



Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School

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Reflection

Third Sunday of Advent



Second reading: James 5:7-10

Do not lose heart; the Lord's coming will be soon

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Commentary:

James reminds us to be patient while we wait for God, just like a farmer waits for his plants to grow. Even when things take a long time, we shouldn't give up or complain about each other. Instead, we trust that God is with us and working in our lives. The prophets in the Bible show us how to wait with courage and faith.





End of the School Year prayer reflection

Loving God,

As we come to the end of this school year, we pause to thank You for the many blessings You have poured into our school community this year.

Thank you for the learning we have shared, the moments of joy, the challenges that helped us grow, and the wonderful relationships formed along the way.

You have called us to ignite hope and inspire excellence, and we are grateful for every opportunity we have had to live out this mission with our students, families, and one another.

Bless our staff, students, and families as they begin a time of rest and renewal. May Your light lead us, Your hope strengthen us, and Your love unite us.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Principal: Shane Byrne Email: principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr Nhan Le Email: strathmore@cam.org.au Website: www.cam.org.au/strathmore **PARISH OFFICE**

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

Principal's Message



A great deal has been achieved in the children's learning this year, along with the many events and activities they have been immersed in. These accomplishments have been made possible through the committed efforts of our staff, who work tirelessly to support the children along their learning journey. They have partnered closely with parents to ensure every child has opportunities to grow, achieve, and experience success.

This is also a time to farewell our Year 6 students as they head off to secondary school. They take with them the talents, knowledge, and skills they have developed during their time at St Vincent's, ready to share them with others and continue their success. We look forward to hearing about their achievements in the years ahead.

Thank you also to our Parents Association, led so capably by Adrianne Bates, Geoff Azzopardi, Margarite Kheir, Yvonne Karniej and Jodie Jinnette. The events they organise for both the children and parents is a reflection of the strong community spirit we have at the school.

I hope everyone enjoys a safe and joyful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to welcoming all families back in 2026.

TRANSITION DAY

Today the students found out their teacher for 2026. In the creation of the classes for 2026 staff address a number of criteria to ensure there is a balance across the different groupings. This includes considering friendships which the children have listed. The classes will not be changed and we ask that parents support the school in the extensive process used to create the classes. Classes are created keeping in mind inclusiveness and acceptance as underlying values which the school commits to.

NATIVITY PLAY

The Year Prep and 5 children did a terrific job of recounting the Nativity Story last Tuesday. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend this event and thank you to the staff who supported the children in the presentation of the first Christmas.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

The Final Assembly for the year will be held at 12 noon on Tuesday December 16 in the hall. This will be an opportunity to farewell our graduating Year 6 children and other families who are leaving the school.

END OF YEAR MASS

The final school mass for the year will be held tomorrow, December 16. This will begin at 9:15am and parents are invited to attend. Please be aware there will be limited seating available.

2026 ST VINCENT DE PAUL STAFF

PRINCIPAL Shane ByrneDEPUTY PRINCIPAL Laura Petrie

PREP BLUE

PREP GOLD

Melanie Harrop

PREP GREEN

Ashley La Porta

ONE BLUE Stephanie Alessandrini

ONE GOLD Simone D'Cruz

Cathy Manos (Fri)

TWO BLUE Eve Zikos
TWO GOLD Sarah Nevill

THREE BLUE Rachel Williams
THREE GOLD Virginia Spiller

FOUR BLUE Nathan Zuccarelli

FOUR GOLD Holly Caven (Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri)

Antoinette McKinnon (Wed)

FOUR GREEN Giulia Costanzo

FIVE BLUE Laura Rahill (Mon-Wed)

Emma Butcher (Thur-Fri)

