



ST ALIPIUS PARISH SCHOOL  
106-108 VICTORIA ST, BALLARAT EAST

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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St Alipius is an authentically Catholic learning community that is dedicated to providing the very best opportunities for the young people of Ballarat East. The Gospel calls us to welcome all and to provide the very best for all.

St Alipius is a place where academic rigour is developed through rich relationships, deep integrity, lifelong learning and extraordinary care for its children. There is a commitment to whole school improvement and an enthusiasm in approaching the many new initiatives and increasingly complex demands of learning in a contemporary environment.

Our teachers place students at the centre of the learning process. We share the belief that effective learning takes place when positive relationships are developed in an atmosphere that balances challenge with support. Students learn in an environment where trusting relationships allow for risks to be taken and mistakes to be made and learnt from.

We believe that engaging the students in purposeful learning experiences is our prime responsibility. High quality classroom teaching provides flexible and adaptable approaches and strategies to enable students to construct meaning and build understandings. An 'Inquiry' approach to teaching is established across the school.

It is a privilege to work within a learning-focused faith community that is united in its diversity and committed to a culture of discovery; a collaborative community where personal excellence is prized, where creative thought, word and action are nourished, where paths to success are varied and where positive relationships thrive.

At St Alipius we believe in celebrating diversity and creating a rich community that reflects the fabric of our society. It is our priority to ensure that the story of the First Peoples of Australia is a current reality in our school and is woven through each area of the curriculum. We encourage the enrolment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in our school and celebrate the wealth of wisdom they offer our community.

Please make a time to visit our school and take a guided tour with some of our students who are eager to share their place in our historic community.

Emily Clarke





# WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

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We welcome you and your child to St Alipius and hope the years spent here will be successful and enjoyable. In particular, we hope that the first year at school will be a happy and exciting experience for both you and your child.

Beginning school is, as you know, an important step in your child's life.

Every child is different.

Every child is special, with individual needs, special interests and special characteristics.

Your child is important to us and we promise to work with you to help them grow, learn and develop as an individual and as a member of our school community.

## OUR VISION

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Open to God's presence, St Alipius is a Catholic learning community of **excellence, equity and empowerment.**

## CONTACT DETAILS

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### ST ALIPIUS PARISH SCHOOL

106-108 Victoria St  
Ballarat East, VIC 3350

Phone (03) 5331 1816

Email: [alipius@saballarat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:alipius@saballarat.catholic.edu.au)

Web: [www.saballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.saballarat.catholic.edu.au)

# OUR STORY

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St Alipius Primary School first opened its doors to the children of the Ballarat East goldfields on April 1st 1853, the thirteenth non-government school formally registered in the state of Victoria.

The mainly Irish Catholic parents of the time joined with Father Matthew Downing to establish a school in the wood and canvas tent that was being used as a church on Sundays.

Surrounded by the disorder and disillusion of the goldfields, these parents were seeking something more for their children; a chance for the better life that they believed an education could bring and the chance to belong to a community that found its inspiration in the person of Jesus.

From these humble beginnings grew the school that we know today - a school that is recognised for its commitment to nurturing the growth of all children within a warm and welcoming, faith-filled community.



**ST ALIPIUS 1853**

## OVER THE YEARS OUR STORY HAS BEEN SHAPED BY GROUPS OF SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE

- The Sisters of Mercy came to St Alipius in 1881 to educate girls from Ballarat East on our present school site.
- The Christian Brothers established St Alipius Boys School in 1888, in the building now used as our Parish Hall.
- Dozens of dedicated lay staff members have been part of the journey of learning at St Alipius.
- Hundreds of families have experienced a sense of belonging in this community and have, in turn, invited others into the St Alipius fold.
- Thousands of children proudly claim that they belong to the only school in the Ballarat Diocese to have provided over 160 years of continuous Catholic education.

Our school evolved during the time of the Eureka uprising, with numerous parents of pupils apparently involved in Australia's only politically motivated civil uprising. It was a time of passion and struggle and commitment to a cause. These qualities continue to inspire us as we strive for excellence in educational outcomes for all our students within a culture of authentic Catholic community.



