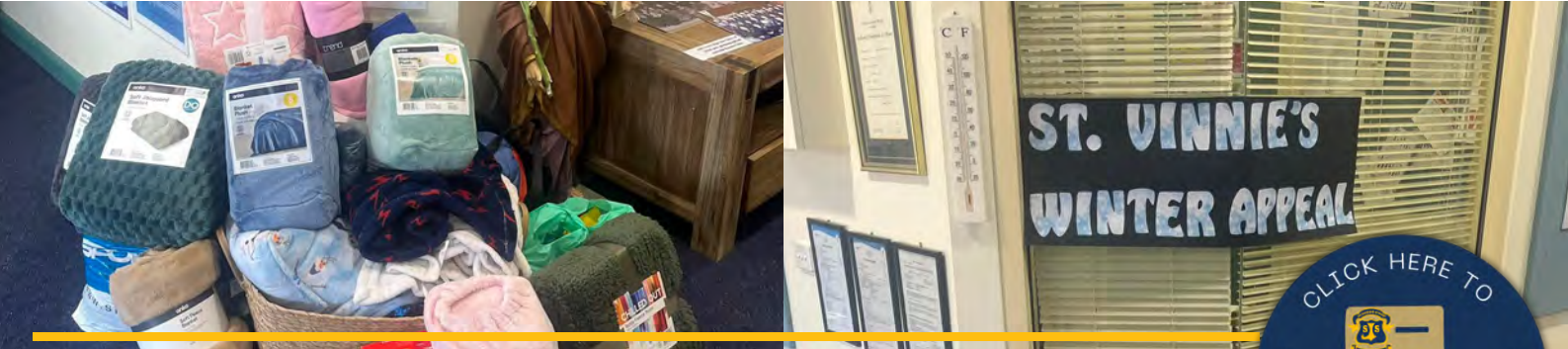




MacKillop News

St. Joseph's Primary School, Numurkah



2027 ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN, CLOSING 30th JUNE

Principal's Message

Ruth Hartnett-Carr

Dear Families,

As the days grow shorter and the chill of winter begins to settle in, we are reminded of the quiet beauty of this changing season. Winter invites us to slow down, to care for one another with greater intention and to find warmth in our community. At St Joseph's, this sense of belonging and care is deeply rooted in the Josephite charism of living simply, loving generously and responding to the needs around us with compassion and faith.

Last week marked an important time in the life of our school as we participated in a comprehensive review conducted by Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited (CESL), chaired by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). Alongside this, we also undertook our Catholic Identity Review. These processes provide us with a valuable opportunity to reflect deeply on who we are and how we are living out our mission.

Reviews are powerful occasions for growth. They offer a clear baseline from which we can celebrate what we are doing well, while also identifying meaningful areas for development. We eagerly anticipate receiving both the commendations and recommendations, as these will guide the strategic work we undertake over the next four years. In

this way, we continue to strengthen our commitment to providing a rich and dynamic education for every child in our

care.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our staff, students and families who contributed to this process through their openness, honesty and shared dedication to our school community. It is through this partnership that we can continue to grow in the spirit of St Mary MacKillop and the Josephite tradition.

As we approach the long weekend, there is also a gentle invitation to pause and rest. In the midst of busy lives, this time offers us a chance to reconnect with family, to enjoy simple pleasures and to be renewed for the weeks ahead. I hope that each of you finds moments of peace and restoration.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and for the many ways you contribute to the life of our school.

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

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Ruth Hartnett-Carr



Office News

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

Next Fortnightly Debits: 5th & 19th June

Monthly Debits 18th of each month.

If you have unexpected circumstances for the fortnight or month and need to stop a Direct Debit please note they are processed two days before the due date and so you will need to contact us prior to that, to put a stop on them.

If you are paying your fees in full or each term, yearly and term 2 fees are now due.

EFTPOS and CENTREPAY are now a payment option. Please enquire at the office.

