and care for all. The curriculum is enriched by the values, beliefs, perspectives and experiences of each member of the learning community and supports the full flourishing of each student across religious, physical, cognitive, emotional and social domains. Learners are empowered to shape and enrich their world with meaning, purpose and hope derived from their encounter with life and the teachings of Jesus.

St Leonard's is committed to high academic standards and to providing rich learning experiences for the children in our care. We ensure that the learning and teaching offered to our students is rigorous, relevant and personalised. Design Thinking is the Inquiry approach used to deliver curriculum in Years P - 6. This approach aims to engage and empower students in their learning, to challenge learners to explore and consider deep questions and big ideas and designed so that all learners have access to quality teaching and learning.

At St Leonard's our Curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum and we teach to the Standards and Levels set out in the curriculum document. These are; English and Mathematics, Language, The Arts, Health & Physical Education, the Humanities, Science, Technologies, Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical Capabilities, Intercultural Capabilities, Personal and Social Capabilities. Our curriculum is differentiated in order to enable personalised learning.

Our curriculum is designed to respond to the needs of the local community and it is through meaningful and purposeful experiences that our educators ensure learning is effective for each student. The learning community works together to make clear connections between the curriculum, the world of the learner and the Catholic tradition.

Digital Technologies are integrated into all aspects of the curriculum and are used as a learning tool to enable the students in their learning. The use of G-Suite for Education applications and other applications provides practical opportunities for students to be users, designers and producers of technologies as well as providing a platform for students to connect, collaborate and create.



Our vision for Learning and Teaching is that, at the completion of Year 6, each child will be spiritually, academically, emotionally and socially prepared for the next phase of development in their lives. For their secondary education, children from St. Leonard's attend Avila College, Mazenod College, St Kevin's College, Emmaus College, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Glen Waverley, Brentwood and Highvale Secondary Colleges and other local schools.

Learning is a journey of endless possibilities, where we are energised to seek and explore questions about the world around us.

CURRICULUM

To enable the children to become life-long learners, we provide a comprehensive curriculum, developed to meet the expectations of the State and Federal Governments.

Our curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of individual students and is designed to allow the children to work with our staff and their parents, to achieve excellence. It encompasses the following:

Victorian Curriculum

Religious Education and Sacramental Program

"Horizons of Hope" & "Coming to Know Worship and Love"

Integrated Inquiry Learning and Excursions

Social and Emotional Programs

Italian Language, Performing Arts (Drama and Music), Visual Arts, Library

Physical Education and Sport

Literacy and Numeracy Support Programs

Digital Learning Program Years P-6 (Coding extension and Lego First League extension programs)

Individual Learning Plans for children with diverse learning needs



Special Features/Extra Curricular

Daily Christian Meditation

Year 5/6 Camp - Sovereign Hill and Camp Rumburg (alternative years)

Year 6 Leadership Program - Elected School and Sports Captain, Liturgy Captains by application

Buddies Program: Year 6 and Prep

Sensory Space and DreamSpace for learning

Intensive Swimming Program (Prep - 6)

Sport (Interschool Sport in the Wellington District VPSSA and School-based)

School-based Athletics Carnival (Prep - 6), School-based Skip-a-thon

Gardened Learning Area

1:1 Digital Device Program (Years 3 - 6 Chromebooks)

Interactive Whiteboards in all classrooms and learning areas

Biennial Prep - 6 Performing Arts Concert (odd years i.e. 2023)

Biennial Prep - 6 Visual Art Show (even years i.e. 2022)

School/Parish Masses

Camp Australia Before and After School Care

School Choir

Private Individual Music Tuition (singing, guitar, keyboard, drums)

Private Chess Tuition

Importantly, our curriculum also includes our Religious Education Program, giving our school a distinctive Catholic nature.

Parent Partnerships

At St. Leonard's we work in partnership with parents and families. Parents and guardians, as the first educators of their children, enter into a partnership with the Catholic school to promote and support their child's education. Parents and guardians must assume a responsibility for maintaining this partnership with the school by supporting the school in furthering the spiritual and academic life of their children.

Working With Children Checks are essential prerequisites for assisting in classrooms.

CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS

At St. Leonard's we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school. Our commitment is drawn from and inherent in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel ([CECV Commitment Statement to Child Safety](#)).

Our Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct are on our website.

Learning Diversity

Catholic schools in their endeavours to support all students to flourish, intervene as early as possible to meet the individual needs and abilities of each student.

Diversity encompasses all learners across cultural, academic, social emotional and physical attributes noting these are not mutually exclusive. 'Learning diversity' refers to the infinite variety of life experiences and attributes a child brings to their formal learning at school.

It is the understanding that all students should be fully active members of their school community and that all professionals in a school share responsibility for their learning. Learning diversity in Catholic schools is enacted through an inclusive pedagogy and a commitment to uphold the rights of all to be:

welcomed

valued

acknowledged

actively engaged in education

All students regardless of race, age or gender, by virtue of their dignity as human persons, have a right to an education that is suited to their particular needs and adapted to their ability. (Pope Paul VI 1965).

