

# ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

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## Newsletter—Week 7 of Term 2, June 5, 2025



### St VINNIE'S WINTER APPEAL

Thank you for your support of our St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal. Volunteers from the local Vinnies store will come and collect donations at the assembly on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June. So please continue to bring in donations up until then. This is another way in which we impress upon our children how lucky we are to have our families, the security this brings, to be thoughtful about others and the difficulties some face just in staying warm in Winter.



As a school we continue to improve our living and learning routines as part of the Magnify Sandhurst initiative. On Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of May we had a representative from the Knowledge Society visit us to work alongside staff to implement and provide feedback on their Cue to Start, Entry and Exit Routines. From all reports, it was a huge success despite some staff feeling very nervous. We now look to add more routines which aim to create a safe and calm environment.

Dom

For more information-

<https://www.knowledgesociety.com.au/>



**Monday 9th June King's Birthday Public Holiday**

Afternoon Assembly : Monday at 2:45

Yr 6 Leaders & Class Prayer

June 9 : No Assembly

June 16 : Hazel A, Blaze S & Jae P ; Jun P&S

ALL WELCOME !

## Dates to Remember

Monday, June 9

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Wednesday, June 11

"Unpacking the Man Box" 6pm in

MacKillop Centre

P&F Meeting

Friday, July 4

Last Day of Term 2 – 2:15pm finish

Buses run 1 hour earlier

Monday, July 21

First Day of Term 3



## Unpacking the Man Box at St Joseph's Numurkah

Presented by the Jesuit Social Services.

The 'Unpacking the Man Box' workshop introduce **parents and carers** to the pressures that boys and young men feel to behave a certain way and the impacts and potential harms of these pressures. We also discuss ways to move away from these harmful behaviours and attitudes. Our workshop aims to build awareness, open conversations, and build skills to adopt and role model healthier habits and to develop healthier identities.

### Date/Time

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of June

6:00pm-7:00pm

St Joseph's

Mary MacKillop Centre

**Open to:** all ages

Please register to confirm a place using the link or QR Code provided.

The even will not run unless we have adequate numbers

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



## Office News

### SCHOOL FEES:

If any family would like to commence having their fees directly debited fortnightly or monthly this can be done at any time! Centrepay is also an option.

Next Fortnightly Debits: 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Monthly Debits 18<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The Term Planner & Newsletter can be viewed from the school website under news & events \ newsletters

*If you have any queries, please ring Gayle or Donna at the office on 5862 1804*

## Reconciliation Week



This week, our school community came together to celebrate National Reconciliation Week, a time to learn about our shared histories, cultures, achievements, and to explore how we can contribute to reconciliation in Australia.

At our Monday assembly, **Middle B and M/B** led a thoughtful and respectful prayer and reflection, helping us all focus on the importance of listening, understanding, and walking together towards a more inclusive future. Their message reminded us that every step we take in kindness and respect brings us closer to reconciliation.

Let's continue to learn, grow, and stand together!

## Preps

What a wonderful journey of living and learning it has been in Term 2! As we reach Week 7, it's incredible to reflect on how much our Prep students have grown—both in confidence and curiosity. From exploring new sounds and numbers to building friendships and routines, every day has been filled with moments of discovery and joy. We're so proud of all they've achieved so far and look forward to the rest of the term with excitement!

### Literacy

In Literacy, we are continuing with our InitiaLit lessons. Each session begins with a review of the letters and sounds we've learned so far, helping to reinforce the children's growing knowledge. The students also spend time reading and writing words, applying their skills in meaningful ways. A key part of our lessons includes learning and practising Tricky Words—these are common words that often appear in books but include sounds we haven't yet formally learned.

Your child has a list of Tricky Words, along with the sounds we've covered, in their reader folder. We encourage you to spend 5–10 minutes each evening practising these with your child. Readers will be changed on the day your child reads with their teacher. Thank you for your ongoing support at home!

### Numeracy

In Numeracy we have completed our topics on part/whole numbers and shapes. This week we have moved onto counting and place value. The children will be extending their knowledge on numbers and working with numbers 0-10 and 10 and beyond.

