



Newsletter

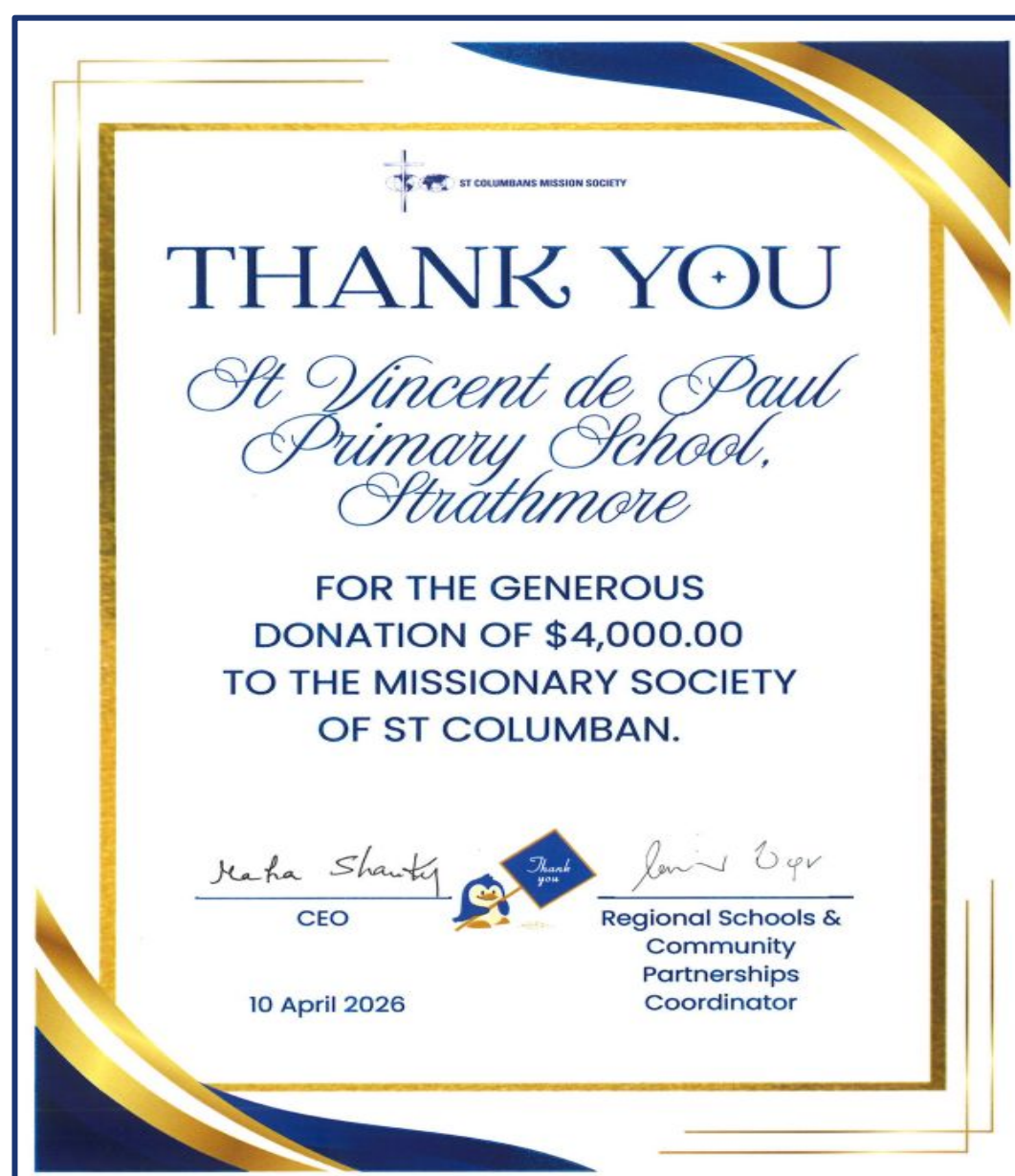
St. Vincent de Paul Primary School
 Principal: Shane Byrne
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Reflection

We are incredibly grateful to receive a message of thanks from the Missionary Society of St Columban for our recent donation of **\$4,000**. This generous contribution will directly support meaningful projects such as Warmi Huasi (Women's House) in Peru, which provides vital support for mothers and offers programs that strengthen childhood development, literacy, and safe, nurturing learning environments. Through initiatives like this, children and adolescents are empowered to grow into knowledgeable and compassionate leaders who will give back to their families, communities, and the Church.