**ST ALIPIUS GIRLS' SCHOOL CIRCA 1912**

# STAFF DETAILS

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## PARISH PRIEST

Father Concord Bagoisan

## LEADERSHIP

Emily Clarke - Principal

Jaci Commons - Deputy Principal

Jason Spark - Religious Education Leader

Rachel Allan - Religious Education Leader

Leela House - Learning Diversity Leader

Kate Westbrook - Literacy & Wellbeing  
Leader

Lauren Spicer - Numeracy Leader

## FOUNDATION TEAM

Ellen Gleeson

Caitee Carter

Kate Williams

Jenny Greenbank (Learning Support)

Makayla Anderson (Learning Support)

## YEAR 1/2 Team

Philip Ollerenshaw

Gab Hearn

Kate Westbrook

Leela House

Anne-Maree Haintz

Olivia McKeegan (Learning Support)

Yvonne Keane (Learning Support)

Marianne Bessems (Learning Support)

## YEAR 3 TEAM

Lauren Spicer

Claire O'Halloran

Megan Calleija

Kim Lane (Learning Support)

## YEAR 4/5 TEAM

Belinda Demunck

Allana Kane

Kathryn Lynn

Josh Harvey

Helen Humphrey (Learning Support)

Tara Driscoll (Learning Support)

## YEAR 6 TEAM

Jason Spark

Allison Gibson-Snare

Maria Nunn

Melita Bradley (Learning Support)

## SPECIALIST TEAM

Adam Cameron (Japanese & Music)

Allana Kane (Science & Sustainability)

Claire O'Halloran (Physical Education)

## PASTORAL CARE

Suzie Sullivan

## ADMINISTRATION

Lauren Morris

Danielle Ruyg

Kelly Hiscock

## GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE

Ned Baldwin



# SCHOOL TIMES

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8:30	Children may arrive at school, yard is supervised
8:50	Children can enter main buildings
9:00	Classes commence
3:20	Dismissal
3:35	Yard supervision finishes

# WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS EACH DAY

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- A large school bag
- A water bottle
- A packed play-lunch, lunch and drink
- Munch and Crunch - fresh or dried fruit/veg

**It is important that all of your child's items are clearly named, especially jumpers, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles**

An Art Smock will also need to be provided at the start of the year

# SCHOOL HATS

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All children must wear a wide brimmed school hat during recess and lunch time during 1st and 4th terms. If children do not wear their hat they must stay under shelter.

# WHAT NOT TO BRING

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- Expensive and battery-operated toys
- War toys
- Mobile phones and ipods

We ask that parents/caregivers support us in ensuring these items are kept for outside of school times. If a family decides that a child needs a mobile phone for after school contact, please ensure this is left in the office during the day and collected at 3.20pm.





# BEGINNING THE SCHOOL DAY

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- At 8.50 am, students are able to enter their classrooms to get ready for their day. **Feel free to walk in with your child and talk with them about their day.**
- Encourage your child to unpack their own bag, put their drink bottle out, and put any messages into the Office Bag
- **Being able to do these things independently shows readiness for school**
- Learning time begins at 9:00 am
- Let your child know who will collect them at the end of the day.

Whilst we might occasionally see tears or a child upset, they do settle very quickly once parents/caregivers leave, so please try to make your departure a hasty one. Try not to worry - we really will care for your child!

All classroom teachers mark the roll at 9:00 am and record the names of all absent students on the Daily Attendance Roll. Students arriving after this time should report to the office to be marked as present. Administration staff will contact the families of all absent students. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to notify the office in advance of any absence, where possible.

# END OF DAY PICK-UP

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We ask all parents/caregivers to support us in ensuring that children are safely supervised coming to and from school.

Children who travel on a bus will be supervised by a member of staff until the bus arrives.

Foundation children, like all children in the school, will be dismissed in an orderly fashion from their classrooms. Until the end of Term One, Foundation children can be collected from the playground and staff will supervise the children until you arrive.

**OUR STAFF PROVIDE SUPERVISION AFTER SCHOOL. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CROSS ROADS AND DESIGNATED POINTS TO ENSURE EVERYONE'S SAFETY**





# PARENT INVOLVEMENT

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St Alipius Community welcomes and celebrates the involvement of families in the life of our school. There are many ways in which you can become involved:

## **AS A MEMBER OF OUR SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The **School Advisory Council** consists of the Parish Priest, Principal and a group of parent leaders who support the Principal in the management and leadership of the school.

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

the Fundraising Committee assists the school leadership team with planning and implementing fundraising events throughout the year.

## **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK**

It is the policy of the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria that all classroom helpers hold a Working with Children Check and complete Safeguarding Children Policy requirements. WWCC Forms are available from (and need to be lodged) at Australia Post. They are free of charge for volunteers. A passport photo is required and can be purchased from Australia Post if you do not already have one.

