

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

152 Odessa Avenue, Keilor Downs, Vic 3038

www.mmkeilordowns.catholic.edu.au

T: 03 9367 6199



Staying Connected No. 6, 09 May, 2025

Hello Everyone,

Pope Francis was described as a "Pope among the people, with an open heart towards everyone," highlighting his unwavering commitment to compassion and inclusivity. "Rich in human warmth and deeply sensitive to the challenges of our time, Pope Francis truly shared in the anxieties, sufferings, and hopes of a globalised world."

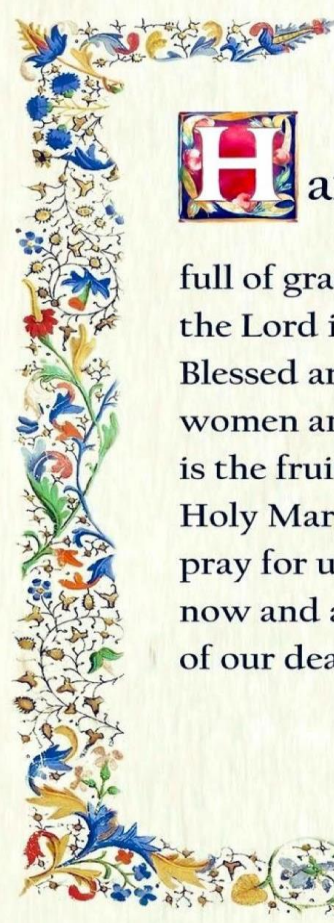
Pope Francis tirelessly advocated for refugees and displaced people. He was dedicated to the poor and marginalised. He was truly a Pope for the people — a compassionate and humble leader.


As the Cardinals gather in Rome to elect a new Pope; we pray that they are inspired by the Holy Spirit to elect a Pope who will continue to lead us with a vision for an inclusive and merciful Church in the spirit of Francis.

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus. We ask that Mary intercedes on behalf of the Church at this time of electing a new Pope.

May we be inspired by Pope Francis' example as we live our own lives, reaching out with compassion to people from all walks of life.

And as always, we look to the Hail Mary as perhaps one of the most powerful prayers we can pray.



ail, Mary,

full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst
women and blessed
is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour
of our death.

men

SCHOOL CLOSURE-Wednesday 14 May

All staff must do a number of hours study, per year, in the sphere of Religious Education to maintain accreditation to teach in a Catholic School. This is a requirement of our employer, MACS.

Next Wednesday, 14 May, SMMPs will be closed to all students as staff will gather at the Hume Global Learning Centre in Sunbury for a day of reflection on the Year of Jubilee, guided by facilitator Mark Walsh, a dynamic and creative facilitator with expertise in formation, spirituality, adult education, biblical studies, and retreats. He brings a wealth of experience working with schools, religious congregations, and parish groups both across Australia and internationally.

The day will include experiential formation through scripture, pilgrimage, and prayer.

I appreciate your support as staff undergo this professional and personal learning, so as to improve student outcomes in the area of Religious Education.



Anthony McCluskey
Principal

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS 2025



Religious Education Snapshots



Across all levels, the children are experiencing scripture and getting to know the people of God and Jesus, through Godly Play experiences.



The Year 3 children are exploring the symbols of the Eucharist in scripture and its significance in the Church.



The Year 6 children are exploring what it means to be a saint in the Church and how they can live as faithful people.



Father Vinh spoke to the Prep children after Mass. They discussed the work he does and he showed them the different liturgical colours represented in the vestments.



SRC News

Student Representative Council Report

In Week 3 the SRC met to discuss some things happening around the school. There are always great things happening out on the yard and lots of people are talking about how lots of the bigger kids are helping to look after our Preps and playing well together at play times.

Something that has been noticed is that rough play is happening out on the oval and the astro-turf. We would like to remind everyone that bad language, rough play and excluding others are not OK. Remember to make kindness the norm wherever you are and whatever you are doing.

We plan to announce our next Social Justice action in Week 7. Through our Big Freeze initiative, we will raise awareness for Motor-Neurone Disease (MND) and learn about what MND does to the people affected and what scientists do to help. We will include information about how we can buy the Big Freeze merchandise to fundraise and promote awareness.

Somewhere in week 10 or 11 we will have a day where our school community can wear the Big Freeze merch, (or other) beanies and scarves to help raise funds and awareness for this important cause. Look out for more info!


Written by Zulum, Amelia, Aidan and Alyssa. on behalf of the SRC

**Make
kindness
the norm.** ❤️

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
FOUNDATION™
www.randomactsofkindness.org



REMINDERS

- The basketball court is used as a carpark in the morning and afternoon. The safety of our children is of utmost importance and therefore I ask that you take extra care when driving in the carpark areas. The speed limit is **5km per hour** and there is to be no double parking at all. Please only park in the designated parking spots and do not park on the **artificial turf or in pedestrian walk ways**. Thank you for taking the safety of our children seriously.
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- From time to time our children forget to bring their lunch to school or a lunch order is ordered for the wrong day and we ask parents to bring in the missing lunch. In order to continue with our healthy eating expectations we ask that parents **do not bring in take away food** such as McDonalds, KFC etc. If you do need to purchase lunch for your child we ask that you purchase things such as sushi, sandwiches or wraps.
 - The School opens at 8.30am and children can enter the classroom at 8.50am. **Please do not drop children off prior to 8.30am.** If you need to bring your child to school before 8.30am please book them into the before school hours program.
 - St Mary MacKillop is a 'Smoke Free Zone' and smoking on the school grounds is not permitted. According to the law, 'The Tobacco Act 1987 bans smoking or vaping on school premises or within 4 metres of any pedestrian access point to school premises.'
Please do not smoke or vape on the school grounds.

