



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL  
FAITH AND LOVE  
STRATHMORE

# Newsletter

**St. Vincent de Paul Primary School**  
Principal: Shane Byrne  
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Reflection

Pentecost Sunday

This Sunday we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. As we reflect on how the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples in their mission, we continue to pray for our Year 6 students who, like Jesus’ disciples, will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in Confirmation on June 28.

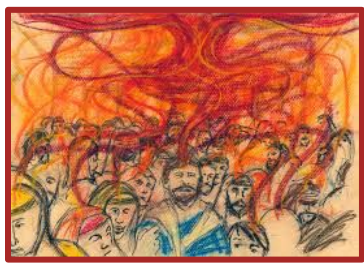
Please see the First Reading for this Sunday’s Mass: Pentecost Sunday.

**Acts 2:1-11 -**  
**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.**

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. ‘Surely’ they said ‘all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.’

The Word of the Lord.



St. Vincent de Paul - Winter Appeal 2025

Dear Families,

This year our Year 6 Mini Vinnies Leaders have been working towards a way of giving to those most in need. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has requested the donation of Coles or Woolworths vouchers to give to people most in need this winter and we felt that this would be a great way for our school to contribute.

**We are asking families to donate ONE Coles or Woolworths voucher per family.**

The Coles and Woolworths vouchers need to be **GROCERIES ONLY** vouchers, as shown below:



The voucher will need to be brought to school by **Friday 4th July**.

Thank you for your support,  
Mrs. Petrie and The Yr 6 Mini Vinnies Leaders

**Principal:** Shane Byrne  
**Email:** [principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr Gerard Johnson (Parish Administrator)  
**Email:** [strathmore@cam.org.au](mailto:strathmore@cam.org.au)  
**Website:** [www.cam.org.au/strathmore](http://www.cam.org.au/strathmore)

**PARISH OFFICE**  
22 Robinson Street  
Moonee Ponds 3039  
**Telephone:** 9370 5035



Principal’s Message

NEW BUILDING

The school is currently finalising plans for the construction of the new building which would be located adjacent to the current Year 6 classrooms on the first floor of the main school building. This project is funded by the school through a loan through the Catholic Development Fund (CDF). The increase in the Capital Levy this year is funding the project and the loan repayments into the future, with Architecture Matters engaged as the school architect. Architecture Matters were also responsible for developing the school Master Plan in 2023 after the School Advisory Council sub-committee met with a number of architectural firms to consider their services. As representatives of the parents community, the School Advisory Council have been involved in providing feedback on the design of the new classroom and the associated infrastructure requirements. The design includes a new staircase as well as a lift to allow access to the upper level learning spaces. The design also includes an undercroft area so children can be protected from the weather on the wet mornings and parents can shelter from the rain when picking up. By having the building on the first floor the children lose minimal playground space. To ensure that the building did not look like an ‘add on’ the facade of the new construction would match the facade of the existing classrooms which were constructed in 2011. Below is an image of the new classroom design.



SEMESTER 1 SCHOOL REPORTS: nForma APP

This semester you will receive your child’s semester report via the new nForma Parent App. It is necessary for each family to follow the instructions to have access to your child’s Semester 1 school report. Please see the Audiri app notification sent out on the 2nd June for further information.

We ask you to please download the nForma Parent App as soon as possible, so that you can contact us if there are any issues prior to Semester 1 reports becoming available on **Wednesday 2nd July**. An Audiri app notification will be sent to the school community once the reports are available for you to access using the nForma Parent App.

EXPLICIT DIRECT INSTRUCTION

With the school’s move to Explicit Direct Instruction, one of the strategies the teachers have been focused on is ensuring the children are engaged in their learning and are exhibiting the learning behaviours. To support this engagement, teachers are continually reviewing their processes and ensuring the ‘engagement norms’ are being followed.

These engagement norms include:

- **Pronounce with me:** This is where the teacher pronounces the more challenging words and the children repeat the pronunciation.
- **Track with me:** Children point to the words as the teacher reads them out aloud.
- **Read with me:** The children read with the teacher.
- **Gesture with me:** Gesturing is used to add a physical movement that conveys meaning which both the teachers and children do
- **Attention Signal:** A call to refocus the children’s attention.
- **Pair Share:** The children use a designated partner to explain their answer to a question posed to them. This allows for the children to discuss and practise their answer before being called upon to share their response.
- **Whiteboards:** Children record their response to problems and questions presented and is used by the teacher to check for the children’s level of understanding of the work being presented.

