Thursday, November 19th 2026 | Volume 19

MacKillop News

St. Joseph's Primary School, Numurkah



Seniors Camp - Pg 7, 8 & 9

Principal's Message

Ruth Hartnett-Carr

It has certainly been a busy few weeks at St Joseph's, with many great learning opportunities taking place across our school. Our senior students recently returned from camp, Year 2 enjoyed their sleepover, our junior students had a fantastic Fun Day and our Prep students travelled to Bendigo for a theatre experience. We also look forward to coming together this evening for Twilight Sports.

These experiences remind us that learning extends far beyond the classroom. In the Josephite tradition, we strive to nurture the whole child, providing opportunities for students to grow in confidence, resilience, friendship and joy. It has been wonderful to see our students embrace each of these experiences with enthusiasm and courage.

Thank you to our staff and families for the support you provide in making these opportunities possible. Together, we continue to create a community where every child is known, valued and encouraged to flourish.

"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

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: 20th November

Monthly Debits: 18th of each month

Please note: If any Direct Debits were rejected throughout the year, they will continue until the 18th of December to catch up.

If you have unexpected circumstances for the fortnight or month and need to stop a Direct Debit, please note that 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 yearly or by term, these are now due.

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

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 Term Planner 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 November 20: Advent Liturgy 1
Wednesday November 25: SMOTA Yr 7 Information Night @ Nathalia 6:00pm
Thursday November 26: SMOTA Yr 7 Information Night @ Nathalia 4:00pm
Friday November 27: Advent Liturgy 2
Monday November 30: Junior Swimming (P-2)
Wednesday December 2: Junior Swimming (P-2)
Friday December 4: Junior Swimming (P-2)
Friday December 4: Advent Liturgy 3
Monday December 7: Junior Swimming (P-2)
Tuesday December 8: Whole School Orientation Day
Tuesday December 8: SMOTA Yr 6 Orientation Day
Friday December 11: End of Year Mass



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:

Flexibility

Our focus within the three areas are as follows

Attitude: *Be open to change*
Awareness: *That things can change unexpectedly*
Action: *Be flexible and adapt when things out of my control change*

Weeks 7 & 8



Foundation School News

As Term 4 continues, it is hard to believe that our students are getting so close to the end of their Foundation year! It has been another busy and exciting term, filled with wonderful learning experiences and opportunities for growth. We are incredibly proud of the progress the children have made both academically and socially, and it has been fantastic to see their confidence and independence continue to develop.
We have also begun preparing for the exciting transition to Grade 1. The children have been participating in transition sessions and engaging in classroom discussions about what they can look forward to next year.

Literacy
In Literacy, it has been wonderful to see the children's growing confidence and independence as readers. They are continuing to build on the skills they have developed throughout the year, particularly when sounding out unfamiliar words, recognising tricky words and improving their reading fluency and expression.
We encourage families to continue reading with their children each night, as regular practice plays an important role in consolidating the skills taught at school. Please remember to sign your child's reading diary each day. Your ongoing support makes a tremendous difference to their learning.

Numeracy
In Numeracy, the children have been continuing to develop their number knowledge through daily counting activities, with many confidently counting to 100 and beyond. We have also been practising skip counting by 10s and exploring money, learning to recognise Australian coins and understand their different values.
It has been particularly pleasing to see the children's improvement in problem-solving and their growing ability to use mental strategies to work out answers. These developing skills will provide a fantastic foundation as they prepare for Grade 1.

Religion
In Religion, our learning is focusing on Advent and the celebration of Jesus' birth. The children are exploring the importance of waiting and preparing for special events, making connections to their own experiences of excitement and anticipation.
Through stories, discussions and activities, we are learning about Mary and Joseph's journey as they waited for the birth of Jesus. We are also encouraging the children to reflect on the importance of kindness, giving, gratitude and celebrating with others during the Christmas season.

Swimming
Our swimming program begins next week! The children will be attending swimming lessons at the indoor pool on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of Week 9, as well as Monday of Week 10.
This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their water safety awareness, swimming skills and confidence in the water. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone participate and enjoy this valuable experience.