If your circumstances have changed and you are now eligible for a Health Care Card as of the 20th April please complete a CSEF application if you haven't already done so. Applications close June 19.

If you have any queries or concerns about your payment commitments, please do not hesitate to come in and speak to Ruth. If you are wanting to amend your payment options please do so ASAP.

The updated Term Planner is attached and can be viewed from the school website under news & events \ newsletters

If you have any queries, please call the office on 5862 1804

Dates to Remember

Friday June 5: Pupil Free Day (tomorrow)

Monday June 8: King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday June 16: Reconciliation

Friday June 26: Last day of term, school finishes at 2.15pm, buses will run 1 hour earlier

Monday July 13: Term 3 begins

Please note the Vinnies winter sleepout has been postponed to Term 3



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:

Patience

Our focus within the three areas are as follows

Attitude: Patience when dealing with challenging situations.

Awareness: The need of others.

Action: Wait patiently for others and not be reactive.

Weeks 7 & 8



Seek Peace and Pursue it!



Foundation School News

What a wonderful journey of living and learning Term 2 has been so far! 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 developing friendships and classroom routines, each day has been filled with discovery and joy. We are so proud of all that has been achieved and look forward to the remainder of the term with excitement.

Literacy

In Literacy, we are continuing our InitialLit lessons. Each session begins with a review of the letters and sounds we have learned, helping to reinforce students' growing knowledge. Students practise reading and writing words, applying their skills in meaningful contexts.

A key focus is learning and practising Tricky Words, common words that appear frequently in texts but include sounds not yet formally taught.

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

Numeracy

In Numeracy, we have completed our units on part-whole relationships and 2D shapes. We have now moved on to counting and place value. Students are extending their number knowledge, working with numbers 0–10 and beyond.

Religion

In Religion, students have been exploring the unit 'Finding God in All Things'. Through this unit, students are beginning to understand how God is present in the world and in their lives. They are learning that God can be known through creation, Jesus, the Bible and through relationships with others.

Inquiry

In Inquiry, students have been learning about changes over time across a variety of contexts. So far, they have explored:

- My Life in Order
- Special Treasures
- How Do We Remember?
- Voices from the Past
- Wheels Through Time

We will continue to build on these understandings throughout the remainder of the term.

Important Reminders

Sport Uniform: Tuesday & Friday
Library (Prep M), LOTE & Art: Tuesday
Library: Prep K (Wednesday)

Thank you for your ongoing support.

The Prep Team





Junior School News

It has been another busy and productive few weeks in the Junior School. Students have been working hard across all learning areas and should be proud of their efforts. We sincerely thank families for their continued support, especially with consistent reading and tricky word practise at home, which is making a noticeable difference in student confidence and progress.

Literacy

Grade 1 students have continued their learning with InitialLit, focusing on digraphs, suffixes, plurals, and adjectives. It has been wonderful to see growth in students' reading fluency and comprehension.

In InitialWrite, students have been exploring recounts and narrative writing using a story tracker and the text *Our Furry Frightened Friend*. We were so impressed with how students extended their ideas, created their own sentences, and used descriptive language in their writing.

Grade 2 students have continued developing their skills through InitialLit, focusing on digraphs, suffixes, and prefixes, alongside strengthening their spelling, grammar, and comprehension.

In writing, students have been learning about informative texts, using the text *Turtle's Song* as inspiration. They are building confidence in organising their ideas and sharing information clearly.

Mathematics

Across both grade levels, students have been learning about measurement, including mass, length, and capacity, as well as continuing to develop their skills in addition and subtraction.

