





Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School
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Reflection

Year 6 Visit to Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre –



Focus: Faith in Action



On Monday our Year 6 students had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre in Fitzroy. The experience gave them a chance to step into the story of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia’s first saint, and learn how her life continues to inspire people today.

Through prayer, reflection and hands-on activities, the students explored Mary MacKillop’s deep faith in God and her commitment to serving those most in need. They discovered how Mary lived out her motto, **“Never see a need without doing something about it,”** and were encouraged to think about how they, too, can put their faith into action in everyday life.

The day supported the student’s understanding of how living like Mary MacKillop means showing kindness, standing up for what is right, and making a difference in the lives of others.

Let us pray

Loving God,
We thank You for the gift of St Mary MacKillop,
who showed us how to live with faith and courage.

Like Mary, may we see the needs around us
and do something to help.
May we be kind, fair and generous,
and trust always in Your care.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,
pray for us. Amen.



Statue of Mary MacKillop at ACU Melbourne

At the Australian Catholic University (Fitzroy), there is a statue of Mary MacKillop in St Mary of the Cross Square, right across the road from where she was born.

The statue, created by artist Louis Laumen in 2013, shows a young Mary holding a book to symbolise her love of learning and teaching, with a dove of peace beside her. She looks across Brunswick Street towards her birthplace, reminding us of her beginnings.

Bronze plaques around the square tell the story of her life and lead visitors towards the St Mary of the Cross Chapel, a space for prayer and reflection.

The statue encourages everyone who visits to live like Mary, with faith, courage and care for others.



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22 Robinson Street
Moonee Ponds 3039
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Principal’s Message

With tomorrow being the last day of the term I would like to thank staff, children and parents for the work that has been done and what has been achieved throughout the term. One has to only look at the events calendar to see what has taken place in the nine weeks of the term. The Parents Association has been very active in organising many events for the community to be part of. Thank you for the hard and tireless work.

The success of the Explicit Direct Instruction approach to learning and teaching continues to support the children’s learning because of the commitment of the staff to its implementation. The children have adapted to the strategies used by the teachers to ensure maximum participation and interaction. This has been important in engaging children in their learning.

I hope everyone enjoys the 2 week break and returns full of energy for an exciting Term 4.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SURVEYS

Tomorrow is the last day to complete the School Improvement Surveys. We encourage all families to take the time to complete this survey so we can use the data to help guide our progress as a school for next year.

PLANNING FOR 2026

Planning for 2026 continues to progress and we ask any families who will not be returning to school in 2026 to please contact the school to let us know. We can then cater for any families who are currently on waiting lists to have the opportunity to enrol in the school.

LEARNING CONFERENCES

It was great to see parents, children and teachers come together yesterday at the Learning Conferences to acknowledge what has been achieved so far this year in the children’s learning and identify what the children can focus on for the remainder of the year to continue to improve their learning. The Learning Conferences, together with the first and second semester student reports, provide updates on the children’s progress. The Learning Conferences in 2026 will again take place in the last week of both Term 1 & Term 3. Please take this into account when planning holidays for 2026 outside the gazetted school holidays. Teachers will not be providing learning conferences on alternative days.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FEAST DAY

During the holidays the Church celebrates the Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul. When the children return next term the school will celebrate the Feast Day on October 9. The children will be working with Gen Bryant, who is a Melbourne based singer-songwriter of contemporary and Christian music. Part of the day will be gathering ideas, as part of the process, to create a school song. The school will also be attending Mass on the day at 10:00am. Parents are welcome to attend, although seating will be limited.

YEAR 5 CAMP

The Year 5 children had a fun-filled and adventurous camp at Portsea last week. They squeezed a lot into the 3 days they were away and were keen to share their experiences with others. Thank you to the staff who attended the camp including Meg Monaghan, Sonia Di Cosmo, Grace Harrington, Emily Grindrod, Tania Barbati, Deb Hodges and Sebastian Frazzetto.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The children in Year 4 will celebrate their First Holy Communion at the parish masses on the first two weekends after the holiday break. We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this significant step in their faith journeys.



END OF TERM

A reminder that Term 3 concludes tomorrow, Friday September 19 at 1:30pm.

SUMMER UNIFORM

In Term 4 the children are expected to wear the summer uniform. Because the weather can sometimes be a little cool for the first couple of weeks of the term we do give the children 2 weeks to transition to the summer uniform. The one exception is the school hat. This needs to be worn by the end of the first week of Term 4. All children are expected to be wearing the summer uniform by Monday October 20.