FIVE GOLD Grace Harrington
FIVE GREEN Gabby Ciampa

SIX BLUE

SIX GOLD

Will Kingston

Matthew Jones

SPECIALIST ROLES

Religious Education Leader

Digital Technologies Leader

Integrated Inquiry Leader

Stephanie Serrano

Stephanie Serrano

Literacy Leader TBC

Mathematics Leader Lucy Kett

Learning Diversity / Wellbeing Leader Rebecca Glenton **Annual Action Plan Leader** Meg Monaghan Simone D'Cruz **Annual Action Plan Leader Team Leader Support** Cathy Manos **Emily Grindrod Performing Arts** Meg Monaghan **Visual Arts Sports / PE Co-ordinator** Daniel Igoe Tania Barbati Languages (Italian) **Literacy Intervention** Jessica McLeod **Mathematics Intervention** Lucy Kett **Maths Extension** Daniel Igoe

SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

Learning Support Officers

Tanya Bonavia, Nicole Calleja, Meredith Catena, Tina Chadraoui, Zina D'Argenio, Nicole Dionisio, Bernadette Eastham, Tara Failla, Anna Fedele, Sebastian Frazzetto, Harrison Grindrod, Deb Hodges, Caterina Hollibone, Shariss Perisa, Christian Scerri, Salome Schembri, Kate Sourial and Hayley Thompson

Administration Officers

Liz Piccione, Maria Kuret and Trish Hengel

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

Principal's Message cont....

Please note, in Term 1 Laura Petrie will be the Acting Principal and Rebecca Glenton the Acting Deputy Principal. Will Kingston will also be the Acting Learning Diversity Leader on Thursday & Friday. Melissa Pannell will be working in Year 6 Gold on Thursday and Friday for Term 1.

PAST STUDENTS

It is always great to hear about the academic achievements of our past students. Some of these achievements include:

- Anthony Nesci was awarded Dux of St. Bernards for Year 12.
- Oscar Tilovski was also awarded runner-up Dux for Year 8 at St. Bernard's
- Maeve McIldowney was awarded Dux of Year 8 at Ave Maria College
- Pia Palmisano was awarded Dux of Year 7 at Ave Maria College

Congratulations to all these past students on their outstanding achievements.

BEGINNING OF 2026 SCHOOL YEAR & TESTING

This year the children in **Years 1 & 2** will again be required to book in for numeracy testing on either Wednesday January 28 or Thursday January 29, 2026.

In today's newsletter is the booking details for Years 1 & 2 only. The numeracy & literacy testing for children in **Years 3-6** will be the same arrangements as this year:

- All children whose surname begins with A-K will be required to attend school from 9:00am - 12:00pm on Wednesday January 28.
- All children whose surname begins with L-Z will be required to attend school from 9:00am - 12:00pm on Thursday January 29.

There is no need to book the children in for these sessions. They are expected to attend on the days indicated.

Shane Byrne PRINCIPAL

St Vincent De Paul Parish Christmas Masses



Wednesday 10th December

7:00pm Reconciliation

Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

6:00pm Family Mass 8:40pm Christmas Carols 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

9:30am Christmas Mass

Yr 1/2 Maths Assessment Interview-Booking Information



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Maths Assessment Interview testing will be held on Wednesday 28th

January and Thursday 29th January, 2026 between 9:00am until 3:20pm

for Year 1 and Year 2 students only.

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**. Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS WILL OPEN on Tuesday 16th December, 2025 at 8:30am BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday 23rd of January, 2026 at 1pm.



Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter the school event code.

Then follow the 3 simple steps.









When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Reminder: Please be on time for your appointment as interviews are strictly 20 mins only. Please take your child to their classroom for their interview.

Mini Vinnie's Christmas Appeal

A huge thank you to the families who donated to this year's Mini Vinnie's Christmas Appeal. It was so wonderful to see the generosity of our school community, as there were so many items to sort through! We were able to support 13 families in the local St. Vincent de Paul society Strathmore and Glenroy conference areas and also a carload of items sent to the Caroline Chisholm charity.

A special thanks to the 2026 Year 6 Mini Vinnies students: **Elen Kalaskanis, Lachlan Campbell, Isabelle Kollamana, Lucas Ponte, Levi Dangerfield, Annabel Sands, Mila Atkinson, Lucas Ong and Levi Kheir** for your care, compassion and dedication throughout the year to help support people in need. Thank you also to Erin Armstrong and Lina Skimbirauskas for your support in delivering the items to the charities.