In their message, the Columban team expressed heartfelt thanks to our school community for supporting children in need as a living expression of our Catholic identity and faith in action. We are proud to stand in partnership with them and look forward to continuing and strengthening this relationship throughout the year.



Prayer for Mission

Lord, hear us.

All-loving and compassionate God, You hear the cry of the poor. Your people throughout the world suffer from earthquakes, floods, wars, starvation and disease. Moved by the suffering of our brothers and sisters, we unite our prayers with theirs. On this day, You touch the hearts of Your faithful people with the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us, by the same Spirit, the wisdom to judge rightly in all things and to always rejoice in Your consolations. May our prayers lead us to action. Guide us to respond with love, compassion and care for all.

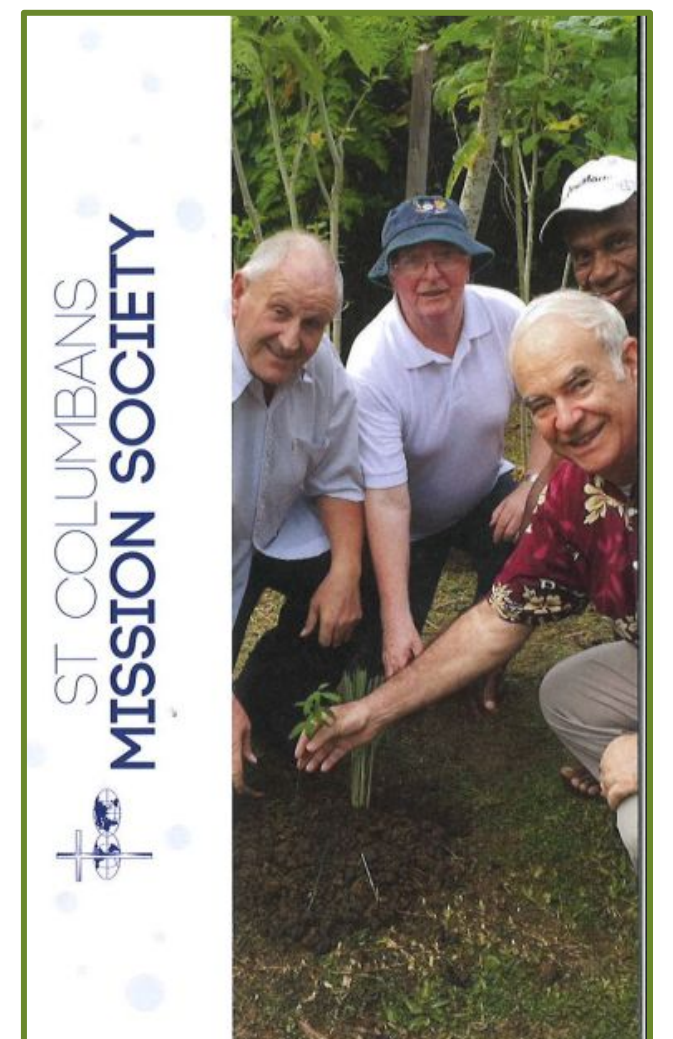
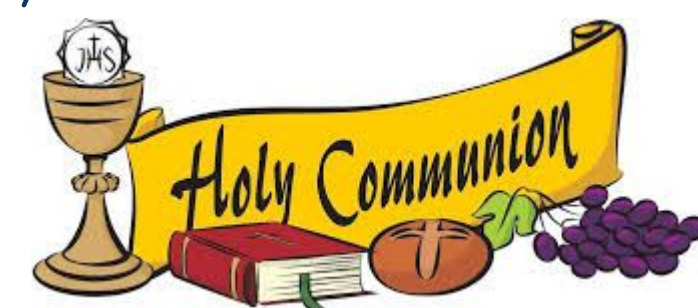
Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

As our Year 4 students begin their preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, we keep them in our thoughts and prayers during this special time in their faith journey.

We sincerely thank our students and their families for their wonderful attendance at the Commitment Mass over the weekend. It was so lovely to see such strong support from our school and parish community. It was also a joy to see our Year 4 families alongside our Year 1 families at the Family Mass, sharing in prayer and celebration together.

First Holy Communion is a significant step in the life of a Catholic, where students are invited to deepen their relationship with Jesus through the Eucharist. In receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, they are nourished spiritually and welcomed more fully into the life of the Church.