SUMMER UNIFORM

BOYS

- Grey Shorts
- Short Sleeve Shirt (Sky)
- Wool School Jumper
- Grey Stripe Ankle Socks
- Black Leather Shoes
- Floppy Brim Hat

GIRLS

- School Summer Dress
- Navy Tailored Shorts
- Peter Pan Collar Short Sleeve Shirt (Sky)
- Wool School Jumper
- Navy Ankle Socks
- Black Leather Shoes
- Floppy Brim Hat

SPORTS UNIFORM

BOYS

- Rugby Top
- Short Sleeve Polo Top
- Navy Sport Shorts
- White Ankle Socks
- Runners

GIRLS

- Rugby Top
- Short Sleeve Polo Top
- Navy Netball Skirt
- Navy Skort
- Navy Sport Shorts
- White Ankle Socks
- Runners

Shane Byrne
PRINCIPAL

“St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience.”

Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

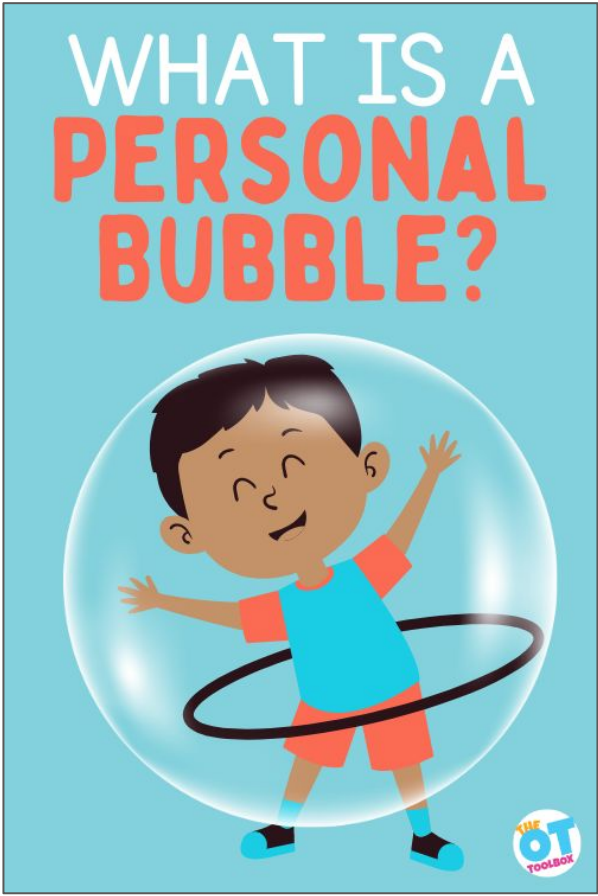
Prep Wellbeing: Personal Space, Politeness, and Inclusion

This week in Prep, students participated in a wellbeing lesson designed to develop important social and emotional skills. The focus of the session was on three key areas: respecting personal space, using polite and considerate language, and ensuring that everyone feels included in games and activities.

The lesson began with an introduction to the concept of personal space, illustrated through the use of bubbles. Students learned that, just like each bubble has its own space, every person has an “invisible bubble” that should be respected. Through picture sorting activities, children practised identifying appropriate “hands on” and “hands off” behaviours.