These norms are used by teachers throughout the English and Mathematics lessons regularly and this allows for the high interaction between teacher and students to keep them engaged throughout the learning.

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Earlier this week all families received a letter outlining the role of the Family Support Group. It also asked for volunteers to support the work of this group. We have had a number of families already indicate that they are able to help out should there be a need within our school community for this service. Thank you to those people who have responded and I would encourage others who are considering it to respond asap.

PHONES AND SMART WATCHES

A reminder that any children coming to school with phones or smart watches, need to hand the device to their classroom teacher at the beginning of the day and collect it from their teacher at the end of the day. It is the child’s responsibility to ensure that they follow this process. The school discourages these devices and any items of value being brought to school.

Shane Byrne  
PRINCIPAL



Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

Healthy Screen Time

Screen time and digital technology use are part of life for most children and teenagers. The time your child spends watching TV and using computers, gaming consoles, smart toys, tablets and smartphones can be part of a healthy lifestyle.

You can help your child use digital technology in a balanced way as part of a healthy lifestyle by encouraging your child to:

- ❑ Have fun and learn while using screens
- ❑ Use, watch or play good quality apps, games, TV, movie and online videos
- ❑ Be safe and protect their data and privacy online
- ❑ Have healthy posture when using screens, be physically active and get the sleep they need
- ❑ Spend social time with family and friends online and offline
- ❑ Be actively involved in a variety of hobbies and interests, including reading and creative activities

Your choices about screen time and digital technology use influence the way your child uses screens. By using digital technology in healthy, balanced ways yourself, you can be a role model for healthy screen habits. Follow the tips below to encourage your child to use screens in healthy ways.

- 1. Make rules about screen time and digital technology use**
  - This includes where your child uses technology, when they use technology, how they use technology and how they stay safe online.
- 2. Aim for short screen time sessions.**
  - Use a timer and plan an activity when the screen time ends such as playing outside.
- 3. Get your child moving, especially outside.**
- 4. Imagine and create.**
  - Creative activities such as telling stories, dressing up or drawing are good for your child’s development.
- 5. Encourage play and friendship with others.**
  - When children play face to face with others, they develop important life skills.
- 6. Avoid screen time and technology use before bed.**
  - Screen time and technology use before bed can affect how quickly your child falls asleep and how well they sleep.
- 7. Keep digital technology out of bedrooms at night.**
  - This can stop your child being disturbed with notifications.

When you help your child to balance screen time with other activities, they will learn to make good choices about using free time when they are older.

Rebecca Glenton  
Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leader

Sport News

Division Cross Country

Congratulations to Saige Morrell, Kris Tadikamalla & Levi Bugryn in Year 4, Olivia Godino & Chloe Bevelander in Year 5 and Declan McIldowney in Year 6 for representing our school at last week's Division Cross Country Competition at the Keilor Park Athletics Track. These students successfully progressed through the District Cross Country event in Week 5 to earn their position in this event. Our Year 4 students competed in the 2km race whilst the year 5/6 students competed in the 3km race against other students within their Moonee Ponds Division. It was a huge achievement for all of the students to place inside the top 20 for their races involving 50-60 of the strongest runners in their division. Well done to the following students who have again progressed through to the Regional Competition on June 19th.

Year 4: Saige Morrell & Kris Tadikamalla

Year 5: Olivia Godino



Daniel Igoe  
Sports / PE Co-ordinator

2025 Term Dates

TERM 2

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July

TERM 3

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September

TERM 4

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December



SPS Speech Box

The importance of sounds for early reading development



Being able to recognise, name and write letters is important for children to know, however, when it comes to learning how to read there are some key skills that children need to be successful.

Reading English involves understanding that letters represent sounds. Children need to know what sound/s are represented by what letters, not just their names, so they can learn how to read new words. This skill is referred to as phonics.

Children learn to read by “Understanding that letters and letter clusters in written words represent the sounds in spoken words” (Buckingham, Wheldall & Wheldall, 2019). In other words, learning the alphabetic code - the links between sounds and letters - is key. Children also need to practice the skills of segmenting (breaking words into their sounds) and blending (joining sounds together to read a word) (Rose, 2006).

For example:

When reading a new word like 'dog, your child needs to know the sounds that letters 'd', 'o', and 'g' represent. They would sound out each part — /d/ - /o/ - /g/ and then blend the sounds together to read the word 'dog'. This process is called decoding, and it’s a crucial skill for learning to read confidently.

How can you help at home?

The following ideas and games can help your child with their knowledge of sounds and other reading skills:

I Spy”:

- Instead of using letter names, use the letter sounds.
- “I spy something beginning with the /s/ (‘ssss’) sound.”