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.

Reminder to Download Reports & Portfolios

Parents of Year 6 students and students in other years who are leaving the school are reminded to download and archive reports and portfolios (ie from nForma and SeeSaw) before the end of the year while there is still access to these documents.

Access will not be available in 2026.

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 year will be donated or thrown out.



Library Books and Take Home Readers

Please ensure that all school library books and take home readers are returned by the last day of school.





2026 Term Dates

TERM 1

Wednesday 28th January (Prep)
Friday 30th January (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Thursday 2nd April

(Note: Easter 3rd-6th April)

TERM 2

Monday 20th April – Friday 26th June

TERM 3

Monday 13th July – Friday 18th September

TERM 4

Monday 5th October – Tuesday 15th December

2026 Family Masses

Please note the following 2026 Family Mass dates for Year Levels other than Sacramental years (Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6). The dates for the Commitment Masses for Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 year levels has been sent to families via Audiri.

PREP FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 22nd August 6pm/Sunday 23rd August 9:30am

YEAR 1 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 2nd May 6pm/Sunday 3rd May 9:30am



YEAR 2 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 14th February 6pm/Sunday 15th February 9:30am

YEAR 5 FAMILY MASSES:

- Saturday 12th September 6pm/Sunday 13th September 9:30am

2026 Sacramental Dates

Year 3 Reconciliation

- o 3:30pm 5:00pm Tuesday 24th March
- o 3:30pm 5:00pm Thursday 26th March

Year 4 First Holy Communion

- 6:00pm Saturday 23rd May
- 9:30am Sunday 24th May
- 6:00pm Saturday 30th May
- 9:30am Sunday 31st May



Year 6 Confirmation

- 6:00pm Saturday 24th October
- 9:30am Sunday 25th October

2026 School Closure Days

- Wednesday 4th March
- Tuesday 31st March (Learning Conferences)
- Thursday 28th May
- Monday 27th July
- Wednesday 16th September (Learning Conferences)
- Monday 2nd November
- Wednesday 2nd December

2026 Booklist - Items from Home

The 2026 booklist items have been purchased in bulk by the school from Campion Education.

Please see the list below for items to be purchased by families or retained from the previous year.

These items are to be brought to school on the first day of school next year.

Year Level	Items to bring from home				
Prep, 2026	Waterproof art smock (labelled)				
	• 1 soft pencil case (labelled)				
	 (Library bags will be provided by the school) 				
Year 1, 2026	1 large pencil case				
	Blue folder (retain from previous year)				
	 Headphones (retain from previous year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	Library bag (retain from previous year)				
Year 2, 2026	1 large pencil case				
	Blue folder (retain from previous year)				
	 Headphones (retain from previous year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	Library bag (retain from previous year)				
Year 3, 2026	1 large pencil case				
	Blue folder (retain from last year)				
	 Headphones (retain from last year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	Library bag (retain from previous year)				
Year 4, 2026	 1 large pencil case 				
	 Headphones (retain from last year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	Library bag (retain from previous year)				
	 Australian Children's Mass book (retain from previous year) 				
Year 5, 2026	1 large pencil case				
	 Headphones (retain from previous year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	Library bag (retain from previous year)				
	 Australian Children's Mass book (retain from previous year) 				
Year 6, 2026	1 large pencil case				
	 Headphones (retain from previous year) 				
	 Art smock (retain from previous year) 				
	 Australian Children's Mass Book (retain from previous year) 				

Term 1, 2026 - PE, Classroom Sport and Library Timetable

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

Chess Club - Term 1, 2026



Parish Finance Officer Position

St Monica's Parish, Moonee Ponds, and St Vincent de Paul Parish, Strathmore, are currently seeking a Finance Officer for 15-hour per week. This is a six-month, part-time position. This is a warm, community-focused role where the Finance Officer will be the welcoming face of our parishes. The position plays an integral part of Parish finance.