Excursion to Bendigo
We were also very lucky to go on our excursion to Ulumburra theatre on Tuesday to watch Pevan and Sarah in concert. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to enjoy a special experience together outside the classroom, strengthening friendships and celebrating what has been an incredible first year of school.

As we approach the final weeks of the school year, we would like to thank all our families for their continued support and encouragement. It has been a pleasure watching the children grow, learn and develop throughout their Foundation year, and we look forward to finishing the year with many more happy memories.

The Prep Team









Junior School News

As we move into the final weeks of the school year, there is certainly plenty happening across the Junior Area! We would like to congratulate all of our students on their outstanding participation in both the Grade 2 Sleepover and Junior Activity Day. These events provided wonderful opportunities for students to demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience, teamwork and school spirit. It was fantastic to see students supporting one another, stepping outside their comfort zones and embracing every activity with such positive attitudes.

While these much-anticipated events are now behind us, we still have several exciting weeks ahead. Students are looking forward to Twilight Sports, swimming lessons (week 9 and 10), Advent liturgies, orientation sessions, transition activities and other end-of-year celebrations. It is a busy and rewarding time of year as we celebrate growth, achievements and the many memories made throughout 2026.

Curriculum Updates

Teachers are currently finalising assessment and reporting. Over the coming weeks, students will continue to consolidate their learning and build confidence in key skills as we prepare for the transition to a new school year.

Literacy

Students are consolidating the InitiaLit knowledge and skills they have developed throughout the year, building confidence and fluency in reading, spelling and writing. Grade 1 students will be exploring recount writing, learning how to retell personal experiences in a logical sequence using appropriate text features. Grade 2 students will be applying their literacy skills through imaginative and persuasive writing tasks, developing their creativity and ability to communicate ideas for different purposes and audiences.

Numeracy

Grade 1 students are focusing on addition and subtraction strategies, developing efficient methods to solve problems and explain their thinking. Grade 2 students are exploring patterns and location, building their ability to recognise, create and describe patterns while developing spatial awareness and directional language.

Religion

Students have begun learning about Christmas through the Infancy Narratives. They are exploring the key people and events surrounding the birth of Jesus and making connections between these stories and their own experiences of giving, receiving and celebrating. Through this learning, students are developing an understanding that the Bible contains many stories about Jesus' life on earth, including the story of His birth.

Science

Students are concluding their learning about Light and Sound and will finish the year with a range of engaging, hands-on investigations and experiments. These activities will encourage students to apply their scientific understanding while fostering curiosity and excitement for learning.

Reminders

Students should now be wearing their summer school uniform. We encourage all students to take pride in their appearance by ensuring their uniform is complete, neat and worn correctly each day. As the weather warms up, please also ensure your child brings their school hat and a named water bottle to school each day so they can stay sun safe and hydrated.

Thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a busy, rewarding and enjoyable year at St Joseph's. We look forward to sharing the many celebrations, milestones and learning opportunities still to come as we finish the year together.

The Junior Team









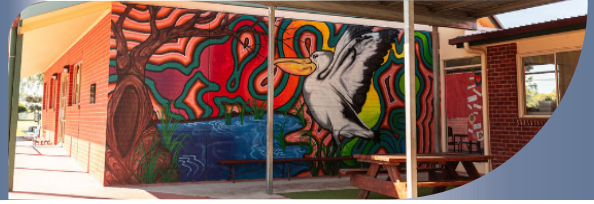










Middle School News

As we move through the final weeks of the term, it has been wonderful to see students continuing to embrace their learning opportunities, support one another, and contribute positively to our school community. The Middle School team remains incredibly proud of the growth, effort, and enthusiasm students have demonstrated throughout the year so far.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our parents and families for your ongoing support. The strong partnership between home and school is invaluable, and we are grateful for the encouragement, trust, and communication you provide. We are fortunate to work within such a supportive community, and your involvement plays an important role in helping our students thrive.

There are plenty of exciting events on the horizon. One highlight will be our upcoming Twilight Sports, which promises to be a fantastic evening of participation, fun, and community spirit. We encourage all families to come along and support our students. Weather permitting, bring along some food and a cold drink and enjoy an enjoyable evening with family and friends while cheering on our students.