**We look forward to helping you find your place in our community**

**We also have many social opportunities at our school.**

**These are a great opportunity to meet other families and maybe even make some life-long friends!**

# COMMUNICATION AT ST ALIPIUS

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**EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION IS IMPORTANT IN DEVELOPING ANY RELATIONSHIPS AND WHEN THESE RELATIONSHIPS ARE CENTRED ON THE LIFE AND LEARNING OF CHILDREN, COMMUNICAITON IS PARAMOUNT. WE ARE COMMITTED TO ESTABLISHING LINES OF OPEN COMMUNICATION AT ST ALIPIUS.**

## **WEBSITE**

Our school website contains information about our school community including important dates, enrolments and fees It can be accessed at: [www.saballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.saballarat.catholic.edu.au)

## **PARENT ACCESS MODULE (PAM)**

We communicate with families through the Parent Access Module of the SIMON program. You can access this at <https://pam.saballarat.catholic.edu.au> or via the SIMON Everywhere app. PAM is an effective way of keeping parents and carers up to date with the following: newsletters, community events, emails, school calendars and reports. PAM also allows families to provide information regarding medical conditions, excursions and student absences. New families will receive log in details via email upon commencement. It is vital that families check PAM regularly to keep abreast of the many aspects of school life. Contact the office for more information.

## **SEESAW**

Individual learning communities use Seesaw to share students learning journey with families in the way of photos, videos, art work and messages.

## **FACEBOOK**

We use our Facebook page to share activities and celebrate any special achievements that have taken place in our school community.



## **ART EXPOS AND PERFORMANCES**

Each year, we showcase our students' learning in The Arts. During 'even years', our school gathers to enjoy an Art Expo where all children in the school have artwork on display. In 'odd years', our students use talents in singing, dancing and performing to showcase learning in Music, Dance and Drama.

## **LEARNING CONFERENCES**

Twice each year parents/caregivers are invited to attend a Learning Conference. The purpose of these meetings is for the parents, student and teacher to join together in celebrating the child's strengths and set goals for future learning.

## **MEETINGS WITH STAFF**

At other times during the year both parents and teachers may make contact regarding a child's learning.



# LEARNING AND TEACHING

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St Alipius is a place where academic rigour is developed through rich relationships, deep integrity, lifelong learning and extraordinary care for its children. The curriculum at St Alipius is driven by contemporary research that focuses on what makes the greatest impact with teaching and learning. Throughout the learning process, students are empowered to think critically about their learning and engage with their teachers for feedback. We call this dynamic process 'Visible Learning'.

Our teachers place students at the centre of the learning process. We share the belief that effective learning takes place when positive relationships are developed in an atmosphere that balances challenge with support. Students learn in an environment where trusting relationships allow for risks to be taken and mistakes to be made and learnt from.

We believe that engaging the students in purposeful learning experiences is our prime responsibility. High quality classroom teaching provides flexible and adaptable approaches and strategies to enable students to construct meaning and build understandings. An 'Inquiry' approach to teaching is established across the school.

## THE DISCIPLINES

- English
- Maths
- The Arts
- Science
- Humanities

## PERSONAL LEARNING

- Health and Phys Ed
- Civics and Citizenship
- Personal Learning
- Interpersonal Learning

## INTER-DISCIPLINARY LEARNING

- Thinking
- Communication
- Information and Communication Technology
- Design, Creativity and Technology

## SOME UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES AND BELIEFS

Learning and Teaching at St Alipius is developed from a number of shared beliefs.

- We believe in nurturing the whole child through meaningful relationships.
- We believe in providing challenging and supportive structures that develop confident, independent and resilient learners.
- We believe that the purpose of learning must be clear.
- We believe that purposeful assessment provides the data to inform and drive learning and teaching.
- We believe in personalizing learning in a contemporary context that honours the strengths, affinities and interests of the learner.

Learning experiences are designed around the project-based learning. Our goal is for students to become lifelong learners so they can play a part in building strong communities and developing a future that is innovative and sustainable.

# FAITH

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The Gospel message of Jesus and the Traditions of the Catholic Church are the touchstones of St Alipius Parish School community. We are proud to belong to the parish community of Ballarat East and warmly welcome families who desire an authentically Catholic education for their children.

The Gospel message is shared within explicitly taught Religious Education lessons as well as through the spiritual dimension evident in the culture that has been developed at our school.