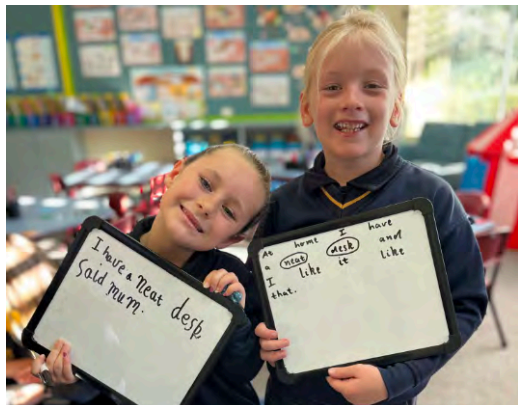
How you can help at home:

- Measure everyday items (e.g. cooking, comparing object lengths, weighing items)
- Practise addition and subtraction through games or daily routines
- Encourage your child to explain how they worked out an answer

Religion

Students are currently exploring the unit "Grief and Loss." This unit provides opportunities for students to:

- Understand change and life cycles in nature and people
- Explore feelings related to loss in a safe and supportive environment
- Learn how families, cultures, and the Church celebrate and remember loved ones





Humanities

Students have been learning about how places change and the influence of seasons. To finish the term, students will begin learning about water, including its importance and how it shapes our world.

Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships (RRRR)

Students are working on Topic 4: Problem Solving. They are learning practical strategies to help them navigate challenges and make thoughtful decisions. Through real-life scenarios, students are practising how to apply these skills in everyday situations.

Specialist Timetable Reminder

Please note that specialist classes have now changed for the second half of the term:

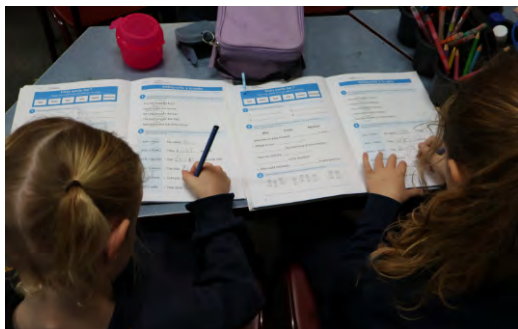
Wednesday

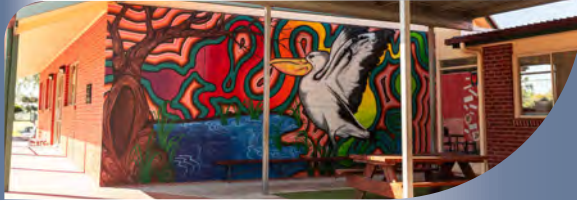
Junior M & H – Art and LOTE/Music
Junior C & W – PE and Library

Friday

Junior M & H – Sport
Junior C & W – Music

Thank you for your continued support,
The Junior School Team.





Middle School News

As we move towards the end of Term 2 and begin to feel the chill of a North-East Victorian winter, we remind families of the importance of students wearing their full winter uniform each day, including jumpers, to ensure they are warm, comfortable, and ready for learning.

English

We are concluding our novel study of Uncle Xbox, where students have been developing their skills in the factual recount genre. It has been fantastic to see the growth in students' ability to reflect on events and structure their writing clearly.

We are now beginning our study of The Arrival by Shaun Tan. This unique, wordless text has already captured the imagination of our students. Throughout this unit, students will be planning, composing, and publishing their own narratives. I encourage families to ask their child about this text—it is a powerful and engaging experience despite having no words.

Mathematics

Students have been working through a range of key mathematical concepts this term, including:

- Fractions
- Length and area
- Data representation

To round off the term, our focus will shift to 2D shape, where students will apply their knowledge through a variety of engaging and practical tasks.

Religious Education

In Religion this term, students have been exploring the themes of grief and loss, approaching this deep learning with empathy, maturity and a genuine desire to understand how we care for ourselves and others. As we move into our next unit, Celebrating the Gift of

the Spirit, this learning connects beautifully with the preparation many students are undertaking for their Sacraments of Initiation, helping them recognise the Spirit's presence in their lives and the ways they can share their gifts within our school and parish community.