Next Monday, Middle North will proudly host the school assembly with a special Advent theme. Students have been working hard in preparation and are looking forward to sharing their learning and reflections with the wider school community. Throughout Advent, students will also participate in weekly Friday liturgies as we prepare for Christmas through prayer, reflection, and gratitude.

Students are eagerly anticipating our annual visit from Skillzone, which will once again provide a day filled with engaging activities, teamwork, fun, and plenty of laughter.

Learning remains a key focus in Middle School. In Mathematics, students are developing their understanding of probability while continuing to strengthen their multiplication and division skills. In English, students have recently completed our novel study of His Name Was Walter. This captivating story generated plenty of discussion and kept students engaged from beginning to end. We encourage you to ask your child about the novel and share their thoughts on the story's conclusion.

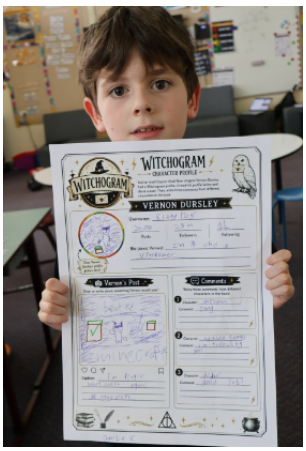
In Science, students are concluding their investigation into materials and their properties. In Humanities, students are exploring the birth of democracy, examining how democratic ideas developed in ancient civilisations such as Greece and Rome and how these systems continue to influence societies today.

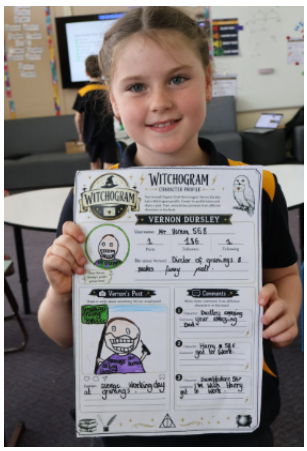
With warmer weather now here, we ask families to continue supporting our SunSmart expectations. Students are reminded to wear their school hats when outdoors and take pride in wearing the correct school uniform. If you are unsure of any uniform requirements, please refer to the information available on the school website.

Our teachers are currently working hard on preparing student reports, which will be distributed at the end of Week 10. We encourage families to take the opportunity to celebrate the growth, effort, and achievements highlighted in your child's report.

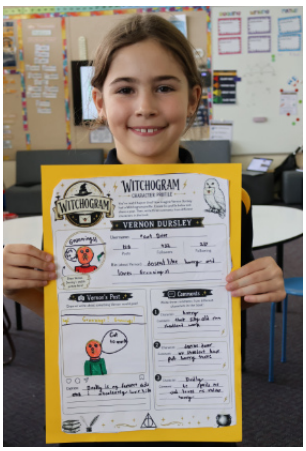
Thank you once again for your continued support. We look forward to another busy and exciting few weeks of learning, celebration, and community connection in Middle School.

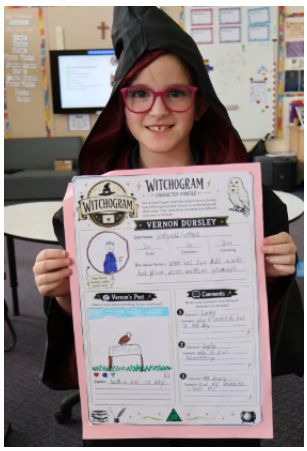
The Middle Team













Senior School News

This term is certainly flying by!
We have recently returned from our camp at Borambola, where students enjoyed many adventure activities including BMX, rock climbing, raft building, fencing, archery tag and canoeing. Students also relished the opportunity to spend some quality time with their friends.

Literacy
Students are applying the skills they have learnt in class to create a picture story narrative, with the aim of presenting their stories to a younger student. They will then shift their focus to information reports, applying their knowledge of the genre to write and present a report of their own.