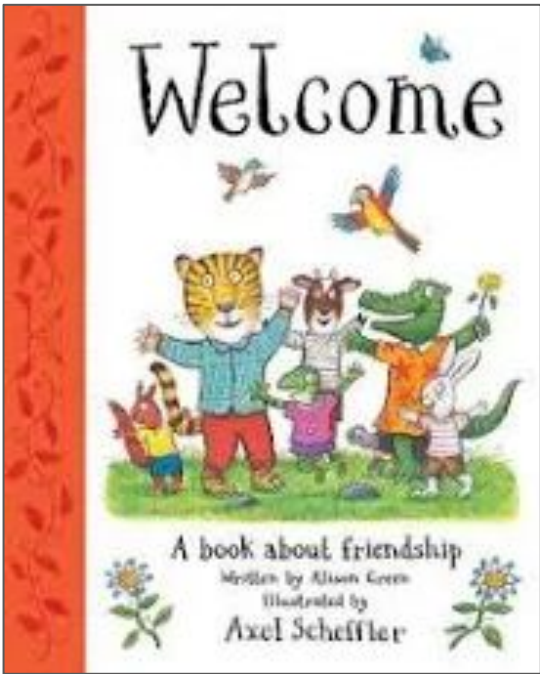
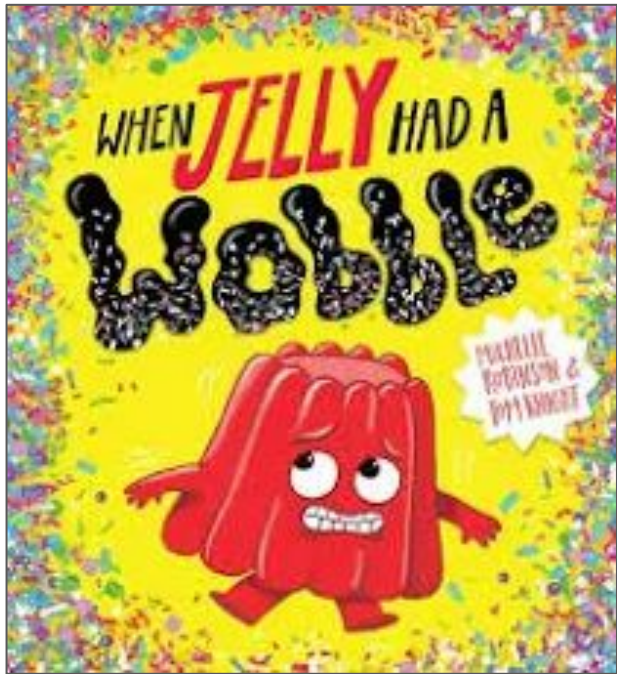
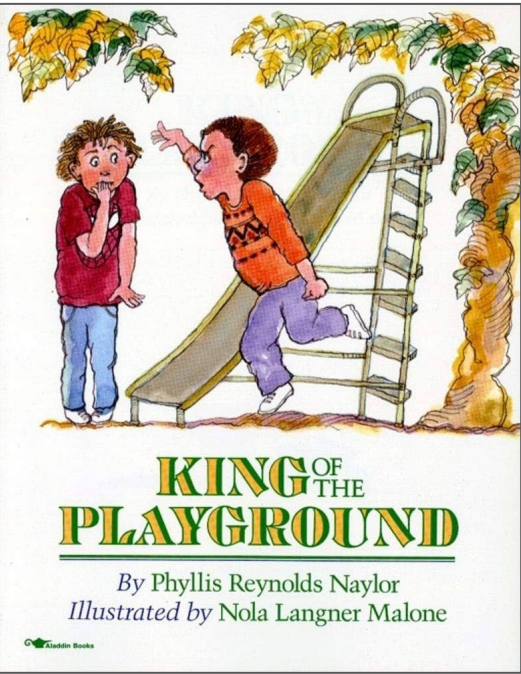
Students then explored the power of words in building positive relationships. By sorting words and phrases into “kind” and “unkind,” they identified which expressions help others feel safe and valued. Role-play activities provided opportunities to practise the use of polite phrases such as “please,” “thank you,” and “sorry” in meaningful contexts.

The lesson concluded with an inclusion activity in which students played a circle game, rolling a ball to different classmates while offering a kind word. This reinforced the importance of ensuring that no one is left out and that every individual feels a sense of belonging.



Three picture story books were the focus of the lessons with King Of The Playground focusing on giving students confidence to stand up to others. When a Jelly Had A Wobble entertained Prep Green as they learnt about feeling nervous and how supportive friends can help us through challenging times. Prep Gold read a book about friendship and how to make friends after a quarrel.

The Prep team is proud of the way students engaged with these concepts. Already, teachers are observing the children applying their new learning in the classroom and playground, contributing to a respectful and inclusive school environment.



Rebecca Glenton
Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leader

Footy Colours Day

It was wonderful to see all the students in their team colour for an enjoyable, sunny FOOTY COLOURS DAY!

Thank you for supporting the day with your gold coin donations. All money raised goes towards the Royal Children’s Hospital. Below are some photos from the day.



Sport News

Division Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the students who progressed through to the Divisional Athletics Competition and represented our school last week at the Keilor Park Athletics Track. These students successfully progressed through the District Athletics event in Week 3 to earn their position in their chosen events.

Well done to the following students who have again progressed through to the Regional Competition on October 21st at the Keilor Park Athletics Track. We wish them well in their events!

Year 4:

Curtis Coleman - Discus
Ayla D’Orazio - Discus

Year 6:

Montana Morrell - Triple Jump
Giuliana Bongiovanni - Discus



Daniel Igoe (Sports / PE Co-ordinator)

Maths Enrichment Update

This week, our Maths Enrichment students completed their final competition through the Maths Olympiad program. They certainly saved the most challenging test until last, with many of the problems causing a few headaches!