If you are interest and would like a copy of the position description, please email Fr Nhân Le — Nhan.le@cam.org.au

Vic Soccer 2026 Summer Clinics



Important Dates

DECEMBER 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3 Prep 2026 Orientation - Session 3	4 School Closure Day	5 Zooper Doopers	6	7
8	9 Prep Nativity Play Session 1: 11:40-12:10pm Session 2: 12:30-1pm	10	11 Year 6 Graduation Ceremony & Dinner	12 Zooper Doopers	13	14
15 2026 Transition Day	*End of School Year Mass 9:15am (please note change of time) *Year 6 Assembly 12:00 noon (Hall) *Last Day of Term 4 - 1:30pm Finish	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve				

JANUARY 2026							
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
			1 New Years Day	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26 Australia Day	27	28 Preps only begin school Yr1-Yr6 - Testing Day	29 Preps only at school Yr1-Yr6 - Testing Day	30 Yr 1-Yr 6 begin school All students at school	31		

	FEBRUARY 2026						
N	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
							1
2		3	4	5 Opening School Mass 9:15am	6	7	8
9		10	11	12 Reconciliation Parent Info Evening 7pm	13 Zooper Doopers	14 Yr 2 Family Mass & Yr 3 Commitment Mass 6pm	15 Yr 2 Family Mass & Yr 3 Commitment Mass 9:30am
16		17	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20 Zooper Doopers Year 6 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	21	22
23		24 Prep & Year 6 BBQ 6-8pm	25	26 Whole School Swimming Sports	27 Gala Day 1 Zooper Doopers	28	

TheirCare News





TheirCare News



Holiday Program Important Information!

What to bring

- A healthy morning tea and lunch
- A labelled drink bottle for water
- Suitable clothing for an active day closed toe shoes and jacket if wet/cold
- SunSmart hat for Spring and Summer holidays
- Medical Management Plan &

 Medication if applicable see below for details

Don't forget!

- Keep your lunchbox nut-free to keep everyone safe
- Do not include food items that need to be reheated
- Label all items with child's name!
- Bus departure and arrival times are indicative only.

 For an accurate estimated time of arrival and departure please contact your service directly.



Personal belongings

Electronic devices, money and other valuables should be left at home.

If brought to the service, these items remain the responsibility of the family. TheirCare does not accept responsibility for loss or damage.



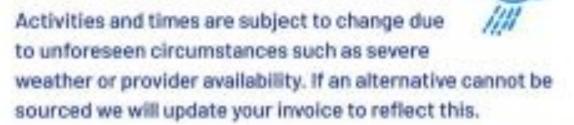
Their Care provides

- Breakfast and afternoon tea snack
- Sunscreen
- Water to refill bottles



Unexpected changes to activities

In the unlikely event that an activity is unable to run, an alternative activity will be provided.



General daily advertised activities are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, at the discretion of the service coordinator.

Serious stuff!

Medical Management Plan € Medication

All children who have been diagnosed with a medical condition including allergies, food/chemical intolerances, anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy will need to provide:

- a completed Medical Management Plan with a colour photo
- necessary medication

Please note it is a legal requirement under the Education & Care National Regulations and the Terms and Conditions for booking that these are provided.

In the interests of child safety, care may be refused on the day should the appropriate documentation or medication or medication not be supplied.

Child Care Subsidy

Please note that subsidised hours are calculated and allocated by Centrelink on a fortnightly basis. Check Centrelink for eligibility.



Each session is calculated using the full service operational hours, not the hours attended by the child.

Additional Child Care subsidy will not cover any hours beyond the subsidised hours per fortnight.

Refer to TheirCare Holiday Program FAQ https://theircare.com.au/holiday-programs/ for further information and example.

Changes to your booking

Simply log into your account anytime to make the relevant changes or call us between 6:30am - 9:00pm weekdays on 1300 072 410.



Fees for changes to your booking

More than 5 days Less than 5 days * On the day
No Charge \$10.00 Full Fee

*Less than 5 days from the start of the booking (120 hours from the start of the session).

When making additional bookings, the \$10.00 fee is eligible for the Child Care Subsidy, which means you may only need to pay the gap, depending on your families' circumstances.







If you have any questions, please speak with one of our friendly Educators or call Customer Support on 1300 072 410.