Numeracy
Students have developed their understanding of converting between decimals, percentages and fractions, and of finding a percentage of a given number. Our next unit is Operations, which begins with identifying, describing and creating number patterns, including patterns found in geometric designs. Students will use digital tools to explore patterns and design simple algorithms that generate sets of numbers. They will then use bar models and written calculation strategies to work out which operations are needed in multi-step worded problems, finishing with problems involving fractions, decimals and percentages.

Religion
Our unit this term is 'Feasts of the Christmas Season'. Students are learning about the Liturgical Calendar and the season of Advent, before exploring three feasts that follow Christmas: 'the Feast of the Holy Family', 'the Feast of Mary, Mother of God', and 'the Epiphany'. They are unpacking the Scripture passage linked to each feast and exploring Christian symbols, particularly 'light' and why Jesus is called the 'Light of the World'. The unit finishes with students creating a triptych, a three-panel artwork with one panel for each feast.

Science
We have commenced our unit called Electrical Circuits. Students are learning about the components every circuit needs (a power source, a pathway and a device) and how electrical energy is transferred and transformed. They will draw their own circuits using batteries, globes and switches, then plan and carry out an experiment to test which materials are conductors and which are insulators.

Humanities
Our unit is Spread of European Empires. Students are learning what an empire is, mapping the British and French empires at their peak, and exploring why European countries wanted to expand. They are also looking at Australia's place in the British Empire, the impact of imperialism on the people living in colonised lands, and how views of empires have changed over time.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to the next couple of weeks!

The Senior Team




























Borambola Camp Reviews

Year 5/6 Camp

My favourite part was chilling with the boys in the cabins and doing kayaking. The food was the best!

Wil

Camp Borambola was amazing. The food was great and my favourite activity was kayaking.

Caleb

The things I liked most about camp was the food. We enjoyed eggs, bacon and pancakes for breakfast. My favourite was the burgers.

Aydan

My favourite part about camp was doing the rock climbing because I made it to the top of all four obstacles. I also enjoyed the mud run and raft building.

Erin

I liked fencing because I wanted to do it for a long time, and the food because it was incredible.

Lyncoln

Borambola camp was a great camp with lots of activities and places to go for free time. A couple of highlights was the rock climbing, which was incredibly fun. Another was raft building; it was great! The accommodation was also amazing and the food was great.

Hunter

I loved Borambola camp. My favourite activity was the mud run. It was so fun and I tried to get as dirty as possible. The food was amazing. I loved spending time with my friends.

Eden

Borambola camp was for sure my favourite camp, with BMXing and rock climbing and so much more. We got to spend time with our friends, but I think I liked most was the mud run.

Jaiden

The things I enjoyed most about Borambola was the activities. There was raft building, rock climbing, kayaking and more. It was a great camp and I hope years to come enjoy it too.

Norah

Boys & Girls Cricket

On Friday 6th November, we took a Boys & Girls team to Mooroopna to compete in the Regional "Smash Series Schools Cricket Carnival".

This is a fast paced, fun day of modified, but highly entertaining Cricket. Every game, a player is required to bat for two overs and bowl & wicket keep for one over each. Double Bonus runs are awarded for hitting past the bowler's stumps and 5 runs are awarded to the team every time they take a wicket.

Boys Team

The Boys' team had a very successful day, winning all their 4 games, including the Final which progresses them to the Hume Zone finals to be played in Mooroopna on Friday 20th November.

The team fielded brilliantly all day, with hardly an error and bowled with great accuracy and discipline. Some wonderful individual efforts were scattered across all games, but the ability of all team members to contribute at different times was the key to the team's success.

We wish the Boys well in their endeavours for their upcoming Zone Games.

Results

Game 1

St. Joseph's	235	def	St Mary's 73

Game 2

St. Joseph's	224	def	Katandra West 98

Game 3

St. Joseph's	177	def	Kialla West 118

Final

St. Joseph's	168	def	Shepparton East 112

Girls Team

The Girls' team were not quite as dominate as the Boys', unfortunately losing all 4 of their games. However, they came close on two occasions, missing out on a win by the barest of margins.

Despite not winning any of their games, the girls demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and were encouraging each other consistently throughout the day. There were some commendable efforts, plenty of enjoyment and each player tried their very best.

With a bit more practice and experience, success is around the corner. Great effort girls, you should be proud.