Humanities

In Humanities, students have been exploring the topic of Healthy Habitats. This includes learning about:

- Australia's vegetation zones
- Water sources and ecosystems
- Ways to care for and protect our environment

This learning also connects to our local Aboriginal heritage, helping students build a deeper understanding and respect for the land.

Science

Our Science unit has focused on forces, with students learning to identify and understand both contact and non-contact forces. Students have also been exploring our place in the solar system, developing their understanding of how Earth fits within the wider universe.

Wellbeing (The 4R's)

Through our 4R's program, students have been developing positive coping strategies to manage strong emotions, particularly focusing on recognising and responding to feelings such as anger in healthy ways. Maintaining consistent routines has also supported student wellbeing and engagement across the school day.





Sporting Achievements

Well done to the following Middle School students who represented our school at the Zone Cross Country in Shepparton:

- Ayla Ricardo
- Darcy Trimby
- Jorja Power
- Logan Burkitt
- Max Erickson
- Elijah Watson
- Lewis Robertson
- Evie Clurey

All students demonstrated great determination, resilience, and sportsmanship, representing our school with pride.

A special congratulations to Jorja Power, who was the only Middle School student to progress to the next stage. Jorja will now compete in Benalla later this term, and we wish her every success.

We warmly welcome Shannon Martin, who has transitioned from the Junior School into the Middle School. Shannon has already formed strong relationships with many students and has made a positive start.

We have been fortunate to have Cara Sofi and Roslyn Heathman, who are supporting the team while Adam is on long service leave. With these staffing arrangements, we have been able to maintain our literacy intervention programs, ensuring targeted support continues for our students.

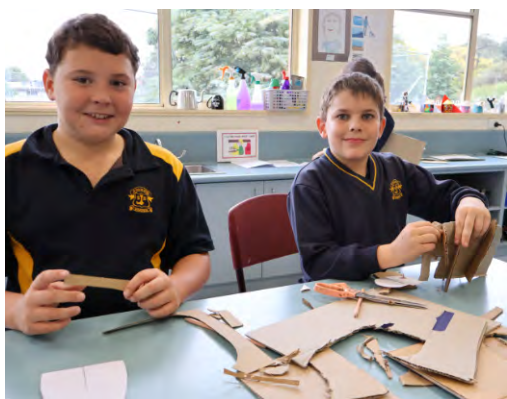
Thank you for your continued support of the Middle School. We look forward to a strong finish to Term 2.

If you need to contact your child's teacher, please do so via email or by contacting the front office.

The Middle School Team.

Staffing Updates

We farewelled Clayton Patching, who has taken up a wellbeing role at Berry Street in Shepparton. We thank Clayton for his contributions to our school and wish him all the best in his new role.





Senior School News

It has been a busy few weeks in the Senior Learning Community!

Students have taken part in a range of exciting experiences. Cross Country was a great success, with students showing determination and spirit. Our Year 5 students have begun stepping into leadership roles through their work with Bush Kinder, meeting prospective 2027 Foundation students. Year 6 students also had a valuable experience at their Transition Day at St Mary's of the Angels. We were also very proud of all students who presented their Lion's Club speeches to their class, it takes great courage to speak in front of a large audience. A special congratulations to Audrey, Myah, Ethan, Caylee, Mikayla, Kade, Jack, Emma, Matilda and Parker who progressed to present at the cohort level!

Looking ahead, we will be attending camp at Borambola from November 9–11. More details will follow, but we encourage families to begin talking about camp with your child to help build confidence and ease any nerves.

Literacy

We have recently finished our learning on Us Mob Walawurru. We are now studying Free Diving by Lorrae Coffin, focusing on the historical context and challenges of free diving in the late 1800s. Students are completing a Book Report, where they summarise

the text, explore themes, and analyse characters.

Numeracy

Students have been learning about decimal place value, including tenths, hundredths and thousandths, and ordering numbers on a number line. Next, we will begin a weeklong unit on chance, followed by learning about location and transformation, including rotations, Cartesian planes, and negative numbers.