### Religion

In Religion, students have been focusing on the unit 'God knows us and loves us. Students have been exploring the ways in which God loves us and understanding that God's love can be revealed through our families, friends and creation.

### Inquiry

In Inquiry students have been learning about where we live on the Map. The children have explored what town they live in, what state our town is in and our Country Australia. During this time, we have talked about special places in Australia as well as exploring different places we have visited.



## Things to remember

Sport uniform – Tuesday & Friday  
Library & Art - Tuesday  
Thank you for your ongoing support,  
The Prep Team.

## Juniors

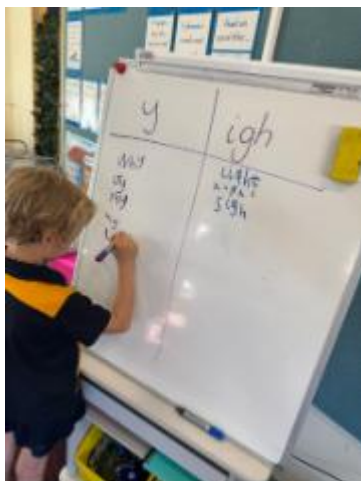
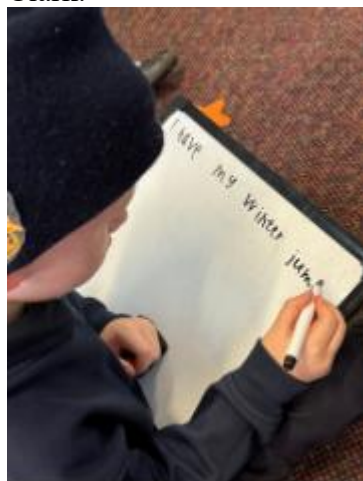
As we reach the end of Term 2 we would like to congratulate you all. Your children have done a fantastic job this semester and we are all proud of their achievements.

## Literacy Year 1

Students have explored vowel sounds and spelling; we are now focusing on other digraphs and split digraphs commonly used such as er, ir, ur, ar and or.

Our word study has been around plurals and suffixes. We continue to explore writing Super Sentences and have seen some great creativity and incorporation of our vocabulary from storybook lessons.

In Writing, we have been using the InitialLit Storyslide to plan for narrative writing. Students are writing their own version of the “Bear’s don’t” based on our mentor text “Bear’s don’t read” by Emma Chichester Clark.



## Literacy Year 2

In Reading, students have been working on the comprehension strategy of asking questions. They have explored a shared text and practised using the question words “Who? Where? What? When? How? Why?” before, during, and after reading to deepen their understanding.

In Writing, students have started exploring fractured fairy tales, focusing on retelling the well-known story *The Three Little Pigs* in a new and creative way.

In Spelling, students have focused on the

digraphs 'ow' as in cow and 'ou' as in cloud. They have learnt that while it can be tricky to know which digraph to use, one helpful rule is that 'ou' usually does not appear at the end of a word—so we use 'ow' in that case. When the /ow/ sound appears at the beginning or in the middle of a word, we often just need to learn which digraph is correct.

In Grammar, students have continued learning about sentence structure, with a particular focus on verbs and their role within a sentence.

## Maths

We have spent much of the term exploring Place Value and understanding how numbers work. It has been great to see students working with concrete materials and getting confident in their recognition of the values digits have within a number. One of the fun ways we explore our maths topics is through maths games. A simple pack of cards or a die can be used to make many games to practice number skills.

The last 2 weeks we have looked at length and comparing length with informal measurement. Students had plenty of fun measuring objects around our room.





## **Inquiry**

Our theme 'Worldly wonders' fitted perfectly into National Sorry day and Reconciliation Week last week. Students have explored Australia and the nation's first peoples. We had some great discussions and questions asked about the history of Australia.

Over the next few weeks, we will be creating some triaramas to display our learning about Australia, Victoria, Numurkah and their homes. Students are already very excited about getting creative. We hope to have an open session towards the end of Term for families to come into our classrooms to see their work.

