



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
PARISH OF STS. RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS AND IRENE
ST. MARKELLA OF HIOS – ST. PAISIOS OF THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

Office: 531 Centre Road, Bentleigh, VIC 3204

T: (03) 9557 4877 F: (03) 9557 1112 M: 0400 117 438

Email: straphaelgs@gmail.com | Facebook: St Raphael Greek Language School | Website: www.straphael.com.au

Classes at: Brighton Secondary College

120 Marriage Road, Brighton East, VIC 3187



ST RAPHAEL GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome!

We welcome you all to St Raphael Greek School and are looking forward to a productive year as well as to a long and rewarding association with you.

The following is important information regarding your child's / children's attendance to our school.

Contacting the school

The contact number is **0400 117 438**. Please call this number when you wish to communicate with anyone at the school. This is also the contact phone number to call during Greek School classes on Friday evenings.

Starting, Agiasmos - Blessing of the School, Staff and Students

School starts classes on Friday 1st of February 2019.

Father Panagiotis from our Parish, will be at school on Friday 15th of February at 5:45 pm to conduct the Agiasmos, the Blessing of the Waters Service, so that we can begin the year, full of the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Parents are welcome to attend Agiasmos and after the ceremony all our staff members will be introduced.

Classes

Classes are held every Friday, during school terms, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Brighton Secondary College, 120 Marriage Road, Brighton East, Vic 3187. At 5:00 pm we are gathering in front of the School's entrance for the Lord's prayer and then students follow their teachers to the classroom for their lessons.

Our classes take place in the E wing, 1st entrance from Marriage road. We hold classes from Prep to VCE.

We are an accredited provider with Department of Education and Training (DET) and a Single Study Provider with the VCAA.

Speaking Greek

We will continue targeting oral language across all classroom levels. Please help us by encouraging active use of the Greek language outside of Greek school classes.

Principles for Child Safety



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St Raphael Greek Language School will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety.
2. Implement child safety policies and procedures which support ongoing assessment and amelioration of risk.
3. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives.
4. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children.
5. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount.
6. Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children.
7. Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development.
8. Nominate **Ms Eleni Eliopoulos** as the **Child Protection Officer** and ensure children to talk with Ms Eleni if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable to do so.
9. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities.
10. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk.
11. Value and communicate with families and carers.

Security

The school is locked for security reasons.

If you are arriving late or if the doors are locked, please ring the school on 0400 117 438 and we will open up for you.

Students who need to be picked up earlier than the dismissal time of 8:30 pm may be picked up only during the break at 6:45-7:00 pm. Please inform your child's teacher that you are picking up your child at 6:45 pm so your child can be ready to leave early. You will need to sign your child out if leaving before 8:30 pm.

Students safety

Our students' safety is of paramount importance to us just as it is to you.

Please take the time to park your car properly when dropping off or picking up your child. There is no parking in the school grounds. The car park next to the Performing Arts Centre is always open for parking. Please do not park across our neighbours' driveways.

There have been instances where irresponsible parking and driving has caused problems to us. **Do not enter with your car inside the school yard.** The place is narrow and limited and we have serious concerns that incoming cars may cause trouble to incoming or outgoing students. We all need to set a good example. The school urges you to take this matter seriously.

Dancing classes



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Traditional Greek dancing classes are held for all students. Each class has a 15-20 minute dancing lesson each week.

Footwear

Students wearing inappropriate footwear are not allowed to stay at school or dance. This is due to School Health and Safety Regulations. School shoes and sport shoes are appropriate footwear.

Break time

We have a 15 minute break 6:45 pm – 7:00 pm for students to have a drink and a snack. Students are supervised by teachers during the break.

"No Nuts"

Please provide your child with a water drink bottle and a healthy snack to eat. We have a number of students with severe allergies, so nuts in any form should be excluded from snacks. We have a "No Nuts" policy at our school.

Text books

The school provides the required text books at no extra cost to parents. But in order, for our students to respect their books we inform the school community that if a student loses their book, a second one will be issued at the cost of \$10 per book. Parents are requested to provide stationary for their children. A list is provided upon enrolment.

Dictionary

The dictionary is a powerful tool for Greek study. We encourage the use of dictionary from Year 3 in order students to be well prepared for high school classes as well as avoid Google translator. Please, provide your child/children with a bilingual (Greek – English and English – Greek) dictionary if they are in Years 3 to VCE.

Notice "wall"

A notice wall outside the school office is used for communication between the school and the parents. A newsletter is also distributed approximately every month via email.

Parent Teacher Interviews and Reports

Parent teacher interviews are held at the end of Term 2. Reports are distributed at the end of Terms 2 and 4. If you need to talk to your child's teacher about your child's progress, please arrange an appointment time with your child's teacher at 8:30 pm.



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Teachers start teaching at 5 pm and it is unfair to staff and students to have classes disrupted once classes have started. Your cooperation is invited.

You may of course speak to the Principal regarding urgent matters as well as any other concerns you have at any time.

March 25, Greek Independence Day celebration

The annual schools parade at the Shrine of Remembrance on the occasion of Greek Independence Day is a long-standing tradition in Melbourne. As it is both a privilege and an honour to participate, we strongly encourage all of our families to join together in this wonderful celebration. We proudly gather in the majestic and sacred ground of the shrine to remember those that fought for freedom and to celebrate our great heritage. We provide a free bus service to the parade for our students, setting off from the church of St Raphael Bentleigh.

Contact details

Please keep us informed of any changes of address or phone numbers.

If a child is feeling unwell we do ring parents so it is important for us to have your correct contact details.

Student's dismissal at 8:30 pm

We do not leave the school until all students have been picked up by their parents.

If you are running late or you have arranged for your child to go home with another family please call us on 0400 117 438 and let us know about it.

Helping students

We seek your support with all of the above matters.

We strive to provide quality education within a positive and safe environment and will continue to do so if our policies are followed by all. You help us to achieve this by also ensuring your child comes to Greek School with the appropriate school books /equipment and that homework is completed. By encouraging active use of the Greek language at home whenever you can, you are providing your child with an additional worthwhile opportunity to learn Greek.

Mobile Phone

Mobile phones can be used in class only if students are instructed by their teacher to do so as an educational tool.

Items

Please label your kid's items to prevent loss.