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

Parish Priest: Fr Nhan Le
Email: strathmore@cam.org.au
Website: www.stmonicasparish.com.au

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

Principal's Message

MOTHER'S DAY STALL & BREAKFAST

Thank you to all those parents who were involved in the Tuesday's Mother Day Stall. This provided the children the opportunity to purchase a special gift for their mothers which they were very excited about.

The school community is looking forward to celebrating Mother's Day at tomorrow's Mother's Day Breakfast. We extend our sincere thanks to all those who have helped, and who will continue to help, in organising this special event. It is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the invaluable role that mothers and carers play in the lives of their children and families.

The first breakfast session will begin at 7:10am and conclude at 7:50am. At the conclusion of this session, children will make their way to the Junior Yard, where they will be supervised by staff until the 8:50am bell.

As parking around the school is limited, we kindly encourage families to walk to school where possible.

We look forward to this being another highly successful Parents Association event and hope that all mothers and carers enjoy a memorable and well-deserved celebration.

PHONES/SMART WATCHES

As a school we discourage children bringing phones or smart watches to school as they are very powerful tools in very young hands. Currently the school does not have a ban on either of these devices. However, if a child does bring a phone or smart watch to school they are required to hand it to their classroom teacher at the beginning of the day and collect it at the end of the school day. These devices prove a distraction to the children's learning and are best left at home.

PREP MEETINGS

Beginning next week, we will be meeting with families who are intending to enrol their children in Prep for 2027. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to share what makes the St. Vincent's community so special and to explore the many reasons families choose our school for their child's educational journey. We look forward to welcoming and meeting with both new and existing families as they take this important step.

SCHOOL CONCERT TICKETS

Tickets went on sale yesterday for the the school concert. The concert is over 2 nights - June 17 (Gold & Green House) & June 18 (Blue & Red House). Families will initially be able to purchase 4 tickets, with a second release of tickets not purchased tickets becoming available on May 27.

Link for ticket sales: [A World Of Our Own - Tickets](#)

PARENT HELPER WORKSHOP

As part of the school's Child Safe Standards any parent wanting to help in the classroom or excursions is required to attend the Parent Helper Workshop. The session will cover the parent volunteer requirements as per the St Vincent de Paul Child Safety Policy. It is essential to attend this session in order to have the opportunity to be part of the learning experiences which take place at the school such as parent helper. Parents who have attended the workshops previously will are not required to attend again.

The workshops will take place on:

- Tuesday May 19 - 9:15am-9:45am
- Thursday May 21 - 2:30pm-3:00pm

YEAR 4 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COMMITMENT MASS

As part of the preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion the Year 4 children are expected to attend one of the 2 parish masses on May 16 & 17. The mass on Saturday evening begins at 6:00pm and the mass on Sunday begins at 9:30am. We look forward to all the children and their families from Year 4 preparing for this sacrament attending one of these masses.

WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is great to see the children wearing their winter uniform. It is an expectation that all children be wearing their winter uniform. Should a child not be wearing their uniform parents are required to contact the classroom teacher to explain the reason for this.

WINTER UNIFORM

BOYS

- Grey Trouser
- Long Sleeve Shirt (Sky)
- Skivvy (Sky)
- Woollen School Jumper
- Grey Stripe Anklet Socks
- Black School Shoes

GIRLS

- Winter Tunic
- Navy Pants
- Peter Pan Blouse (Sky)
- Woollen School Jumper
- Skivvy (Sky)
- Navy Anklet Socks or Navy Tights
- Black School Shoes

SPORTS UNIFORM

BOYS

- Rugby Top
- Navy Track Pants
- Navy Sport Shorts
- Short Sleeve Polo Top
- White Anklet Socks
- Runners

GIRLS

- Rugby Top
- Navy Track Pants
- Navy Netball Skirt, Navy Skort or Navy Sport Shorts
- Short Sleeve Polo Top
- White Anklet Socks
- Runners

