



Thursday, February 5th 2026 | Volume 1

MacKillop Express

St. Joseph's Primary School, Numurkah



First Day of School

Principal's Message

Ruth Hartnett-Carr

Dear St Joseph's families,

Welcome back to the new academic year at our wonderful school. I hope the summer break brought rest, joy and time with loved ones. There is always something special about the first weeks of school. As I walk around St Joseph's I can feel the excitement of returning friendships, the anticipation of new learning, and the sense of shared hope that a fresh year brings. I'm truly delighted to welcome every student, staff member, and family into the 2026 school year.

This year also marks a very special moment for me personally, as I introduce myself to you as the new Principal of St Joseph's. Many of you may already know me, my husband Andrew, and our three children Sarah, Noah and Maisie who have all been part of this beautiful school community. With Maisie still here at St Joseph's, I continue to see school life through both the eyes of a leader and an engaged parent who cares deeply about the wellbeing and growth of all our children.

I am incredibly humbled to be the first former student to serve as Principal in the school's history. My entire primary education was spent here at St Joseph's and returning in this capacity feels both surreal and

profoundly meaningful. The values, faith, and sense of belonging I experienced as a child here helped shape who I am today and it is an honour to now help guide the next generation of learners along their own journey.

As we begin this year together, I also feel deeply privileged to continue carrying the mantle of St Mary MacKillop, whose vision and heart for children remain at the centre of everything we do. Her commitment to community, compassion, and the dignity of every student inspires us daily, and I look forward to working with you to keep her legacy alive in the life of our school.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly. I am excited for the year ahead and its possibilities, its challenges, and the opportunities it will bring for our students to grow in faith, learning, and joy. Please know my door is always open, and I look forward to partnering with each of you as we continue to make St Joseph's a place where every child feels valued, supported and inspired. Wishing you all a wonderful start to 2026.

"Be a gift of love and compassion for one another"

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Ruth Hartnett-Carr



St. Joseph's Primary School
16 Tocumwal Rd, Numurkah, Victoria, 3636
Ph: (03) 5862 1804

Email: admin@sjnumurkah.catholic.edu.au | Website: www.sjnumurkah.catholic.edu.au





Triple A Social Skills

Saint Mary MacKillop said,

"Never See a Need Without Doing Something About It!"

At St Joseph's, we Need to:

Have a positive Attitude, be Aware in all situations and take Action, especially when it matters

Our next fortnight's Triple A Social Skill is:

Using Peoples Names

Our focus within the three areas are as follows

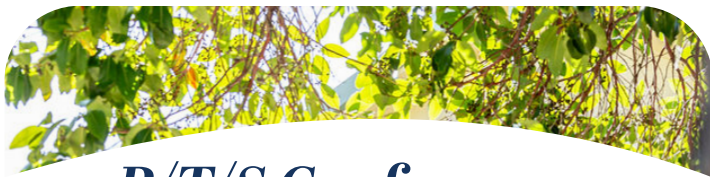
Attitude: Respect towards others

Awareness: Learn the names of others

Action: Use peoples names when talking to them

Attitude ★ Awareness ★ Action

Weeks 1 & 2



P/T/S Conferences

Our Beginning of Year Conferences will be on Wednesday, February 18. The conference will be an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, see how the year has begun and importantly, tell the teacher about your child and the wishes you have for him or her for the year ahead. Booking Information will be sent home next week.



Beginning of Year Mass & Leaders' Induction

FRIDAY FEB 20th

Our Beginning of Year Mass and Year 6 Leaders' Induction will be on Friday, February 20 at 9:30am in the MacKillop Centre. Families are invited to attend.



SCHOOL FEES

Thank you for informing us of your preferred fee paying option. The families having fees directly debited DO NOT NEED TO DO ANYTHING.

Could those families who are NOT using the Direct Debit option, PLEASE REMEMBER WHEN YOUR FEES ARE DUE:

- One Yearly Payment due by 28th February
- Four Term Payments due in the first 4 weeks of each term
- Ten Monthly Payments – these are due on the 18th of each month from February to November.
- Twenty Fortnightly Payments – these commence on Friday the 13th February and continue every second Friday until the 6th November 2026.

If any family would like to commence having their fees directly debited fortnightly or monthly this can be done at any time!