Sound Stretching:

- Say a word slowly and encourage your child to stretch the sounds. Then, have them blend it back together to say the word.
- “Let’s say ‘cat’ slowly: /c/... /a/ ... /t/. Now, can you say it fast?”

Mystery Word:

- Say a word with the sounds separated, and your child guesses the word by blending the sounds together.
- “I’ll say the sounds slowly: /s/ ... /u/ ... /n/. What word is that?” (Answer: sun).

These types of activities and games can support your child to listen to sounds, blend them together, and connect them to form words — all important early reading skills!

[Download PDF](#)

Maths Enrichment News

Our Maths Enrichment Program is designed to target high achieving students in Mathematics, focussing on problem solving and working collaboratively in groups to solve challenging Maths equations. Congratulations to all students from Year 3/4 who have participated in the Maths Games competition and those from Year 5/6 participating in the Maths Olympiad competition this semester. The Maths Olympiad and Maths Games program is a competitive and engaging initiative designed to challenge students’ problem-solving and critical thinking skills, through fun, strategic puzzles and activities that build their Mathematical skills. Along the way, students participate in individual competitions four times throughout the year. Congratulations to the following students on their top 3 placings in the first competition and we look forward to the second competition in Week 9 of this term.

Maths Games:

Equal 1st: Kris Tadikamalla, Logan Nguyen, Leonardo Wu & Isabelle Alcide

Maths Olympiad:

1st: Arabella De Maria  
Equal 2nd: Kai Pham & Luke Hale



Daniel Igoo

2025 School Closure Days

- ❖ Thursday 31st July
- ❖ Wednesday 17th September (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Monday 3rd November
- ❖ Thursday 4th December

2025 Term 2 School Fees

A reminder that Term 2 school fees were due on Friday 23rd May. For details please refer to the statement that was emailed on 6th February 2025. If you have any concerns about your financial situation and are experiencing hardship, please contact Mr Shane Byrne (principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au), so that a confidential financial arrangement can be discussed.



Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on **FRIDAY 13th June at 2:25 pm** in the hall.

PREP BLUE	Frankie Waters Savana Cilia	THREE GREEN	Elena Mazza Luca Short
PREP GOLD	Angus Lambert Lexi Pali	FOUR BLUE	Jude McCormick Arianna Soccio
PREP GREEN	Samuel Britton Niya Martin	FOUR GOLD	Noah Marino Michelle Iseokwema
ONE BLUE	Rosie Pham Georgio Sukianto	FOUR GREEN	Poppy Hegarty Andreas Liapis
ONE GOLD	Mischa Conhyedoss Angelina Cannavo	FIVE BLUE	Sia Sidhu Lincoln Cairns
TWO BLUE	Jonathan Karogiannis Ilaria Petrolo	FIVE GOLD	Cara Bianchi Rossi Thomas Bottomley
TWO GOLD	Allira Thompson Joshua Ramanauskas	FIVE GREEN	Emma Bristow Eva Guardabascio
THREE BLUE	Joshua Barkho Annalise El Madi	SIX BLUE	Declan McIldowney Aria Sanza
THREE GOLD	Evie Abela William Forcone	SIX GOLD	Arabella De Maria Benjamin Mucic



St Bernard’s College Business Lunch

ST BERNARD'S COLLEGE  
BUSINESS LUNCH

- 

12:30PM – 2:30PM  
Friday, 6 June
- 

Michael Perrett Pavilion  
St Bernard's College Essendon –  
enter via Hampton Rd Gate 8,  
and follow road down to ovals
- 

\$60 per person – with a  
buffet lunch and drinks  
included!



BOOK  
HERE!



<https://www.trybooking.com/DBVJZ>

FEATURING  
RENOWNED MEDIA EXPERTS:



MATTHEW  
LLOYD

*St Bernard's College Old Collegian (1995)*  
Champion footballer, expert  
commentator, media personality



AGOSTINO  
GIRAMONDO

*St Bernard's College Old Collegian (1986)*  
Managing director of News Corp  
VIC & TAS



FRANCIS  
LEACH

*St Bernard's College Old Collegian (1985)*  
Strategic Communications and Media  
Specialist with over 30 years experience.



St Columba’s College Scholarship Program



st Columba’s  
College

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2025

NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION



Academic Excellence Scholarships are available to Year 7 students in 2027 to assist in covering full or part of their tuition fees. Students are measured based upon their sound academic achievement on the day of testing.