Shane Byrne
Principal

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

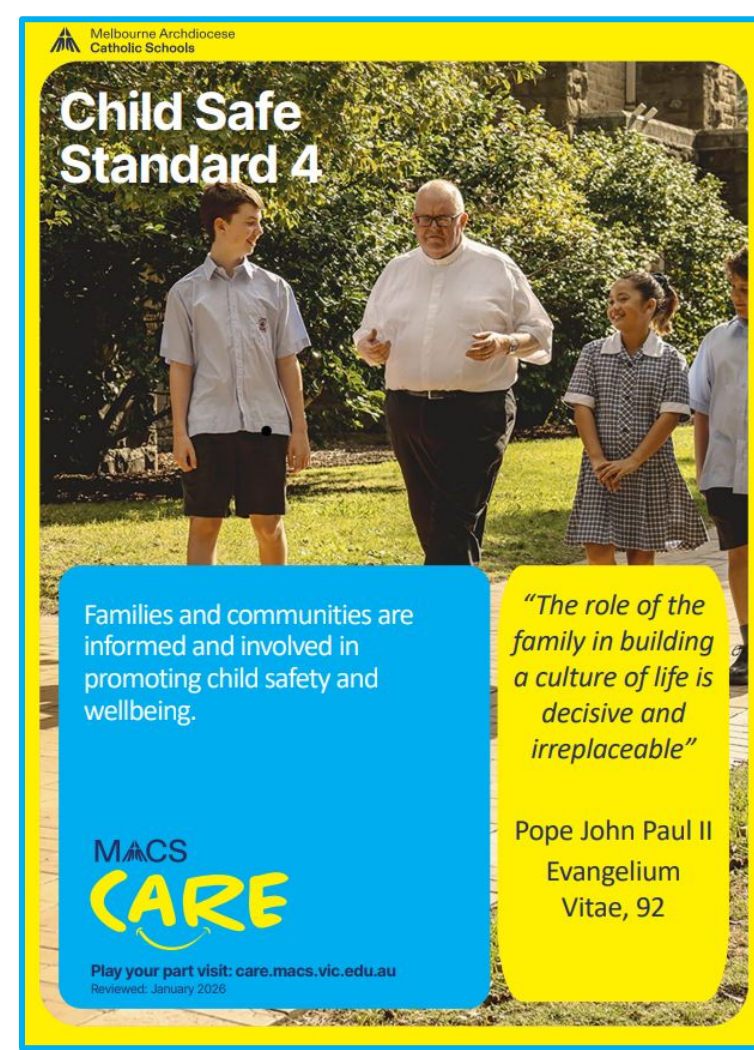
Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

At St Vincent de Paul we continue to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all children.

This month we are focusing on Child Safe Standard 4.

Child Safe Standard 4

“Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing”



Overview of Child Safe Standard 4:

To be aligned, schools must support the following:

- ★ Families participate in decisions affecting their child
- ★ The organisation engages and openly communicates with families and the community about its child safe approach and relevant information is accessible.
- ★ Families and communities have a say in the development and review of the organisation’s policies
- ★ Families, carers and the community are informed about the organisation's operations and governance.

“The role of the family in building a culture of life is decisive and irreplaceable”

This quote comes in the greater context of Pope John Paul’s message about the family being at the heart of the **“civilisation of love”**.

What does this look like in a school environment?

- ★ Keeping families informed: We provide parents, carers and the community with regular updates about child safety and wellbeing so everyone knows what is being done to keep children safe and so parents and carers can continue the conversation at home.
- ★ Inviting parent, carer and community involvement: We create varied opportunities for families, carers and community members to participate in surveys, forums or school events that focus on child safety and wellbeing, and seek their feedback
- ★ Working together: We build trust and open communication with families, carers and the wider community. We ensure families, carers and members of the community have access to a variety of communication channels.
- ★ Welcoming different perspectives: We are always open and welcoming of ideas that help keep children safe. We create varied ways for people to provide us with their feedback and share their ideas. We also actively seek to go beyond the school gate to meet families and the wider community at different places of learning, so we are all walking together.

Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing (cont...)

How Parents, Carers and Guardians can get involved!

Child Safe Standard 4 is about making sure schools, families, carers and the wider community work together to keep children safe. Here are some simple ways families can help:

- ★ Stay informed: Read school updates about safety and wellbeing
- ★ Keep talking: Have regular, open conversations with your child about what safety feels like for them and how they feel when they are at school or other places away from home. Ensure they know they have trusted adults they can speak to if they are concerned. Make sure they know who these adults are.
- ★ Get involved: Attend school events, take part in surveys or forums that seek your feedback. Let your children see that you prioritise this connection with the school.