St Leonard's Uniform

Boys Summer - Terms 1 & 4	Girls Summer - Terms 1 & 4
Grey Shorts	School Dress
Short Sleeve Grey Shirt	White Ankle Socks
Grey Ankle Socks	Hair Ties/Ribbons are White/Green/ Gold
Black School Shoes	Black School Shoes
Woollen Knit Jumper (with School Logo)	Woollen Knit Jumper (with School Logo)
Boys Winter- Terms 2 & 3	Girls Winter - Terms 2 & 3
Grey Trousers	Winter Tunic/Bottle Green Trousers
Long Sleeved Grey Shirt/Yellow Skivvy	Long Sleeved Lemon Blouse/Yellow Skivvy
Grey Socks	Green Tights or White Socks
Woollen Knit Jumper (with School Logo)	Woollen Knit Jumper (with School Logo)
Hats	Hats
Legionnaire or Slouch Hats in Terms 1 & 4 (or if UV is higher than 3)	Legionnaire or Slouch Hats in Terms 1 & 4 (or if UV is higher than 3)
Sport	Sport
Bottle Green Shorts/Tracksuit Pants	Bottle Green Shorts/Skirt/Skort/Tracksuit Pants
Gold Short Sleeve Polo Shirt	Gold Short Sleeve Polo Shirt
White Sports Socks & Runners	White Sports Socks & Runners
Sports Windcheater	Sports Windcheater
Optional (both Boys and Girls)	
Bottle Green Rain Jacket	Bottle Green Gloves and Scarf (with School Logo)
Bottle Green Beanie (with School logo)	Sports Jacket

Enrolment Policy

Rationale

Catholic education is intrinsic to the mission of the Church. It is one means by which the Church fulfils its role in assisting people to discover and embrace the fullness of life in Christ. Catholic schools offer a broad, comprehensive curriculum imbued with an authentic Catholic understanding of Christ and his teaching, as well as a lived appreciation of membership of the Catholic Church.

Parents or guardians, as the first educators of their children, enter into a partnership with the Catholic school to promote and support their child's education. Parents and guardians must assume a responsibility for maintaining this partnership with the school by supporting the school in furthering the spiritual and academic life of their children.

Enrolment

Parents or guardians are required to provide particular information about their child during the enrolment process, both at the application stage and if the school offers your child a place. Please note that lodgement of the application for enrolment form does not guarantee enrolment at the school.

Once an offer has been made and to meet school and government requirements, you will need to provide the school with a completed enrolment form including, birth certificate, baptism certificate, immunisation statement and Visa documents (where applicable). Further information may be required, eg. in relation to any parenting orders, medical conditions or additional learning needs that you have noted on the enrolment form. In addition, it is often useful for parents/guardians to attend a meeting with school staff prior to enrolment to discuss any additional needs your child may have. An interpreter may be organised, if you require it.



Enrolment Policy

Enrolments shall be consistent with the school's aim in providing a Catholic education and a general education within a Catholic environment.

Compliance with the School's regulations shall be a condition of enrolment.

Enrolment numbers shall, within reason be controlled so as to:

- Provide optimum learning facilities for each child
- Ensure the size of the school is broadly consistent with the wishes of the school community

Subject to any special exercise of discretion by the Parish Priest, the following list provides an agreed order of priority for enrolment in our school, which is consistent with the enrolment policy for all Catholic primary schools. The order of priority is:

- Catholic children who are residents of the parish OR siblings of current students
- Catholic children who do not reside in the parish but belong to the parish community
- Catholic children from other parishes (for pastoral reasons)
- Children from non-Catholic Eastern churches who reside in the parish
- Children from non-Catholic Eastern churches who reside outside the parish
- Other Christian children who reside in the parish
- Other Christian children who reside outside the parish
- Non-Christian children who reside in the parish
- Non-Christian children who reside outside the parish

Procedures

1. Enrolments are advertised through the school website, newsletter, parish bulletin, and on kindergarten and childcare centre notice boards.

2. To be eligible for enrolment in Prep your child must turn five years old by 30th April of their Prep year.

3. Parents looking to enroll their child at our school must fill in an enrolment application form. Application forms are available from the school office or alternatively you can download it from the school website
www.leonardsgwav.catholic.edu.au
(application enrolment PDF)



4. Applications close on the 31st May of the proceeding year. First round offers of a place will be sent in June.

5. Acceptance of enrolment offers must be returned within 10 days. Families not successful will be sent a letter of non-acceptance and where relevant an offer to be placed on a waiting list pending enrolment vacancies.

Enrolment Policy

Prep Induction Program:

- Written reports from kindergartens and childcare centres are sought for all children enrolled to assist with a smooth transition to school.
- Occasionally teachers visit kindergartens and childcare centres to observe children enrolled who have specific learning needs, or phone the teachers and childcare workers concerned to gather any additional information required.
- School orientation visits are offered to the incoming Prep/Foundation children.
- Parent Information Sessions will begin in late Terms 3 & 4.
- A chance for the children to meet their new teacher is offered as part of our transition days.
- Current Year 5 students are buddied with new Prep children, in preparation for the next year.
- Prep/Foundation children are introduced to full-time school on a gradual basis during February, to be advised.
- Individual Numeracy & Literacy Testing are conducted during the first weeks of school, to be advised.



WELCOME