- If your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school it must be handed into the teacher in the morning where it will be stored in a secured location and returned to them in the afternoon. Please refer to the Mobile phone policy on the school website.
- As there is no supervision on the playground area and the oval are in the morning, these areas are out of bounds and children are not to play on the playground or the oval before school.
- The front drive through area between the Church and the School operates as a drive through zone only before school.
- Due to a few near misses, those who wish to park and bring their child into class must **use the back car park area.** There is now no parental parking in bays outside the front of the Church.

2025 Term Dates

Term 1: 31 January-04 April 2025
(Good Friday 18 April-Easter Monday 21 April)
Term 2: 22 April-04 July 2025
Term 3: 21 July-19 September 2025
Term 4: 6 October-16 December 2025
(Year 6 finish Friday 12 December)

PLAYGROUND USE BEFORE SCHOOL – REMINDER

Please note that all of the Junior and Senior Adventure Playgrounds are **not to be used before school**.



This is the Junior Adventure playground.
It is only for use by students from Prep to Year 2.



The climbing frames can be used by all students.

This is the Senior Adventure Playground.
It is only for students in Years 3 – 6.



Parents are required to actively watch their children when using the equipment after school.

WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU

PROUDLY RUN BY LOCAL POLICE & VOLUNTEERS

Blue Light

BRIMBANK

BLUE LIGHT

SPORT DISCO

FRIDAY 9TH MAY
6-8 PM | YEARS 3-6 | \$10 ENTRY

ST ALBANS COMMUNITY CENTRE
33 PRINCESS STREET, ST ALBANS

PURCHASE TICKETS HERE:



 [bluelight_brimbankmelton](https://www.instagram.com/bluelight_brimbankmelton)  [Brimbank/Melton Blue Light](https://www.facebook.com/Brimbank/Melton%20Blue%20Light)




MiniTillies, let's play!



GIRLS ONLY
AGES 3 TO 6



**ST ALBANS SAINTS
DINAMO SOCCER CLUB**
CHURCHILL RESERVE, FOX ST,
ST ALBANS VIC 3021



5:00PM – 6:00PM



COMMENCING
15TH MAY TO 28TH AUGUST



\$300



**REGISTRATIONS OPEN
NOW**

miniroos.com.au/minitillies

TAYLORS LAKES BASKETBALL CLUB

Contact: Administrator
Mobile: 0466 461 498
Email: tlbadmin@tlsc.asn.au

Your local basketball club, with teams from Under 8's to Under 19's, for boys and girls, in the Keilor Basketball Association Junior Domestic Competition.

We currently have limited spots available in our boys and girls (DOB 2014/2015) Under 12 teams for the Winter 2025 Season.

Our aim is to develop the skills and knowledge of players in a team activity that is healthy, energetic, and most of all, FUN!

TLBC welcomes new players and encourages family involvement.

For more information, please contact our Administrator.



Term 2 Programs

Aussie Hoops

(Assisted by KBA)
 For 5-7 year old boys & girls
 Tuesday 5 – 5:45pm
 Taylors Lakes Secondary College

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

For boys and girls who are new to the game or want to improve their skills before joining a team.

For further details contact the Administrator



**TAYLORS LAKES
BASKETBALL CLUB**

Follow us on



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

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

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

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

Student details

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

Camps, Sports and Excursions fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one; or
 - on the first day of Term two.
- Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder; or
 - Be a temporary foster parent; and
 - Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and seventeen years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students' attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (see [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Policy | education.vic.gov.au](#)).

Payment amounts

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

The CSEF is paid directly the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the policy for the current rates.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

How to complete the application form

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

- Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN 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.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
- Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
- Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

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

Upcoming Events 2025

Term 2: 22 April-04 July 2025

Thursday 08 May and Friday 09 May

Mother's Day Stall

Friday 09 May

Mother's Day Breakfast

7.30am to 8.45am in the Hall

Monday 12 May to Friday 16 May

2026 Prep Enrolment Interviews-New Families

Wednesday 14 May

School Closure Day-Year of Jubilee

Wednesday 21 May

2026 Prep Offers Issued

Upcoming Events 2025 Continued....

Saturday 31 May

Year 3 First Holy Communion

10.30am and 12.30pm

Friday 06 June

2026 Enrolment Offers Due

Friday 20 June, Monday 23 June and Monday 30 June

Teeth on Wheels

Saturday 21 June

Year 6 Confirmation

10am and 12pm

Monday 23 June to Friday 27 June

Prep 2026 Existing Family Interviews

Friday 04 July

Last Day of Term 2

Students finish @ 1pm