Congratulations to the following students on their top 2 placings in this competition and a big well done to all students who were chosen to participate in the competition throughout the year, this in itself is a great achievement.

Year 3/4 - Maths Games:

1st: Isabella Dos Santos
Equal 2nd: Curtis Coleman, Evan Sfirlas & Will Forcone

Year 5/6 - Maths Olympiad:

Equal 1st: Kai Pham, Lucas Ong & Kris Tadikamalla
Equal 2nd: Sienna Mineo, Christian Gervasi & Logan Nguyen

Daniel Igoe

2025 School Fees

Thank you to all those families that have paid their school fees. A reminder to those with outstanding fees that all school fees are now overdue. Please contact the school office if you are unable to finalise your payment. 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.

Wool Donations

Dear Parents,
If you have any unwanted balls of knitting wool at home, Visual Art would love to take them off your hands!
All donations accepted - does not need to be a full ball of wool. Donations can be given to the school office.
Thank you.

Mrs Chadwick
Visual Arts



Lost Property Cupboard

The lost property cupboard is overflowing and a lot of the items are unnamed making it difficult to return to the owner.

Please ensure that all items are labelled with your child’s name (including clothing, food containers, drink bottles etc).

Anything unclaimed by the end of the term will be donated or thrown out.



2025 School Closure Days

- ❖ Monday 3rd November
- ❖ Thursday 4th December

2025 Term Dates

TERM 3
Monday 21st July – Friday 19th September
TERM 4
Monday 6th October – Tuesday 16th December

Term 4, 2025 - PE, Classroom Sport and Library Timetable

CLASS	PE Lesson	Classroom Sport	Library
Prep Gold	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday
Prep Blue	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday
Prep Green	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday
One Gold	Thursday	Friday	Friday
One Blue	Wednesday	Friday	Friday
Two Gold	Tuesday	Thursday	Thursday
Two Blue	Tuesday	Thursday	Thursday
Three Gold	Friday	Thursday	Tuesday
Three Blue	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Three Green	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Four Gold	Monday	Friday	Tuesday
Four Blue	Monday	Friday	Tuesday
Four Green	Thursday	Friday	Tuesday
Five Gold	Monday	Tuesday	Friday
Five Blue	Monday	Tuesday	Friday
Five Green	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday
Six Gold	Thursday	Friday	Thursday
Six Blue	Friday	Friday	Thursday

Vic Soccer Spring Clinics



SUPER SPRING CLINICS

2025

FREE SOCCER BALL FOR EACH PARTICIPANT!

Saturday morning clinics begin on the 18th of October and involve 55 minutes of personalized tuition. There is an age and skill appropriate curriculum focus on the fundamentals of Soccer as well as an encouragement of social interaction to build skill levels and grow self esteem. Clinics begin on Saturday the 18th of October 2025

SESSION TIME & LOCATION:
9:00AM to 10:00AM at
Strathmore Secondary College,
Pascoe Vale Rd, Strathmore.

**TERM 4 CLINICS BEGIN 9AM SAT.
OCTOBER 18th 2025**

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Payment on first day of clinic 18/10/2025
Cheque or Cash \$150
Please register by Friday 17/10
to secure your child's place in the clinic.

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____
Please make all cheques payable to Vic Cric and fill out participant/s information:
Name(s) : _____ DOB: _____
Clinics previously completed: _____ Phone: _____
Parent/Guardian Name/s: _____
Email: _____
Current Primary School: _____
YOUR FREE GIFT IS A SOCCER BALL!
I do ☐ do not ☐ give permission for my child to be photographed
and for photos to appear on Vic Cric Social Media.
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

For more information, call Mike on 0418303432 or email us at: viccric.northwest@gmail.com
Family discounts apply. Ask VIC CRIC team for more information. Disclaimer: Children play at their own risk. Vic Cric Pty Ltd accepts no liability.

Chess Club - Term 4, 2025



TERM 4, 2025 - REGISTER NOW @
CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU

SPECIALISED CHESS COACHING
Since 2002, we have been providing our popular Chess For Schools program in schools throughout Melbourne and Greater Geelong.



'Children love attending Phil's chess classes as he actively fosters their sense of wellbeing and motivation to learn more'.

Rob Horwood Principal, Stella Maris Primary, Beaumaris.

HOW CAN CHESS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD?
Educational: Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.
Social: Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.
Emotional: Confidence, self esteem, resilience through winning/losing games.