- Accelerated Learning Opportunities
- Personal Growth and Confidence
- Leadership Opportunities
- State-of-the-Art New Facilities
- 128 Year History of Catholic Education

Registrations Close

18 July 2025

Examination Date: Saturday 26 July 2025

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY



Visit the QR Code to learn more

columba.vic.edu.au/scholarships/

Ave Maria College - Enrolments Year 7, 2027

She Who Belongs

She Who Thrives



Now accepting enrolments Year 7 2027

Applications close 15 August 2025



Book a College Tour today:

14-22 Vida St, Aberfeldie, VIC, 3040

(03) 9331 9300

registrar@avemaria.vic.edu.au



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AVE MARIA COLLEGE  
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Ave Maria College - Ave in Action/She Who Explores Programs



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Ave in Action

Homework Club



Calling future Ave girls! Come join our brand new homework assistance program, Ave in Action. Open to Year 4 and 5 girls from our Feeder Primary Schools, these sessions will allow students the opportunity to get help with their homework from our student leaders in our fantastic Helene Library.

1+1=

0+1=

2+3=

5-3=

4+2=

8+2=



Tuesday, 6 May 4:00pm-5:00pm

Tuesday, 13 May 4:00pm-5:00pm

Tuesday, 20 May 4:00pm-5:00pm

Tuesday, 27 May 4:00pm-5:00pm

Tuesday, 3 June 4:00pm-5:00pm

Tuesday, 10 June 4:00pm-5:00pm



Please note there is a 2 sessions limit per student.

For more information, please email Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), Mrs Natalie Meddis, AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au or register via the QR.



She Who Explores

New Term 2 Sessions added!



Come and see what it's like to be an Ave girl with our after school program, **She Who Explores**.

Designed specifically for Year 4 and 5 students, this is a fantastic opportunity for our future students to explore subjects that they will be able to study at Ave Maria College.

We hope that you will join us for one or two of the following sessions.

Thursday, 26 June, 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Creative Spaces (Library)

Monday, 30 June, 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Food Technology (repeat)

For more information, please email Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), Mrs Natalie Meddis, AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au or register via the QR.







Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



AVE MARIA COLLEGE  
She Who Belongs. She Who Thrives.

6



Important Dates

JUNE 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3	4 Prep/Yr 6 Mass 10am	5 Confirmation Retreat Day - Moonee Ponds	6 Yr 6 Winter Sports #4	7	8
9 King's Birthday Holiday	10 Winter Appeal begins	11 Yr 5 Gold Mass 10am	12 Hot Food Day (Pizza) School Advisory Council Meeting	13 Prep Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	14	15
16	17	18 Yr 5 Blue Mass 10am	19	20 Parent's Trivia Night	21	22
23	24	25 Yr 5 Green Mass 10am	26	27 Year 5 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall) (Note change of Year level)	28 Year 6 Confirmation Masses - 6 Gold 10am - 6 Blue 12noon	29
30						

JULY 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4 Winter Appeal concludes Last day of Term 2 1:30pm finish	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Term 3 Begins	22	23 Yr 6 Gold Mass 10am	24 School Advisory Council Meeting	25	26	27
28	29	30 Yr 6 Blue Mass 10am	31 School Closure Day			

AUGUST 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1 100 Days of Prep Year 6 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	2	3
4	5	6 Yr 3 Gold Mass 10am	7	8 Disco	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Year 4 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	16	17
18	19	20 Yr 3 Blue Mass 10am	21	22 Book Week Parade	23 Yr 1 & Yr 4 Family Mass 6pm	24
25	26	27 Yr 3 Green Mass 10am	28 School Advisory Council Meeting	29 Hot Food Day Year 3 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	30	31

## TheirCare News

**WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Our winter holiday program is only 4 weeks away. Our winter theme is ‘We are Champions’ and we have amazing excursions, incursions and in house days happening such as

- ❑ Movie day to see **Inside Out 2** at Village cinemas
- ❑ Monopoly Dreams Melbourne Central with exclusive access only for Theircare children
- ❑ Ice skating Docklands
- ❑ Timezone Highpoint
- ❑ Silent Escape Zone incursion
- ❑ Pop Art Ninja Ted
- ❑ Pyjama Party

For a full preview and bookings of our holiday program please go to our website [Theircare.com.au](https://Theircare.com.au)

**GLOWTOPIA PARTY**

In recognition of our efforts made in supporting our WeCare Charities, we will be hosting a Glow party on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June filled with fun games and music at after school care. Join us for a super fun Glow party afternoon at no extra cost to families. Book now at [Theircare.com.au](https://Theircare.com.au)

Lisa and Tulay