## **Religion**

In Religion we are continuing to explore the Church and how Baptism welcomes us into the Church community. In the coming weeks we will explore how Jesus was baptised and how we are called to live like Jesus and show God's love for all, through the things we say and do. We have started exploring the idea of belonging and how you are initiated into new groups (school, football/netball clubs, scouts, etc).

It would be a great discussion to have in your family about whether your child was baptised, show them photos and share your feelings about this special time in their lives.



## Specialists

Students have specialist classes on **Wednesdays**. The children need to continue to wear their **sports uniform** every Wednesday and Friday. They also need to bring their Library bag each Wednesday.

### **Weeks 2-6 (Wednesday)**

Junior West: LOTE/ART

### **Weeks 2-6 (Thursday)**

Junior East: PE/LIBRARY

### **Weeks 2-6 (Thursday)**

Junior East: MUSIC

### **Weeks 2-6 (Friday)**

Junior West: PE

Please ensure all children's items are clearly labeled. It makes it very hard to return something to its owner without a name.

Please send us a message on SeeSaw if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. If it is a timely notice, please contact the front office as teachers do not always check Seesaw throughout the day.

Makayla, Sara, James, Andrew, Jo, Abby, Jane, Shay and Ally.

## Middles

We've officially passed the halfway point of Term 2, and with winter well and truly upon us, it's been lovely to see students rugged up and embracing their learning with enthusiasm! A friendly reminder that full winter uniform is now required, including sports uniform on PE days—**Middle North has PE on Fridays**, and **Middle South has PE on Wednesdays**, following the recent specialist timetable swap.

In **Literacy**, we wrap up our novel study of *Yirra and Her Deadly Dog, Demon* this week. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this story and have been working hard on their factual recount writing. Next, we dive into *Off We Go Around Australia*, a new novel that will help us explore explanatory writing. We'll finish the term with a unit on **Australian Poetry**—a great chance for students to connect with our culture and rhythm through verse.

In **Numeracy**, we are moving at pace through several exciting units! We've worked through **fractions**, **length and area**, and **data representations**, and we'll be diving into **shape** next week. We'll wrap up the term revising **addition and subtraction** strategies.

In **Inquiry**, we've launched our five-week **Junior Public Speaking unit**, in partnership with the Lions Club. Students are planning, drafting, editing, and rehearsing speeches in response to the theme: "*If you could invent something new, what would it be?*" Our school finals will be held in **Week 11**, with the top four students progressing to the next stage in **Term 3**. We're already hearing some incredibly creative ideas!

In **Religion**, our focus remains on celebrating the **gift of the Holy Spirit** and recognising how God's presence is seen in the world around us. Students have enjoyed researching famous individuals who display these spiritual qualities—ask your child who they've been studying!

## **Supporting Social and Emotional Growth**

In the Middles, we are committed to helping our students develop strong **social and emotional skills**. Each week, **Amanda, Laura, Bern, Di and Jordyn** run small group sessions where students engage in **cooking and board games**, each with a focus on a specific social skill. These sessions have not only helped students grow in confidence but also strengthened important life skills such as teamwork, communication, and positive interaction.



# St Joseph's School - Newsletter

Additionally, **Sam Carnie** facilitates the **Chill Skills Program**, where students learn how to identify and manage their emotions, while building effective strategies to support their wellbeing. These targeted programs have had a wonderful impact on our students' personal growth.



## Live Life Whole

On Thursday the 8th of May, our middle area girls participated in a fun-filled and interactive program ran by Megan Dickinson (a past student) and Co-Founder of the Live Life Whole Project. The girls explored three important topics:

Nuture- Emotions and Friendships

Align- Self Confidence, self-esteem and self-talk

Believe- What's important to us and why

They played games, danced, created super-hero poses, followed interactive slides and sang all whilst covering important topics about their health and well-being. The girls participated with enthusiasm and eagerness. What a great day together, sharing about our thoughts and beliefs and getting some positive, inspirational tips to guide us as we grow together.



# St Joseph's School - Newsletter

As winter settles in, please ensure your child is wearing a **school jumper** each day. We continue to do our best to limit the spread of colds and other illnesses.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or wellbeing, please don't hesitate to get in touch with their classroom teacher via **SeeSaw**.