CLASS STRUCTURE:
Different lessons are taught each week from a structured syllabus ranging from tactics, strategies, master openings, traps & special moves. After the lesson children are paired up in a fun tournament playoff. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

BOOK HERE ➡ **CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU**

CLASS DETAILS - ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Thursdays	1:40pm - 2:20pm	Library	16 Oct to 11 Dec	\$145 per child per term

St Christopher's Junior Basketball Club

EST. 1970

JOIN OUR CLUB!



ST CHRISTOPHER'S JUNIOR BASKETBALL CLUB

Girls and boys teams
Under 8s to Under 20s
Keilor Basketball Association competition

Develop team skills and make new friends
All levels of experience welcome



REGISTER NOW!
stchristophersjbc.com.au/new-players



Essendon Little Athletics

ESSENDON

Family, fun, friends & fitness!

**LITTLE ATHLETICS**

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN
Summer season 24/25
Competition from 8am every Saturday starting 5 October 2024
Under 6 to 17 - all abilities welcome!

Come & Try Day
A great chance to see how Little Athletics works, ask any questions and have your child have a go at some of the events! No registrations needed.
Saturday September 14th from 10am
Moonee Valley Athletics Track Corio Street, Aberfeldie

Find out more or register for membership now



www.elac.com.au elacmemberships@gmail.com

Aberfeldie Jets Basketball Club

ABERFELDIE JETS
Basketball Club

RECRUITING OUR NEW ERA OF BALLERS



Join our Under 8's Team

- ✓ Learn the basics of game play
- ✓ Build confidence and teamwork
- ✓ Make friends and have FUN
- ✓ 1 x Training per week
- ✓ 1 x Saturday game day

Open to boys & girls born in 2019 & 2020
All experience levels welcome

POSITIONS AVAILABLE - SECURE YOURS TODAY!



Enquiries: admin@aberteldiejets.com.au

Important Dates

SEPTEMBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2 Father's Day Stall	3 Yr 4 Mass 10am	4	5 Father's Day Breakfast	6	7 Father's Day
8 Year 5 Camp	9 Year 5 Camp	10 Year 5 Camp Yr 4 Mass 10am	11	12 Colour Run Year 2 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	13	14
15	16 Second-hand Uniform Sale 2:45pm (Hall)	17 Learning Conferences (School Closure Day)	18 Footy Colours Day	19 Last day of Term 3 1:30pm finish	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Term 4 Begins	7	8	9 St Vincent de Paul Feast Day	10	11 Yr 4 Holy Communion 6pm	12 Yr 4 Holy Communion 9:30am
13	14	15 Yr 2 Gold Mass 10am	16 School Advisory Council Meeting	17 Zooper Doopers Prep Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	18 Yr 4 Holy Communion 6pm	19 Yr 4 Holy Communion 9:30am
20	21	22 Yr 2 Blue Mass 10am	23	24 Zooper Doopers Nominations for School Advisory Council OPEN	25	26
27 Parents Association Meeting 7:00pm Online	28	29 Yr 1 Gold Mass 10am	30	31 Zooper Doopers Year 1 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)		

NOVEMBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3 School Closure Day	4 Melbourne Cup Day Holiday	5	6 Whole School Athletics	7 Zooper Doopers Nominations for School Advisory Council CLOSE	8	9
10	11 Remembrance Day	12 Yr 1 Blue Mass 10am Music Soiree	13 Prep 2026 Information Evening	14 Zooper Doopers Year 5 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	15 Yr 2 & Yr 5 Family Mass 6pm	16
17 Italian Week	18 Prep 2026 Orientation	19	20 Hot Food Day School Advisory Council Meeting	21 Zooper Doopers	22	23
24 Parents Association AGM 7:00pm Online	25 Prep 2026 Orientation	26 Prep & Yr 6 Mass 10am	27 Christmas Carols	28 Zooper Doopers Year 4 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	29	30



SPRING HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our spring holiday program theme is 'Secret Garden' and we are looking forward to amazing excursions, incursions and in house fun days.

For a full preview of our holiday program please go to our website:

Theircare.com.au

We will provide breakfast from 7.00am-8.00am and afternoon snack at 3.45pm. Please provide your child with a morning snack, lunch and a water bottle and a HAT.

We are a NUT FREE ZONE, we kindly ask not to send sandwiches and snacks that contain nuts this includes Peanut Butter, Nutella, Kinder chocolate and muesli bars that contain nuts.

Please book 5 days in advance to prevent a \$10 late booking fee and ensure that your child arrives at the service 30min before departure time for excursions. Unfortunately, we cannot delay departure time.

Lisa & Tulay