Religion

Students have begun a new unit on Reconciliation, where they are learning what it means and how relationships can be repaired when things go wrong. They are exploring these ideas through stories and scripture and will create their own example showing how people can restore relationships and make positive changes.

Science

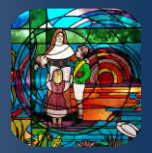
In our Earth, Moon and Sun unit, students are learning about gravity, how the Earth orbits the Sun and how this relates to seasons and the structure of a year.

Kind regards,

The Senior Teaching Team.



We are the standard



Prep - Grade 2 Cross Country

Shane Merkel

With some very eager runners and a large Mother's Day Breakfast crowd in attendance, our Preps, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students displayed great effort and resilience to complete their 500m (Preps) or 1km (Grade 1 & 2) course on School grounds.

Lots of training went into preparing for the races, with the students showing a great level of determination to run at their best. As always, our preps and juniors were generously assisted by the Grade 6 cohort who helped by running alongside, marshalling the track and awarding placegetters at the finish line.

Some wonderful finishes were on show for the crowd to enjoy throughout the day!

The final placegetters were as follows:

Preps (500m)					
BOYS		Time	GIRLS		Time
1 st	Xavier BROWN	2.13 min	1 st	Shari JACKSON	2.19 min
2 nd	Samuel CACCIANIGA	2.14 min	2 nd	Maisie HARRINGTON	2.22 min
3 rd	Leo WALKER	2.15 min	3 rd	Remi PATCHING	2.34 min
4 th	Connor HODGKIN	2.23 min	4 th	Amelia HUDSON	2.40 min
5 th	Peyton VAN Den GOOR	2.29 min	5 th	Brooke CACCIANIGA	2.41 min

Grade 1 (1 Km)					
BOYS		Time	GIRLS		Time
1 st	Oliver NUGENT	3.48 min	1 st	Ava THOMPSON	4.15 min
2 nd	Spencer TILLEY	3.49 min	2 nd	Maggie MARTIN	4.24 min
3 rd	Harry HICKS	4.12 min	3 rd	Olive ROBERTSON	4.25 min
4 th	Ryan GREEN	4.14 min	4 th	Jordan ROSSITER	4.56 min
5 th	Ollie CAMPBELL	4.16 min	5 th	Haddie MORRISON	4.57 min

Grade 2 (1 Km)					
BOYS		Time	GIRLS		Time
1 st	Toby McPHERSON	4.06 min	1 st	Addi SHANNON	4.17 min
1 st	Rhett WILSON	4.06 min	2 nd	Evelyn MILES	4.43 min
3 rd	Eli RICHARDSON	4.18 min	3 rd	Emily FARRANT	4.57 min
4 th	Max PETHYBRIDGE	4.31 min	4 th	Lucy MUGGLETON	5.02 min
5 th	River JOHN	4.41 min	5 th	Olivia SMITH	5.18 min



Seek Peace and Pursue it!

Grade 3-6 Cross Country

Shane Merkel

On Friday 15th May, our Middle and Senior cohort ventured to the Recreation Reserve to complete the School Cross Country. There were 8 races in all. The 9 Year and 10 Year Boys and Girls all ran 2km whilst the 11 Year and 12 Years Boys and Girls ran a 3km track.

In true Cross Country style, the competitors ran around ovals, across bridges, along creeks, through car parks and alongside golf holes, with all races culminating with a 200m sprint inside the football ground to the finish line. As always, the students excelled at giving their best effort and facing the challenge head on. Some great races and times were on display throughout the day.

A big thankyou is to be extended to the parents/carers who volunteered to supervise a check point and to the staff, who ran, rode, drove (golf cart), marshalled and supported the students throughout the day. We were able to invite 21 runners to compete at the Divisional

Level in Shepparton on Wednesday 27th May.