Results

Game 1

St. Joseph's	89	def by	Cobram 93

Game 2

St. Joseph's	78	def by	Bouchier Street 138

Game 3

St. Joseph's	115	def by	Katandra West 118

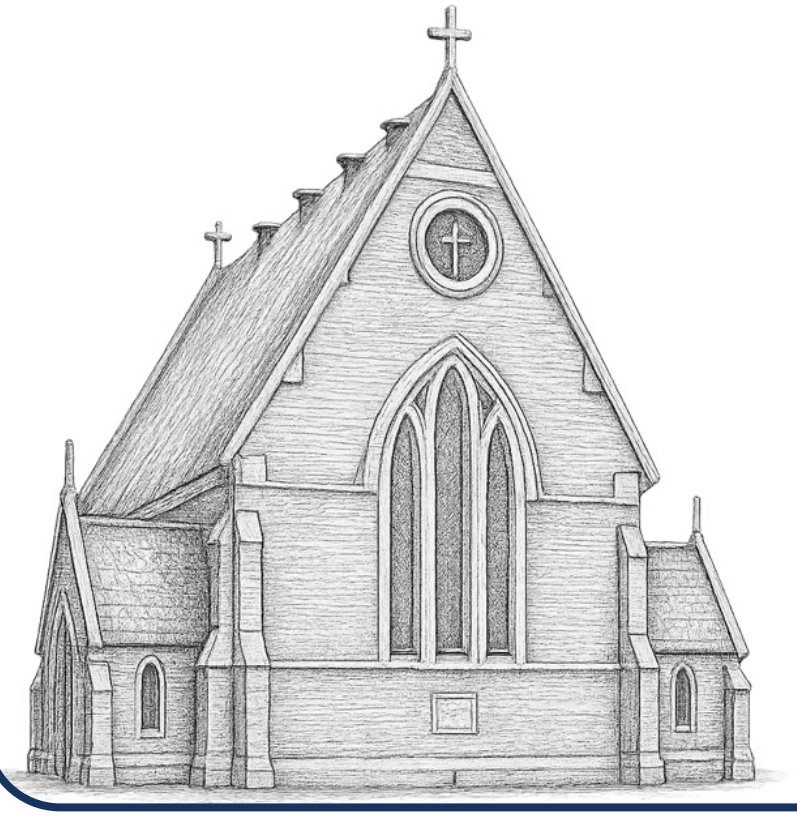
Final

St. Joseph's	130	def by	St Mary's Mooroopna 158





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

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 that 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.

November
20th Gayle Morgan
25th Volunteer
26th Volunteer
27th Volunteer
December
2nd Volunteer
3rd Volunteer
4th Gayle Morgan
9th Volunteer
10th Volunteer
11th Volunteer

ST JOHN'S PARISH celebrates the gifts of other cultures to our community on SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER



at 10.30am MASS followed by MULTICULTURAL LUNCH outside the Parish House

If you are from a different cultural background, please wear your National Dress/Colours to Mass.





And we'd love you to bring a dish of your traditional food to share at lunch. If you can provide food, put your name on the list or let Francine or Soei know.





SEEKING BABY JESUS:

As many of you know, on Christmas Eve, at the conclusion of the Carols in the Church, and just prior to the start of Mass at 7 pm, we invite the parents of a new baby to place their baby in the waiting empty manger reminding us that Jesus came into our world as a vulnerable, dependent little human.

If you know of a baby in your own family, or the family of friends, who we could invite, please let Kerry know on 0408 579 904. The baby may be from newborn to 6 months or so and we only require their presence for approximately 20 minutes.







ADVENT GIVING TREE

WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF WRAPPED GIFTS FOR FAMILIES LESS FORTUNATE THAN US. THEY WILL BE PASSED ON TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE FILL IN AND ATTACH A GIFT TAG WITH THE GENDER AND APPROXIMATE AGE THE GIFT WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR (E.G. 7YR OLD GIRL, 8YR OLD BOY).

THESE GIFTS NEED TO BE PLACED UNDER THE GIVING TREE LOCATED IN THE SCHOOL FOYER BY: MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH.