Warm regards,  
**The Middles Team**

## Seniors

The senior school is well into their Winter Sports Program. The recent trip to Shepparton saw us take three teams. One football team, one netball team and a T-Ball team. The students played plenty of games with the netballers playing five games, the footballers five games and the T-Ballers 4 games. We won our share of games across all the sports and the students' behaviour was excellent. The weekly sports against neighbouring schools are also going well. We venture to Cobram Primary School this Friday with all teams involved.



**WINTER SPORTS**  
vs **COBRAM PRIMARY**  
THIS FRIDAY - JUNE 6TH  
STARTING @ 1:15PM  
**FOOTY, NETTY & SOFTBALL @ COBRAM PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This week we will conclude reading our third novel, *Dirrarn*. The *Black Cockatoo* and *War Horse* were our previous novels. The students have enjoyed the novels centred around culture, animals and the trials the characters went through before they reached a happy conclusion. Grammar, vocabulary and spelling are areas that have improved using the Magnify system.



Decimal studies have been introduced this week as we have finished learning Shapes and their properties, factors and multiples and fractions.

The students are adapting well to our new exit and entry routines as well as our 5,4,3,2 and 1 initiative to gain the students' attention.

Overall, a positive past month living and learning in the Senior area of St Joseph's Primary School.

## Division Cross Country

On Friday we took a group of enthusiastic runners to Princess Park Shepparton to compete in the Division X – Country against a number of schools from the surrounding area. The fields were particularly large and strong this year and our students were up against some quality runners from the start.

The first 12 places across the finish line were able to qualify for the Hume Finals in Benalla.

The **9/10 Boys** were first to the start line where Ben Hubbard (18<sup>th</sup>) and Lewis Robertson (19<sup>th</sup>) both ran strongly in a huge field of 84 runners.

In the **9/10 Girls**, Zarli Burkitt (8<sup>th</sup>) excelled, and earned a place in the Hume Finals. Also of note, Jorja Power (17<sup>th</sup>) ran against bigger and older girls and showed a lot of promise for the years ahead.



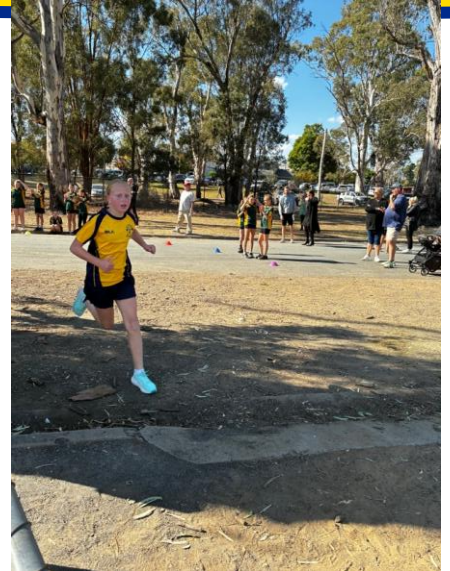
# St Joseph's School - Newsletter

The **11 year Boys**, were the hard luck story of the day with Jack Robertson (13<sup>th</sup>) and Ryan Feltham (15<sup>th</sup>) both missing out on the next stage by the smallest of margins, despite putting in great performances. In the **11 year Girls**, Lily Frederickson (15<sup>th</sup>) and Caylee Rawson (28<sup>th</sup>) both displayed their usual grit and determination and gave everything they had.

To round things off, we had three **12 year Girls** run in the 3km race with Sophia McPherson (39<sup>th</sup>), Everly Smyth (47<sup>th</sup>) and Ella Mionnet (48<sup>th</sup>) all giving their best effort against some very accomplished opposition.

Despite limited success, the team had a wonderful day supporting each other and socialising with students from a variety of schools. As always, their behaviour and effort was of the highest standard throughout.