The successful runners were:

9/10 Years

Logan Burkitt, Darcy Trimby, Max Erickson, Elijah Watson, Lewis Robertson, Flynn Keane, Evie Clurey, Erin Nugent, Ayla Ricardo, Jorja Power

11 Years

Ben Hubbard, Billy Hicks, Zarli Burkitt, Avarni Peterson, Zara Trimby

12 Years

Jack Robertson, Jonny Moon, Max Boase, Lily Frederickson, Indigo Hargreaves, Caylee Rawson.

The final placegetters were as follows:



12+ Years – 3 Km					
BOYS		Time	GIRLS		Time
1	Jack ROBERTSON	12min 14sec	1	Lily FREDERICKSON	14min 43sec
2	Jonny MOON	13min 25sec	2	Indigo HARGREAVES	14min 53sec
3	Max BOASE	13min 42sec	3	Caylee RAWSON	15min 26sec
4	Louie O'CALLAGHAN	14min 30sec	4	Georgia BRASSIL	18min 26sec
5	Kade BRENNAN	15min 03sec	5	Maisie HILL	18min 51sec

11 Years – 3 Km					
BOYS		Time	GIRLS		Time
1	Ben HUBBARD	13min 06sec	1	Avarni PETERSON	16min 27sec
2	Billy HICKS	13min 21sec	2	Zara TRIMBY	16min 30sec
3	Oliver TILLEY	15min 33sec	3	Emma READE	18min 11sec
4	Dougal ALEXANDER	15min 37sec	4	Bridget SIMMONS	19min 35sec
5	Jack GLASS	16min 29sec	5	Norah KEANE	21min 39sec



Seek Peace and Pursue it!

Division Cross Country

Shane Merkel

On Wednesday 27th May, we took 18 eager runners to Shepparton to test their skills against the best of the region. With the lure of qualifying for the Zone Championships in Benalla on Friday 12th June for the first 12 across the finishing line, our students pounded the pavement with great determination. The competition was extreme with fields between 50 – 85 runners across the age groups.

When all was said and done, four students were successful in progressing to the next stage.

We wish Flynn, Jorja, Jack and Lily all the best for Benalla in their quest to qualify for the State Championships later in the year.

Results

9/10 Year Boys (85 runners)

Flynn Keane, Lewis Robertson, Darcy Trimby, Logan Burkitt, Elijah Watson, Max Erickson.

9/10 Year Girls (60 runners)

Jorja Power, Erin Nugent, Evie Clurey, Ayla Ricardo.

11 Year Boys (50 runners)

Billy Hicks.

11 Year Girls (50 runners)

Zarli Burkitt, Avarni Peterson, Zara Trimby.

12 Year Boys (52 runners)

Jack Robertson, Max Boase.

12 Year Girls (44 runners)

Lily Frederickson, Caylee Rawson.



Seek Peace and Pursue it!

Faith and Formation

Anna Andrews

We have several important upcoming events and community initiatives to share with our school community:

Rite of Reconciliation Our Rite of Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday 16th June at 6:00pm. We keep in our prayers the following students as they prepare for this special sacrament: Bede B, Evie C, Max E, Finn H, Nash J, Willow K, Willah S, Georgia R and Evie V. We wish them every blessing on this important step in their faith journey.