Casserole Bank

Dear parents,

Over the years there has been a wonderful group of parents who have generously made casseroles for our "Casserole Bank".

In our lives we all have times where we are overstretched due to special celebrations, such as the birth of a new family member, family illness or other concern.

As a community it has been wonderful to be able support our families by providing a meal for them – something less they need to worry about at these times.

In the past we have used foil / sealed containers to store / freeze the casseroles. Our school will supply the foil containers.

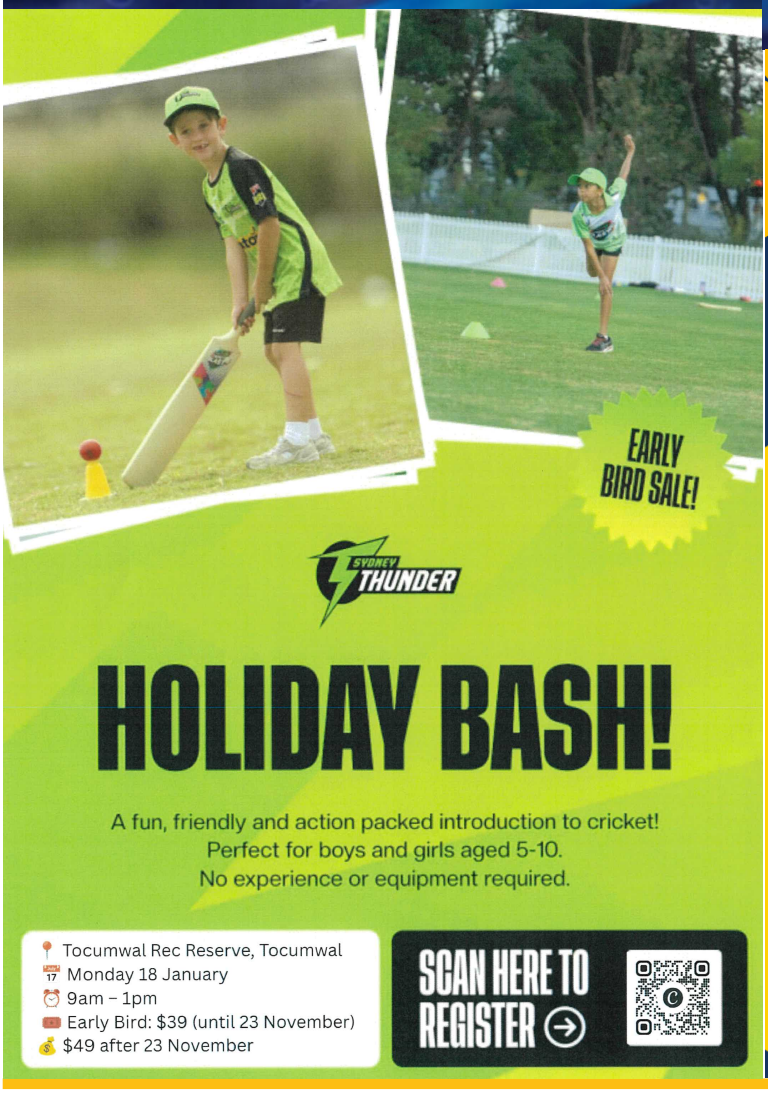
We only store a few at a time but it would be wonderful if you could be involved and I will let you know when I need a casserole for a family who needs our support.

Thanking You,
Ruth Hartnett-Carr

Community Notices









PHARMACY EDUCATION



Sherri Barden
BPharm, FANZCAP (CommPharm/Resp) MPS
Respiratory Pharmacist & Asthma Educator
Community Pharmacy | General Practice
Patient Clinics, Education, Medication Management and Follow Up.

Do you or your child have asthma or hay fever

and need extra support to understand and manage the condition and medication?

ASTHMA
Better control, fewer flare ups and confidence with medication.

HAY FEVER
Manage symptoms and triggers for better sleep, concentration and wellbeing.

INHALER & NASAL SPRAY TECHNIQUE
Correct technique and understanding to get the best results from your treatment.

EDUCATION
Practical, individualised education for students and families.