We wish Zarli well for her upcoming Hume event and her quest to qualify for the State Championships in Melbourne



## Student of the Week

### **Sen S**

#### **Patrick Edis**

*For his incredible attitude and determination he has shown during MacqLit. Well done Patty!*

#### **Sophia McPherson**

*For her ongoing and outstanding leadership in our classroom. She is always willing to take on responsibility and is a wonderful role model for all. You are a champion Soph!*

### **Sen SP**

#### **Peyton Lee**

*For the wonderful sportsmanship and enthusiasm she displayed at Division Netball. Well done Peyton!*

#### **Edward Trimble**

*For his commitment to making great learning choices and always being such a friendly class member! Great work!*

### **Sen M**

#### **Ryan Feltham**

*For his improvement in writing tasks. Your effort during Literacy is a credit to you, Ryan. Keep it up.*

#### **Talia Agnew**

*For her efforts and continued improvement in Literacy and Mathematics. Keep up the good work, Talia.*

**Sen TH****Audrey Martin**

For your positive attitude and encouraging nature, particularly in specialist subjects where you have been recognised as a wonderful role model to your peers. Keep up the great work Audrey!

**Jaiden Ricardo**

For thoughtfully choosing his ideal learning environment and confidently asking for help when needed.

**Mid A****Lola Keane**

For being a confident and resilient leader of the middles. Keep being you Lola, you're a star!

**Patrick Austin**

For making a fantastic start to life at St Joseph's! Patrick has shown kindness, made new friendships, and always gives his best effort in everything he does. Keep up the great work, Patrick!

**Mid AA****Caleb Campbell**

For being kind, patient and positive member of Middle LA. You have been a great role model in our room, leading by example.

**Charity Lee Cameron**

For your positive attitude toward new situations. Your confidence has grown, and you should be very proud of yourself. Well done!

**Mid B****Zarli Burkitt**

For being such a positive member of our classroom and for your fantastic sporting achievements in the past few weeks, well done Zarli!

**Harper Gledhill**

For the outstanding standard she sets in the classroom and always having a smile on her face!

**Mid MB****Wil Foulstone**

For being such a kind, considerate and caring friend. You always show help and support to others when they need it, well done Wil!

**Aydan Heywood**

For your determination and positive attitude towards learning. You always give new tasks your best and you should be so proud of your efforts.

**Jun O****Georgie Robertson**

For taking on responsibilities of a Year 2 Leader and showing consideration for others.

**Axel Hoiles**

For the effort he has been putting into his learning. You are doing great things! Keep it up!

**Jun W****Evelyn Clurey**

For the excellent effort she has been putting into her work during our Literacy block. Keep up the good work.

**Mac O'Callaghan**

For his excellent work during our Measurement topic in Maths, it is good to see you taking on challenges and always trying your best Mac. Well done!

**Jun P****Tanisha Maharaj**

For Consistently demonstrating kindness towards others. You are a caring and supportive person Tanisha. Well done!

**Eugene Kane**

For consistently demonstrating a positive attitude towards living and learning. You are a star, Eugene. Well done!

**Jun S****Caleb Hodgkin**

For starting to show signs of leadership in our class through the way he has approached his learning over the past fortnight.

**River John**

For working extremely hard to stay focused and always trying his best in his learning. Keep up the fantastic effort, River!

**Prep N****Elise Van de Berg**

For growing confidence in the classroom and taking great pride in the presentation of her work.

**Max Pettigrove**

For the wonderful work he is producing in class and contributing to our group sessions. Well done Max for working so hard!

**Prep KA****Oliver Nugent**

For making positive choices for his learning. Keep it up Oliver!

**Maddie Clurey**

For making independent and positive choices to help your learning! Very proud of your hard work Maddie!

**Prep M****Blake Hodgkin**

For making a great start to term 2. Blake, you have been completing some excellent work keep it up.

**Cooper Alexander**

For putting in your best effort during our learning blocks. You are making great progress in all areas of your learning. Keep it up!!



## Principal's Award

Term 2

*Week 6 : Phoebe Keane*

*Week 7 : Ethan Swann*

*Living out the values of  
Saint Mary MacKillop  
through what they say and what they do.*



## Triple A

The Triple A Social Skill is awarded to students in each area who display excellence in the Triple A Social Skill that we focus on each week. At St Joseph's we need to have a positive **Attitude**, need to have **Awareness** & need to take **Action**.

