

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Staying Connected No. 8, 10 June, 2025

Dear Community,

On Sunday the Church invited us to celebrate the Feast Of Pentecost and in doing so, invited us to a new beginning.

Pentecost is one of the most important moments in the life of the early Church. As described in the *Acts of the Apostles*, it marks the day when the **Holy Spirit came down upon the apostles and other believers**—filling them with the courage and strength to go out and share the message of Jesus.

This moment is often called the “**birthday of the Church**” because it was the beginning of the apostles’ mission to spread the Good News to the whole world. On that day, they began speaking in different languages, so that people from many nations could hear and understand the message of God’s love.

At Pentecost, we are reminded that:

- ▶ **God’s Spirit now lives within us**—guiding us, strengthening us, and helping us to live with love, courage and truth.
- ▶ **The Gospel is for everyone**—no matter where we come from, what we believe or what language we speak.
- ▶ **We are called to be witnesses of God’s love**—just like the apostles, sharing our faith through our words, actions, and care for others.

As we celebrate Pentecost, may we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit and be inspired to live as people of faith, hope and joy—making a difference in the world around us.



St. Mary MacKillop Primary School is committed to child safety. We believe all students deserve, as a fundamental right, safety and protection from all forms of abuse and neglect.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS 2025

In this special Jubilee Year, we are especially called to be people of faith, hope and joy, bringing the light of Christ to our school, our homes, and the world around us. Just as the apostles went out to share the Good News, we too are invited to make a difference—through kindness, compassion, and courage.

May the Spirit of Pentecost guide us each day as we work together to build a stronger, more loving community.

Have a good week everybody.

Anthony McCluskey

Anthony McCluskey
Principal



YEAR 3 SACRAMENT REFLECTION DAY

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE & ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

The children spent the day exploring how we can be Eucharist people.

At the Heritage Centre, they listened to the story of Mary MacKillop and how she came to love the Eucharist through her family. They engaged in tasks related to the Eucharist, handling sacred objects related to Eucharist, and recognising and naming symbols of the Eucharist. Children also participated in a tour of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Museum, where they learned of the lived experience of Gospel values of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph.

They engaged in a Godly Play lesson, considering how Jesus calls us to feed our souls through the Eucharist, and the hungry through our care of others.

The children explored St Patrick's Cathedral, looking at its structure, significance to the Church in Melbourne, its sculptures, and impressive craft and artwork. 3 Yellow were fortunate enough to attend Mass!

Have a look at our pictures!



SMMPS BIG FREEZE DAY

Monday 30th June

MND

Support the cause!

**Buy Big Freeze
merchandise**

(Bunnings, Coles
and online)

OR **bring a
donation** on

Big Freeze Day

Wear your
winter
woolies or Big
Freeze merch

on
**Big Freeze
Day**



AN SRC INITIATIVE



Year One Scienceworks Excursion

On Thursday the 15th of May, the Year 1s went to Scienceworks to discover more about our Inquiry topic "Changes in the sky".



We participated in the "What's with the weather?" program that taught us how different weather is created including clouds, rain, rainbows and lightning!



In the Planetarium we joined Tycho the dog on his wild space adventure and learnt about how the sky changes from day to night.



We can't wait to find out so much more about changes in the sky in Term 2!



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.

Colour Run Summary

The numbers are IN

As a school community we managed to raise an AMAZING Grand Total of:

\$18,000

Thank You to all our families who contributed to our Colour Run. These funds will be put towards our 2025 Fundraising goals and hopefully will be able to provide a new oval and other facility upgrades for our school in the near future.

Special mention to our top three money raisers this year

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| 1. Charlotte Zachariou 3Y | \$1000 |
| 2. Cecilia Bonnaci PR | \$340 |
| 3. Isaac Bistricki 1R | \$306 |

And our highest raised total per class award goes to:

3Y with a total of \$2327

Next year we are setting our targets on \$20k. Thank you Mary Mac Community!



She Who Explores New Term 2 Sessions added!

Come and see what it's like to be an Ave girl with our after school program, **She Who Explores**.

Designed specifically for Year 4 and 5 students, this is a fantastic opportunity for our future students to explore subjects that they will be able to study at Ave Maria College.


We hope that you will join us for one or two of the following sessions.

Thursday, 26 June, 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Creative Spaces (Library)
Monday, 30 June, 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Food Technology (repeat)

For more information, please email Assistant Principal (Community and Partnerships), Mrs Natalie Meddis, AssistantPrincipalCommunity@avemaria.vic.edu.au or register via the QR.



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)

**She Who Belongs
She Who Thrives**



Now accepting enrolments Year 7 2027
Applications close 15 August 2025



Book a College Tour today:
14-22 Vida St, Aberfeldie, VIC, 3040
(03) 9331 9300
registrar@avemaria.vic.edu.au



Parent **Information Night**

Caroline Chisholm Catholic College invites you to join our upcoming **Parent Information Night**. This evening is designed for families interested in joining our school community and wanting to learn more about us.

Hear from our Principal, Dr Napoleon Rodezno, as he unpacks who we are, what we offer and what our plans for the future are. Information about enrolments for Year 7, 2027 will also be available.

Monday, 23rd June 2025 | 6.30pm – 7.30pm
(gates open at 6.15pm)

St Madeleine Centre
65 Churchill Avenue, Braybrook
(Christ the King Girls' Campus)

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 18th June 2025

Visit cccc.vic.edu.au or
scan the QR code to let
us know you can join.



For any questions regarding the event, please contact
registrar@cccc.vic.edu.au or call us on **9296 5311**.
We look forward to seeing you on the night!



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

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.



VU school holiday sport program

7-11 & 14-18 July 2025

Ages 5-12

Multi-sport

Netball

Soccer

Basketball

Play, swim & craft

AFL

Scan for more info



**Early bird prices
end June 9!**



VU school holiday sport programs

7-11 & 14-18 July 2025

Week 1

7/7 - multi-sport

8/7- soccer

9/7- multi-sport

10/7- multi-sport

11/7 - play, swim & craft

Week 2

14/7- netball & basketball*

15/7 - play, swim & craft

16/7 - AFL

17/7 - play, swim & craft

18/7 - multi-sport

Early bird prices end June 9!




**book online
today!**



*separate programs





nab AFL Auskick

MID SEASON ENTRY IS NOW OPEN!

THE PERFECT TIME TO GIVE IT A GO!

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

Upcoming Events 2025

Term 2: 22 April-04 July 2025

Tuesday 10 June

Year 6 Confirmation Family Faith Night @ 7pm in MPR

Monday 16 June, Monday 23 June and Monday 30 June

Teeth on Wheels

Thursday 19 and Friday 20 June

School Closure for Prep to Year 2

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