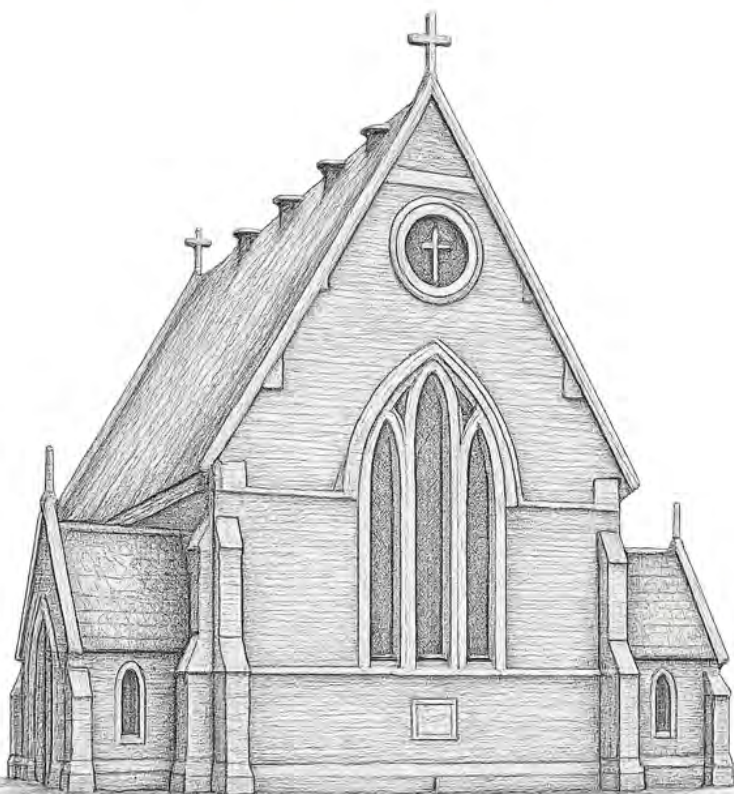
St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

As the colder months set in, we are once again supporting the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. We ask families to donate blankets and warm clothing to help those in need. Items will be collected and presented at our final assembly on Monday 23rd June. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference to our wider community.

Thank you for your continued support of these important moments in our school community.



PARISH MASS TIMES



NUMURKAH:

Sunday 10:30am

Wednesday 9:15am

Friday 9:15am, followed by Reconciliation

NATHALIA:

Sunday 9:00am

Tuesday 9:15am followed by Reconciliation

Thursday 12:30pm

STRATHMERTON:

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays at 6.00pm



Seek Peace and Pursue it!

Canteen

A reminder that the canteen is open **Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays only.**

If you are unable to attend on your day, can you please arrange a swap with someone else or as last resort let Crystal or Sherrin know in advance, so they are aware that they have no helper that day. If you are unable to commit to a permanent day each month but are available to help out when you see a volunteer required, please contact the canteen or the office.

June

3rd **Volunteer**

4th **Volunteer**

5th Gayle Morgan

10th **Volunteer**

11th **Volunteer**

12th **Volunteer**

17th **Volunteer**

18th **Volunteer**

19th Gayle Morgan

24th **Volunteer**

25th **Volunteer**

26th Rachael Hitchcock

Community Notices

Your Health Matters!

Cervical Screening available in Numurkah

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide, but it is also one of the most preventable. **Free** cervical screening tests (formerly called pap smears) are available for Medicare card holders, with self-collection options and no referral required.


Screening is recommended for anyone with a cervix aged 25-74 who has had sexual contact.

Appointments are available at Community Health @ GV Health, 121 Corio Street, Shepparton, or at their outreach clinic's at NCN Health Numurkah, 2 Katamatite Road, on

- May 25th
- July 27th
- September 28th
- November 23rd

To book an appointment today, call the GV Health Service Access Unit on 1800 222 582 (option 4). By keeping up with cervical screening, you are taking an important step to protect your health and wellbeing.

The test is quick, simple, and could save your life.





Pop-up Museum Dinosaurs & Fossils



Cobram Library
Thursday 2nd July
10:30am - 2:30pm

Each session runs for half an hour starting from 10:30am



Bookings encouraged

Scan the QR code or go to www.gvlibraries.com.au/museums-victoria to book a time slot for your Pop-up Museum experience.

cobram library

Libraries Change Lives

14 Punt Road, Cobram
Tel: 1300 374 765
www.gvlibraries.com.au



NOMINATE US TODAY

AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

and help us generate extra funds.

- Download or update the Ritchies Card App
- Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity
- 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.