The GEM award is part of our Resilience Project – Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness. We will alternate between the two awards.

*Congratulations to the following students who received this social skill award in Term 2:*

*Week 6 Forgiveness: A J Lyons, Hudson John, Lincoln Voigt & Louie O'Callaghan.*

*Congratulations to the following students who received this GEM award in Term 2:*

*Week 7 Empathy: Lexi Reghenzani, Jemma Lawless, Lainey Alexander & Alex McLeod.*

## Canteen

### June

6<sup>th</sup> Kim Thompson

9<sup>th</sup> Closed

10<sup>th</sup> Closed

11<sup>th</sup> Lee Swann

12<sup>th</sup> Helen Osborne

13<sup>th</sup> Volunteer

16<sup>th</sup> CLOSED

17<sup>th</sup> CLOSED

18<sup>th</sup> Volunteer

19<sup>th</sup> Gayle Morgan

20<sup>th</sup> Crystal Trimby

23<sup>rd</sup> CLOSED

24<sup>th</sup> CLOSED

25<sup>th</sup> Volunteer

26<sup>th</sup> Volunteer

27<sup>th</sup> Tammie Rees

30<sup>th</sup> CLOSED

### July

1<sup>st</sup> CLOSED

2<sup>nd</sup> Sheree Lawless

3<sup>rd</sup> Gayle Morgan

4<sup>th</sup> Kim Thompson

If you are unable to attend on your day, can you please arrange a swap with someone else or as last resort let Marcella know in advance, so she is aware that she has no helper that day.



## LOST PROPERTY

There is still an abundance of school jumpers, drink bottles, lunch boxes and various containers in lost property. If you are missing items, please call in to see if they belong to you. At the end of the term, any unclaimed items shall be donated to Vinnies.

**REMINDER – please label your child's jumper and containers so that they can be returned.**

**Thanks**

## OSHC News

### Xplor

Thank you for your patience while we transition to the new Xplor program. If you haven't already, please set up your account via the link emailed to you. With the Home App, you are able to view your statements, mark absences, request casual bookings and sign in/out your child/ren. We are also requesting that you set up Direct Debit with your account. Please check your emails for instructions on where you can do this on the App. Please contact Donna if you have any queries or issues.

OSHC has resumed with the children in high spirits and loads of enthusiasm.

Outdoor play has been very popular with football being one of the main focuses.

The holidays are fast approaching, and the team is working on ideas for the Vacation Care programme. If your child has any great ideas or interests, please let us know as we can work on our programme to cater for this.

Vacation Care runs on a Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8am to 5pm during the holidays. As the time gets closer, we will let you know what activities you can expect. Hope to see some familiar and new faces!

Sue, Bid, Tash, James, Shannon, Claudia and Abby ☺

## Parish News

### RESIDENTIAL LAND FOR SALE

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PURCHASE ONE OF THE 19 LOTS IN THE ST JOHN THE BAPTIST RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION IN KILMARTIN PLACE NUMURKAH. THE PLAN OF SUBDIVISION IS ON DISPLAY AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AND SCHOOL RECEPTION.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST JOSEPH'S COMMUNITY MEMBERS SHOULD EXPRESS THEIR INTEREST IN A SIGNED LETTER OF OFFER TO:

PARISH SUBDIVISION STEERING COMMITTEE, PO BOX 130, NUMURKAH, 3636

*(Your signed offer should include full name of purchaser, address, contact details, your solicitors/conveyancer's details, desired Lot No, listed price, days to settlement and whether this is a conditional/unconditional offer.)*

THIS OFFER CLOSES 30 JUNE 2025 AFTER WHICH THE LAND IS LISTED FOR SALE BY GAGLIARDI-SCOTT REAL ESTATE AGENTS, NUMURKAH

### SAVE THE DATE

St Patrick's Parish Strathmerton celebrates 90 years of Worship with a Thanksgiving Mass on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 6 pm. Please spread the word, more details to come.