For more information please visit, <https://care.macs.vic.edu.au/>



UNDERSTANDING THE NCCD

Each year, all Australian schools take part in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD helps schools and governments better understand the needs of students with disability and ensure they are supported to access and participate in learning on the same basis as their peers.

The NCCD is not a test for students and does not involve any new assessments. Instead, it recognises the adjustments and support that schools already provide for students in their everyday learning environment. These adjustments may include personalised learning plans, modified classroom activities, wellbeing support, assistive technology, or additional help from teachers and support staff.

The information collected is confidential and de-identified before being provided to education authorities. Participation in the NCCD helps schools continue to improve inclusive practices and ensures funding and resources can be directed where they are most needed.

For more information, please see the flyer attached or contact: rglenton@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au or wkingston@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au

Rebecca Glenton and Will Kingston
Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leaders

Sports News

District Cross Country

Congratulations to the 115 students across Years 4 - 6 who tried out for the District Cross Country team in Week 2. The Year 4 students completed a 2km trial whilst the Year 5/6 students completed a 3km trial. We wish all 36 selected students competing in the District Cross Country event at Maribyrnong Park all the best on the 19th of May in their races.



District Cross Country Team

Interschool Sports

Last week the Year 6s and some of the Year 5s kicked off their Winter Interschool Sports campaign, away against Essendon North Primary School. The students have the opportunity to participate in either Netball, Teeball, AFL or Soccer over a 5 week period. Congratulations to all teams on a fantastic start, with a few wins and a couple of losses on the day, but all very strong team performances! We look forward to the next fortnights games against Essendon Primary School (home) and St Monica's Primary School (away).

Week 1 Scores:

- Girls Netball: STV 6-19 ENPS
- Mixed Netball: STV 12-2 ENPS
- Teeball: STV 24-22 ENPS
- AFL: STV 210-1 ENPS
- Girls Soccer: STV 4-1 ENPS
- Mixed Soccer: STV 1-3 ENPS

Daniel Igoe
Sports / PE Co-ordinator

Scholastic Book Club



The Term 2, 2026 Book Club catalogue was distributed to all students today. If you would like to place an order, it will need to be submitted online by **Monday 25th May**. **All orders are to be completed online.** The school office will not be accepting any orders. Once the books have been delivered to the school, they will be sorted and distributed to the students for them to bring home.

2026 School Concert

"A World Of Our Own"

Written and Directed by Emily Grindrod

Four ordinary children travel through different habitats to collect special items after they are tasked with a challenge by the mysterious Wood Elves. Come and see the creatures and people they encounter, as these students embark on an adventure starting in Strathmore and ending in a frozen tundra!

Link for ticket sales: [A World Of Our Own - Tickets](#)

Please be aware that tickets are limited to four per family at this stage, in order to ensure that every family has an opportunity to attend the show.

Gold and **Green** house are performing on the **17th of June**.
Red and **Blue** house are performing on the **18th of June**.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at: egrindrod@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au



2026 Term 2 School Fees

A reminder that Term 2 school fees are due on **Friday 22nd May**. For details please refer to the statement that was emailed on 16th February 2026. 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.

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 School Closure Days

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

2026 Sacramental Dates

Year 3 Reconciliation

- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Tuesday 24th March (3 GOLD)
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Thursday 26th March (3 BLUE)

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

Parish Bulletin

Please see below for a link to the St. Vincent de Paul Strathmore and St. Monica's Moonee Ponds parish bulletin.

<https://www.stmonicasparish.com.au/newsletter.html>



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

Chess Club - Term 2, 2026

TERM 2, 2026 - REGISTER NOW @
[CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](https://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

'I am thrilled with the tremendous success of the chess program run by Chess for Schools. The students' adoration for the program is evident as they eagerly anticipate lunchtime on Tuesdays, bursting with excitement. The instructors' dedication, patience and attentiveness foster an engaging and nurturing learning environment, igniting the children's passion for chess as their skills flourish.'

Jessica Ward, Teacher - Loreto Toorak.

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 and 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 play off. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

BOOK HERE ➔ [CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](https://chessforschools.com.au)

CLASS DETAILS - ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRIMARY				
DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Thursdays	1:40pm - 2:20pm	Library	30 April to 18 June	\$145 per child per term


Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on **FRIDAY 15th May at 2:25 pm** in the hall.