ONGOING SUPPORT
Follow up to review symptoms, technique and treatment, and to answer any questions.

Services include:

- Personalised asthma or hay fever education
- Inhaler and nasal spray technique training
- Review of medication and action plans
- Trigger identification and management
- Support with symptom control and flare up prevention
- Practical strategies for school, sport and daily activities
- Support for parents, carers and students
- Follow up appointments to monitor progress
- Collaboration with your GP and other healthcare providers
- Culturally safe and inclusive care

Clinic & Pharmacy Locations

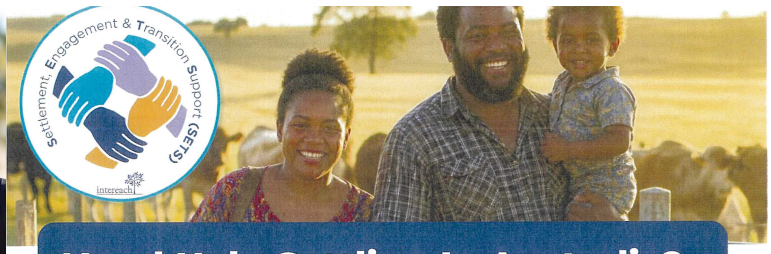
Please contact the clinic or pharmacy directly to make an appointment.

Moama Health Clinic
Moama Marketplace
2 Perricoota Rd, Moama NSW 2731
Fortnightly visits on a Tuesday
$70 initial (30 min)
$35 follow up (15 min)
Bookings: (03) 5482 5555

Rumbalara Medical Clinic
20 Rumbalara Rd
Mooroopna VIC 3629
Monthly visits on a Thursday
No charge
30 min initial
Bookings: 03 5820 0035

Paul Wickham Pharmacy
83 McLennan St
Mooroopna VIC 3629
Third Tuesday of each month
Free of charge
Bookings: 03 5825 2144

TerryWhite Chemmart Cobram
34 Punt Rd
Cobram VIC 3644
First Monday of each month
Free of charge
Bookings: 03 5872 1143



Need Help Settling In Australia?

Do you live in the **Moira Shire**?
Are you on a visa with your partner or family?

If yes, you may be able to get free support with:

- Finding local services
- Learning about health, school, work, childcare and housing
- Practising English
- Meeting people in your community
- Understanding forms and appointments
- Getting help if you are worried about your family situation

Eligible visa subclasses include*:

100	191	482
101	192	491
186	445	494



*Eligibility criteria may apply

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SHARON ON:
0429 000 235 or sharons@intereach.com.au

intereach

NUMURKAH
LOVE OUR LIFESTYLE

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NIGHT

Let's celebrate Christmas together!

Wednesday 25th November

5pm to 8pm

Adventure Awaits · Flowers · Sport First Numurkah · alliance Pharmacy · newsXpress · Vinnies good works · Cherish

STARTING PREP IN 2027?

Ready, Set, Prep!

When: 26th November
Time: 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Where: Zoom (online)
Cost: $30
NDIS funded option available*

Can't make it live?
The recording will be available for 30 days

Purchase tickets through Humanitix
https://events.humanitix.com/ready-set-prep-34qnun5s

Tips to...

- Practise small things at home that make a big difference
- Support the transition at school
- Get home and school on the same page

Nicole Austin
Speech Pathologist
Grow Language & Literacy

Mickaylah O'Donoghue
Occupational Therapist
Bloom Sensory

Moira Shire Notices

Lead the way for young people

Do you have ideas to make life better for young people in Moira Shire?

Moira Youth Council is where your ideas turn into action, so apply now for 2027.

You will build your skills as a community leader in three development sessions and visit Parliament House in Melbourne. Every second month, you will meet with other young people to share what matters to you.

Applications are open on the Moira website until Friday 4 December.

Who can apply? Anyone aged 16 to 24 who lives, works, studies or has community connections in Moira Shire.

Questions? Email youth@moira.vic.gov.au or call 5871 9222 and speak to the Community Services Team.



moira the Y ETHNIC COUNCIL OF SHEPPARTON AND DISTRICT Inc.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT MOIRA SHIRE
COUNCIL (03) 5871 9222