This culture is inspired by the gospel quote 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.' Seeking truth is fundamental to all we do at St Alipius.

A thorough curriculum in Religious Education has been developed using the diocesan curriculum document, 'Awakenings'. We aim to assist students to grow in their relationships with self, others, the world and God and to come to a deeper understanding of the life of the Catholic community through explicitly religious education lessons and the celebration of prayer and liturgy and through reflection on scripture.

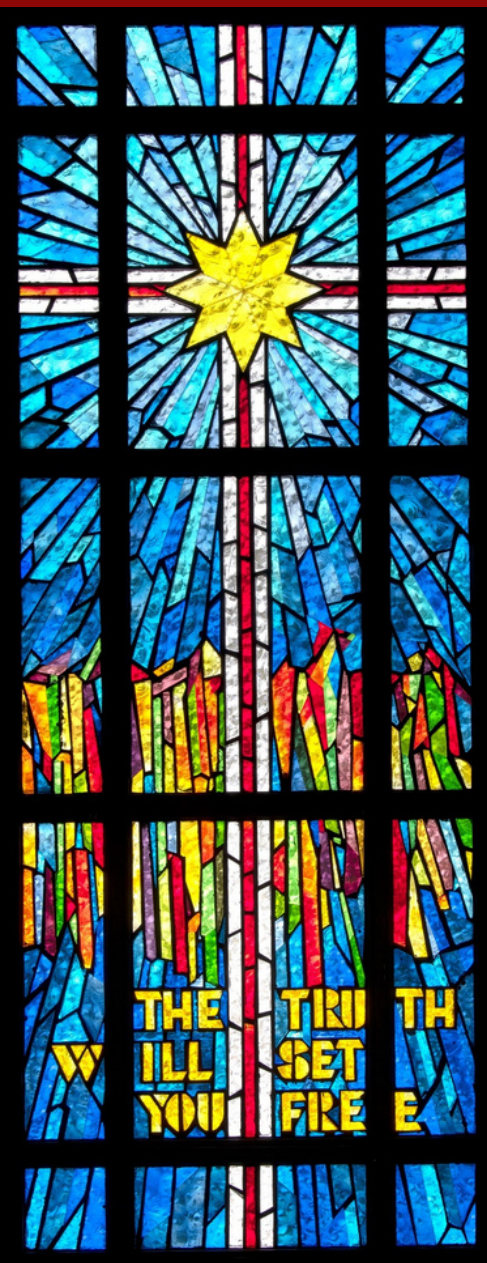
The family-based Sacramental Program, which is Parish co-ordinated, is strongly supported by St Alipius School.

## PASTORAL CARE

At St Alipius we are committed to ensuring that people learn together in a safe, respectful environment. It is our responsibility to support and challenge all community members to grow in this vision.

This belief inspires us to adopt policies, processes and practices that enable all members of our community to:

- Feel safe and respected at school.
- Be actively involved in negotiating norms for behaviours and regularly referring to them.
- Be involved in class meetings that help solve issues as they arise.
- Participate in decision-making.
- Develop a sense of self-responsibility for the decisions they make and the consequences of these decisions.
- Believe they have a voice.
- Celebrate difference.
- Achieve personal excellence.





## THE ARTS

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At St Alipius 'The Arts' permeate the curriculum. Students learn creative skills to express their feelings, emotions, understandings and views of the world. To enable students to deepen their knowledge, skills and understandings of both 'visual' and 'performing' arts we alternate the celebration of these forms.

In even years we celebrate the visual arts with a series of 'Art Shows' or 'Expos'. At these exhibitions parents and community members will see photography, paintings, sculptures, drawings, weavings and a variety of other art forms expressed.

In odd years we celebrate the performing arts with a series of performances that showcase students' skills in singing, reciting, acting and stagecraft.

Throughout the year students have weekly music lessons where they learn to read music, keep rhythm and compose and perform musical pieces.

From Year 3, students can join the school choir which performs at a number of school and Ballarat community events. Ukulele, Djembe, guitar and Taiko drumming clubs provide opportunities for students who show interest and skills in these areas.



## JAPANESE

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At St Alipius we explore our connection with Asia through learning about the Japanese culture and language. Every student has a lesson in Japanese each week and learns the basic language of numbers, colours, greetings, food and festivals.



# HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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At St Alipius, we acknowledge the dynamic and multi-dimensional nature of health and the significance of physical activity in the lives of individuals and groups in our society. We work together to develop an understanding of the importance of personal and community actions in promoting health and lifelong participation in physical activity, and of the crucial role that supportive physical and social environments play in the development of the health of individuals and communities.

Physical activity, sport and recreation are an important part in the lives of people in Australia. Participation in physical activity provides opportunities for relaxation, enjoyment, recreation, fitness, social interaction, competition challenge and personal growth. It promotes lifelong participation in physical activity through the development of movement competence and examines the factors that affect people's participation and performance in physical activity.

## SWIMMING

At St Alipius, we believe that learning to swim is important in order to:

- prepare a child for all the water activity options
- feel safe in all water environments, including a surf beach

The swimming program is for our Foundation to Year 2 students and are conducted by Auswim qualified instructors.

## LESSONS EACH WEEK

Each week, your child will participate in 2 hours of PE lessons - as mandated in all schools. One lesson in with our PE specialist where they are explicitly taught fundamental skills of movement (eg. throwing, catching, jumping).



## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

At St Alipius Parish School we know that physical activity is essential to health and well-being throughout a person's whole life. Our Athletics Carnival is a long-standing tradition at St Alipius and is always a special day on our calendar, where we replace our traditional burgundy with Red, Green, Gold, Blue and White. Our Athletics carnival gives us the opportunity to affirm each individual's involvement in physical activities and enhance a sense of support and community.

## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

**INTER-SCHOOL SPORT:** In Term 3 on a Friday afternoon, students in Years 3 to 6 play basketball, soccer, football and netball with other Catholic schools in Ballarat.

**NETBALL:** Boys and girls from Years 3 to 6 are able to become part of a team that plays on either Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays during Terms 2 and 3. Again, parent support is vital in ensuring that are students are supported in this area.

## CAMP PROGRAM

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### YEAR 3

Local Camp Experience with a sustainability focus. Two days and one night, at Log Cabin camp, Creswick.

### YEAR 4/5 AND YEAR 6

Our Year 4/5 and 6 students participate in a 3 day, 2 night camp program to Anglesea.





# ST ALIPIUS PARISH SCHOOL UNIFORM

## SUMMER UNIFORM

School polo shirt  
Navy shorts - gender neutral  
St Alipius summer dress  
White socks  
Black school shoes/runners  
Navy blue wide brimmed hat

## WINTER UNIFORM

Long sleeved school polo shirt  
Long navy pants - gender neutral  
St Alipius school tunic  
Maroon windcheater  
Maroon trackpants  
White socks or navy tights  
Black school shoes/runners

## SPORTS UNIFORM

Maroon sports shorts & short sleeve polo shirt  
Maroon tracksuit  
White socks  
Runners

## ACCESSORIES

Plain studs or sleeper earrings  
Simple watch  
School coloured hair accessories (navy/maroon)  
(Long hair must be tied back)  
School Backpack (optional)

## School Uniform Stockist

**Crockers Schoolwear**

**4 Armstrong Street North, Ballarat**

**Ph: 5331 3222**

## Second-hand Uniforms

**There are second-hand uniforms available for purchase at the school. Stalls are held throughout the year to access these.**

**PLEASE CLEARLY LABEL ALL CLOTHING ITEMS SO THEY CAN BE RETURNED IF LOST/MISSING**



# 2024 SCHOOL FEES

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**FAMILY TUITION FEE    \$1450**

**CAPITAL LEVY    \$400**

**STUDENT FEE & INFO TECH LEVY    \$420**

Grade 6	Gr 5/6 Camp	\$380
	Sovereign Hill	\$60
	2024 Chromebook payment	\$235
Grade 4/5	Gr 4/5 Camp	\$380
	2024 Chromebook payment	\$240
Grade 3	Gr 3 Camp	\$150
Grade 2	Stayback	\$30
	Swimming Program	\$100
Prep & Grade 1	Swimming Program	\$100

***All stationery is purchased by the school. We do not have a booklist.***

***Please note, fees are subject to annual increases.***

**Methods of payment include:** EFTPOS, cash, cheque, direct debit and credit card, with a preference for direct debit or credit card.

If concerns arise regarding the payment of school fees, please contact Emily so that arrangements can be entered into that are mutually satisfactory for all parties.

# TERM DATES - 2024

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## Term 1

31st January - 28th March

## Term 2

15th April - 28th June

## Term 3

15th July - 20th September

## Term 4

7th October - 17th December

*(These dates are subject to change)*