If you are wanting to amend your payment options please do so ASAP.

CSEF - Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund

School fees will be sent home in Week 3. If you now have a health care card and are eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) please complete the attached [CSEF Application](#) form and hand to the office. Eligibility requirements & explanations are listed on the back of the form. If you received the fund last year & your circumstances haven't changed you do not need to complete the form again. If you have new children attending the school, you will need to complete a new form. Please note there is no School Saving Bonus from the VIC Government this year. CSEF has gone up to \$400 per student instead.

UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

If you have changed your address, phone number or email, contacts or occupations, please let us know ASAP so that we have correct contact details for you.

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

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE: 2026

To be eligible you must: Be the holder of a current Health Care Card or Pension Card (as with EMA)

Be attending your closest Catholic Primary School

Live 4.8 or more kilometres from both the school and your nearest bus stop by the shortest practical route

Your child is using the free government run buses if available.

If you meet these criteria and would like to apply, please contact the School Office as soon as possible.

The Claim deadline for Term 1 is 1st March. It would be best to apply well before that date in case the Dept has any queries regarding your claim.

Following your application, your eligibility is decided by Centrelink and the Transport Department.

2026 CLASSES

The following is a list of class names & teacher in charge for your information, use this to set up your online lunch orders, parent/teacher interview etc.

Prep M – Mr Jai Morrison (co-leader)

Prep K – Mrs Loreena Keane

Jun O – Miss Rachael Morrison (leader)

Jun H – Mrs Virginia Hughes and Mrs Fiona Hubbard

Jun W – Mrs Sara Whitford

Jun C – Miss Soraya Cannon

Mid A – Mr Tim Arnel (leader)

Mid P – Mr James Pruden

Mid T – Mr Jeremy Tyndall

Mid AA – Mrs Anna Andrews

Sen S – Mr Andrew Sait (leader)

Sen N – Mrs Tanya Neyland

Sen JS – Miss Jordyn Sutton

Sen M – Mr Trevor Mills



CANTEEN

Full Canteen is now open on Wednesday through to Fridays. The new menu is attached for Term 1 & a copy will be on the website. If you haven't already signed up for online ordering the instructions on doing so are below. We are looking for volunteers to assist Crystal and Sherrin in preparing the lunches. If you are available to help out one day a month can you please contact the office to nominate your preferred day. Any queries please contact Crystal Trimby or Sherrin Patching at school on 58621804.

February

6th Gayle Morgan

7th Kim Thompson

11th Volunteer

12th Volunteer

13th Helen Osborne

18th Volunteer

19th Volunteer

20th Gayle Morgan

OSHC - Out of School Hours Care

Sue Mckellar and Emma Keane will be supervising both our Before School Care and After School Care Program while Tash James, Abby, Jordyn and Claudia continue to assist them. Emma Keane and Donna Murfett are the first contact for any changes for Outside School Hours Care.

Our Permanent numbers for Before School Care are now 20, and After School Care are 45. Due to the growing numbers in the After School Care Program, as of the 1st February you may still be charged the program fee of \$20.00 for any late cancellations after 10am on the day of your booking. As we do have people waiting for a casual booking, if you know you aren't intending to use your permanent spot on a particular day please cancel asap, so that it may be booked by others.

We have an online App to allow families to enrol, make casual bookings and cancellations. For permanent bookings please contact the office.

You can find a link to this app on the St Joseph's PS

website under enrolment\Outside School Hours Care\[Outside school hours care enrolment](#). Click on register here if you are a new family to complete an enrolment form. Click sign here if you are an existing family and have received an email with login details.

You can download the Xplor Home App from your phone's App Store.



Vacation Care

We saw many children enjoying a variety of fun activities from Crazy Hair day, cooking, art and craft, sport - what was even more exciting is we saw some new starters to the school who were given the opportunity to make new friends and they can continue to look up to during their first few days, knowing someone is watching out for them. While some of the younger ones demonstrated their sporting skills, others had the opportunity to show off their creative side by making cubby houses from recycled cardboard and materials. Whilst some excelled in the sports, others showed off their talent in the kitchen making afternoon tea for everyone to enjoy after movie time. Looking forward to seeing the old and some new faces in the before and after school care program in 2026.