PREP BLUE	Robert (Bobby) McKay Zoe El Madi	FOUR BLUE	Harper Pali Jordan Cilia
PREP GOLD	Vincenzo Incandela Elena Hammoud	FOUR GOLD	Paige D Roko Tatarelli
PREP GREEN	Francesca Ambrogio Akindu Olupeliyawa	FOUR GREEN	Jack Clutterbuck Lola Dimasi
ONE BLUE	Alex Barkho Oscar Sullivan	FIVE BLUE	Arianna Soccio Lachlan Grech
ONE GOLD	Henry Sullivan Matilda Whaley	FIVE GOLD	Julian Karamicov Ivy Makarucha
TWO BLUE	Carter Vitali Elijah Sheehan	FIVE GREEN	Adriana Randello Mila Tadikamalla
TWO GOLD	Thomas Fletcher Mila Lane	SIX BLUE	Interschool Sport
THREE BLUE	Selena Ibrahim Isaac Torres	SIX GOLD	Interschool Sport
THREE GOLD	Raffa Andronaco-Tran Ilaria Petrolo	SIX GREEN	Interschool Sport



Ave Maria College - She Who Explores Sessions



She Who Explores
MAY SESSIONS


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.

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

Choose from one of the following subjects and join us for an hour of fun and learning!

- **Food Technology (repeat)** - Monday, 4 May
- **Netball Skills** - Monday, 4 May
- **STEM** - Thursday, 14 May
- **Netball Skills (repeat)** - Thursday, 14 May



St Bernard's College - Year 7 2028 Applications



Year 7 2028
Apply Now

Applications due 15 May 2026.

Book a College Tour or Discover more

[sbc.vic.edu.au](https://www.sbc.vic.edu.au)






Simonds Catholic College - Tours for 2028 Entry



Shaping Men of the Future
Begin his journey today

Register Now

Book a tour
Tours available now for 2028 entry.

At Simonds, he can begin his journey to becoming the man he is meant to be, grounded in our values of belonging, character, and growth

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools | SIMONDS Catholic College

SHAPING MEN OF THE FUTURE

Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge



Victorian premiers' reading challenge

Stories to discover.
Stories to tell.

To register, visit vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge
The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is led by the Premier with the support of former premiers.




Important Dates

MAY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1 Winter Sport Round 1 Year 3 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	2 Yr 1 Family Mass & Yr 4 Commitment Mass 6pm	3 Yr 1 Family Mass & Yr 4 Commitment Mass 9:30am
4	5 Mother's Day Stall	6 Yr 4 Mass 9:15am	7	8 Mother's Day Breakfast Winter Sport Round 2	9	10 Mother's Day
11	12	13 Yr 3 Mass 9:15am	14 Prep Information Parent Helper Workshop	15 Winter Sport Round 3 Year 2 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	16 Yr 4 Commitment Mass 6pm	17 Yr 4 Commitment Mass 9:30am
18 Parents Association Meeting (online) 7pm	19 Parent Helper Workshop - 9:15am-9:45am (Yrs 1-6)	20 Yr 2 Mass 9:15am	21 Parent Helper Workshop - 2:30pm-3:00pm (Yrs 1-6)	22 Winter Sport Round 4	23 Holy Communion 6pm	24 Holy Communion 9:30am
25	26	27 Yr 1 Mass 9:15am	28 School Closure Day	29 Winter Sport Round 5 School Disco	30 Holy Communion 6pm	31 Holy Communion 9:30am

JUNE 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3 Prep & Yr 6 Mass 9:15am	4	5 Year 1 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	6	7
8 King's Birthday Public Holiday	9	10 Yr 5 Gold Mass 9:15am	11 Hot Food Day School Advisory Board Meeting	12 Prep Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	13	14
15	16	17 Yr 5 Blue Mass 9:15am School Concert 7pm - (Gold & Green House)	18 School Concert 7pm - (Red & Blue House)	19	20 Yr 4 Commitment Mass (Certificate) 6pm	21
22	23	24 Yr 5 Green Mass 9:15am	25 Crazy Hair Day (Fete donation)	26 Last Day of Term 1 - 1:30pm finish	27	28
29	30					

JULY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Term 3 Begins	14	15	16	17 Casual Clothes Day	18	19
20	21	22 Yr 6 Gold Mass 9:15am	23 School Advisory Board Meeting	24 Trivia Night	25	26
27 School Closure Day	28	29 Yr 6 Blue Mass 9:15am	30	31 Hot Food Day Year 6 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)		