Sue, Emma, Tash, James, Abby, Jordyn and Claudia

BUS NOTES

Any students at school but not travelling home on the bus, need to fill out a bus note these can be obtained from the office. If your child needs to travel on a different bus you need to contact the high school to arrange a bus pass. If you are a bus traveler please download the below Team App to receive notifications from the Secondary College about any changes to bus routes in emergencies, delays etc.





2026

St. Joseph's School Numurkah

Calendar Dates

27 JANUARY - 2 APRIL

TERM ONE



Week 1	Tuesday	January 27	Staff Commence Day 1
	Thursday	January 29	Bulletin
	Friday	January 30	First Day - Grade's 1 - 6
	Friday	January 30	Swimming Practice Grade 3 - 6

Week 2	Monday	February 2	First Day - Prep Students
	Monday	February 2	Swim Practice Year 3-6
	Wednesday	February 4	Prep Rest Day
	Wednesday	February 4	Final Swim Practice Year 3-6
	Friday	February 6	Swimming Carnival

Week 3	Monday	February 9	Assembly: Senior S & N
	Wednesday	February 11	Prep Rest Day
	Wednesday	February 11	P&F
	Thursday	February 12	Full Newsletter

Week 4	Monday	February 16	Assembly: Middle AA & T
	Tuesday	February 17	Shrove Tuesday
	Wednesday	February 18	Ash Wednesday
	Wednesday	February 18	Prep Rest Day
	Wednesday	February 18	Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences
	Friday	February 20	Beginning of Year Liturgy & Leaders Induction

Week 5	Monday	February 23	Assembly: Middle A & P
	Wednesday	February 25	Prep Rest Day
	Wednesday	February 25	School Council
	Thursday	February 26	Bulletin
	Sunday	March 1	17th Annual Numurkah Fun Run

Week 6	Monday	March 2	Assembly: Junior H & M
	Wednesday	March 4	Last Prep Rest Day

Week 7	Monday	March 9	Labour Day Holiday
	Wednesday	March 11	P&F AGM
	Wednesday	March 12	NAPLAN
	Thursday	March 12	Full Newsletter

Week 8	Monday	March 16	Assembly: Junior C & W
	Wednesday	March 18	School Council AGM
	Friday	March 20	St Joseph's Feast Day Mass and Celebration

Week 9	Monday	March 23	Assembly: Senior JS & M
	Thursday	March 26	Bulletin

Week 10	Monday	March 30	Assembly: Year 6 Leaders
	Thursday	April 2	Last Day of Term 1
	Thursday	April 2	Stations of the Cross Paraliturgy

LOOKING AHEAD

Term 2

School Photos

Tuesday May 12th (Week 4)

* A reminder that winter uniform orders can take a little longer than usual, especially girls' kilts, so early ordering is encouraged.



Visit the [website](#) or scan the QR Code to register!



NUMURKAH FUN RUN



MARCH 1ST 2026

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN!





OUR SCHOOL TUCKSHOP IS NOW ONLINE!

No more paper bags or loose coins. You can now order your kids lunch with ease, no cash required its all pre-paid online. It's so easy even your kids can do it!

THE PROCESS



STEP 1

Register your account from any device, add your email and a password, it's simple and easy.

STEP 2

Add your child into the My School Tuckshop system and select their classroom number.

STEP 3

Top up your account via Credit Card, Paypal or Direct Deposit.

STEP 4

Simply select your child's lunch order for the day or week from the provided lunch menu.

REGISTER TODAY

www.myschoolconnect.com.au/stjosephs



Health Care Card

HCC

2026 update

For Primary

School families

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd (CESL) is pleased to inform Primary School families holding a valid Health Care Card (HCC) that you are eligible for a significant reduction in School fees for the upcoming year, including all fees and levies.

We understand that many families have varying circumstances and in response to the rising cost of living expenses, we are committed to supporting those who need additional assistance.

Please be assured that this support is provided to ensure all students have the opportunity to thrive in our school community. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the school office.

3 simple steps

1

provide a copy of your HCC to the school office

2

complete a Camps, Sports & Excursions Form (CSEF)

3

set up a direct debit arrangement at the school

If you've already submitted your HCC, completed the CSEF form, and have a direct debit in place, no further action is needed – the discount will be applied automatically.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School Ref ID

Applicant details

Surname	
First Name	
Address	
Town/Suburb	
State and Postcode	
Contact Number	

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

 - - -
OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)* **OR** ☐ Special Consideration**

*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

**Out of Home Care applications must include a letter of support from the institution facilitating the arrangement (for example, Mackillop Family Services or the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)) as evidence of the arrangement and must be no more than 18 months old).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

Declaration

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders. I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____/____/202__

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund eligibility

Applications must be submitted to the school as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Where a school or family is unsure if the concession card is eligible, they are encouraged to submit the application into the CSEF system for validation.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Those who are eligible to apply for the CSEF **must meet both** of the following two criteria or be eligible for special consideration.

Eligible means-tested cards

Only financially means-tested cards are eligible.

Eligibility date

Eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (refer to the department's policy, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\)](#)), on either the first student day of Term 1 or Term 2.

Criterion 1 – General eligibility

The applicant must be one of the following:

- a parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card
- a student over 16 years who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card). Applicant to use the 16 and over application form. For guidance on assessing whether a student is a mature minor, refer to the department's policy on [Mature Minors and Decision Making](#)
- a parent or carer whose child is 16 or over and the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card but are not considered a mature minor. Applicant to use the 16 and over parent consent form.

For students over 16 years of age and where the eligible card is in the name of the student, the fund is only granted to that student, not their siblings.

Criterion 2 – Be of school age and attend a Victorian school

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a registered Victorian school.

CSEF is not payable to a student attending pre-school, kindergarten, TAFE or who are home schooled.

Special Consideration

A special consideration eligibility category exists to assist families and students in certain circumstances. Applications should be made through this application form. For more information, refer to: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility](#).

Payment amounts

The CSEF is an annual payment paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the department's policy for the current rates and more information, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts](#).

How to complete the application form

Note: all sections must be completed by the applicant.

1. Complete the APPLICANT DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Privacy Statement

The Department of Education is committed to protecting your privacy. All information collected will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). This personal information is collected to assess your eligibility to receive a CSEF payment. Your data is securely managed and only shared with Centrelink and DFFH when necessary for business operations or legal compliance. By submitting this form, you consent to our data practices. For more information regarding correction to your personal information or the handling of personal information please email csef@education.vic.gov.au. For more information about the departments privacy policy, please visit: [Schools' privacy policy | vic.gov.au](#)

CANTEEN PRICE LIST TERM 1, 2026

CLEARLY WRITE NAME AND CLASS ON PAPER BAG ORDERS AND PLACE IN CLASSROOM TUBES

PLEASE ENSURE ALL GLUTEN FREE AND DAIRY/LACTOSE FREE ORDERS ARE CLEAR

SANDWICHES - WHITE OR MULTIGRAIN BREAD ROLLS, WHITE, WHOLEMEAL OR MULTIGRAIN, WRAPS WHITE. GLUTEN FREE OPTION (SANDWICHES, ROLLS OR WRAPS) 50cents EXTRA

Ham or Chicken	\$3.50	Vegemite	\$2.00
Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$4.50	Cheese	\$2.00
Ham/Chicken and Salad	\$6.50	Egg and Lettuce	\$4.00
Ham/Chicken and Cheese	\$4.00	Egg	\$3.50
Salad in container *GF	\$4.50		
Salad and meat in a container *GF	\$6.00		

Please select salads from list provided – Cheese, Tomato, Beetroot, Cucumber and Lettuce.

Please select condiments from list provided – Butter, Mayo, Tomato or BBQ sauce, Aioli and Dairy free butter.

HOT FOOD OPTIONS

TOASTIES AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY Note on order if you wish to have your sandwich toasted

WEDNESDAY	Croissant – Options of Ham, Cheese and Tomato Filling	\$5.00
THURSDAY	Homemade Beef Burger with Cheese and Tomato sauce	\$5.00
	Option Burger with the Lot - Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese and Beetroot	\$6.00
FRIDAY	Fried Rice	
	Small	\$4.00
	Large	\$5.00

Fresh Fruit Cups	(with or without Greek yoghurt)	\$3.50
Shez's Granola Bowls	Greek Yoghurt topped with Granola and Mixed Berries	\$4.50
Smoothie-	Choc banana, Mixed Berry or Tropical	\$3.50
300ml Plain Milk	\$2.50	Water \$2.00

WINDOW ITEMS THAT CAN BE PURCHASED AFTER THE SECOND BELL

Plain Chips \$0.50 *GF *NF	True Fruit Bars \$1.00 *GF *NF	Frozen Pineapple \$0.50 *GF *NF
Pop Corn \$0.50 *GF *NF	Home Baked Treat (type changes without notice) \$0.50 limit of 2.	
	Homemade Icy Pole *GF *NF \$1.00	
	Flavours – Tropical, Watermelon/Pineapple, Raspberry/Orange and Choc Banana	





NOMINATE US TODAY

AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

and help us generate extra funds.

- 1 Download or update the Ritchies Card App



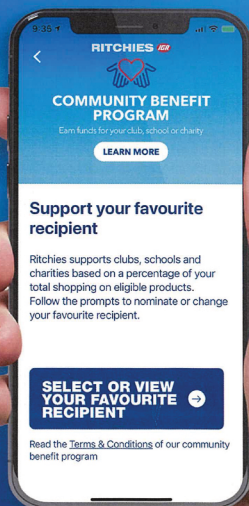
Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

- 2 Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity

- 3 Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.



Kids Music Club

Presented by

**Numurkah
MuSiC Hub:**
Play. Learn. Strive.

A weekly hour long music club where Primary School Children (Grade 3-6) will sing and play instruments together, learning how to play a range of instruments together as an ensemble.

No knowledge or previous experience required.

Bookings essential.

For more information, please contact Michelle (squish) Davis.

M: 0416 055 620

Email: squish@numurkahmusicclub.com.au

Facebook Page: Numurkah Music Hub



Date: Wednesday's 4th February - 1st April

Time: 4pm - 5pm (1hr)

Location: Nclc Inc. Presidents room - 99 Melville St, Numurkah

Cost: \$135 per term

TWILIGHT TOWNIES BAREFOOT BOWLS

178 Melville Street Numurkah
Town Bowls Club

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
MARCH 4, 11, 18 & 25TH
TIME: 6-9PM**

**\$10 A HEAD INCLUDES SAUSAGE SIZZLE
PRIZES FOR 1ST AND LAST**

BAR OPEN AND DRINKS AT HAPPY HOUR PRICES.
FORMAT IS ONE GAME OF FOURS WITH 10 ENDS TO BE PLAYED
SUBJECT TO NUMBERS
SINGLE OR TEAM ENTRIES WELCOME, BOWLS SUPPLIED.

PLEASE PHONE KAY TO ENTER
0448 221 448
NO LATER THAN FEB 27

Canteen News 2026

Canteen is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Paper orders need to be clearly marked with the **student's name and class**. These are to be put in the order tubs in each class room first thing in the morning. If ordering Online this needs to be done before 9.15am on the day you are ordering. Drinks, sandwiches, rolls, wraps special hot foods, fruit cups and smoothies must be ordered however frozen items on the menu can be purchased through the canteen window after the second lunch bell. Canteen window is open **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**. Unless advised otherwise.

New canteen volunteers Welcome!

Could anyone who would like to help with canteen duty this year please fill out the form below and return to the school office. Feel free to come and have a chat to Cyrstal or Sherrin if you are interested or call the office on 5862 1804.

What canteen duty looks like:

Where: Kitchen in the Mackillop Centre

Time: 12.00pm – 2.00/ 2.15pm

How often: Once a month or as you can. We are very flexible

What we do: Help prepare and sort lunches.

The children love seeing Mum, Dad, Aunt, Uncle or Nana at school, especially in the window!

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE OR CRYSTAL/SHERRIN IN THE CANTEEN

Name:_____ Phone:_____

Please tick on a preferred day and time of month.

1st of the month:	Wed___	Thur___	Fri___
2 nd of the month	Wed___	Thur___	Fri___
3 rd of the month	Wed___	Thur___	Fri___
4 th of the month	Wed___	Thur___	Fri___
5 th of the month	Wed___	Thur___	Fri___
	(when it occurs)		

Yes/ No I am happy to be put down as an Emergency.

