

WEEK 3 TERM 3 NEWSLETTER WEDNESDAY 06/08/2025

Dear Families,

This Friday at 6.00pm, eleven of our Gr6 students will continue their Sacramental journey when they celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** with Bishop Rene Ramirez. These young people will stand up and proudly renew their Baptismal Promises, they will be anointed with Chrism, receive the Holy Spirit and confirm their commitment to be faith filled people of God. All members of our school community are invited to come along to be part of this celebration. Please keep these young people in your prayers. We wish them and their families well on their special day. Thank you to Bishop Rene for visiting our Gr6 students last Thursday and spending time with us.



Thank you to everyone who came along to our recent **Celebration of Grandparents**. Our Gr3/4 students led a beautiful Assembly, which was followed by a lovely morning tea. The assembly allowed the children to say thank you to these special people who do so much for them. The classroom visits and activities also allowed our students to proudly show off the great learning that happens here at St Mark's.

Grandparents bring gifts of wisdom, experience, and love and share with us their life of faith. We thank God for their example and ask that God blesses them with happiness and good health. We also pray for those who are eternally in God's loving care. Keep them in your love. Give them your joy and peace each day, so that they may forever follow your son Jesus. Amen

Thank you to all the staff members who organised this celebration to make it such a happy event for all.

Thank you to the 21 parents who attended our recent Community Conversation where the content of the Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships curriculum was shared and discussed. We are aware that for some families there was confusion and concern about the content of this curriculum, and this session reassured those in attendance that their children will not be exposed to content that is not appropriate to their age, developmental stage, family values and Catholic teaching. Thanks to our Wellbeing Leader Stephanie Nightingale, Deputy Principal Claire White and Gr 5/6 teacher Kyla Lancaster for preparing and presenting this presentation. Please contact Stephanie if you have any questions about the Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships curriculum.

Congratulations to our wonderful Prep students who celebrated their 100 Days of Prep last Friday with a day filled with fun activities. Our Preps have shown so much academic, social and spiritual growth in the short time they have been at school. I know that their teachers and support staff are so proud of them and can only imagine how proud their families are. Thank you to our families for entrusting the education of their precious children to us, and to the Prep Team who do so much for the children every day.



The St Mark's Family Disco is fast approaching on Friday August 29th, 6-7.30pm in our School Hall. This will be a fun filled night for all the family to come along and dance the night away. There will be music to suit everyone's taste, no matter which era you grew up in! Please note, the Family Disco is a family event. All children will need to be accompanied by family members.

All details, and a link will be shared soon so that families can purchase tickets online and **pre-order and pay** for pizzas. Families will not be able to purchase pizza on the night. All details of the Disco will be shared soon.

To ensure this event is a great success, we require parental assistance to plan the event and run the night please. If you can help out, please come to our next Kids Matter @ St Mark's Action Team Meeting – date to be advised.

Friday August 8th is the **Feast Day of our first Australian Saint, St Mary MacKillop**. Known officially as St Mary of the Cross, St Mary was born in Fitzroy in 1842. St Mary is famous for the phrase, "Never see a need without doing something about it". Like St Mary of the Cross, may we always strive to be people of welcome, always willing to embrace those in need and act as Jesus taught us.



God of vision, we thank you for St Mary MacKillop who loved this land and its people. As we struggle to realise our hopes for a more just country, may we be witnesses to the meaning of fair play for people and land. May we value the wisdom of first nation people. May we act to halt damage to the Earth. May we live simply, love tenderly and walk humbly. We ask this in the name of Christ, Amen

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Friday August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I invite all members of the St Mark's Community to join the whole school at the 9am Parish Mass when we celebrate Mary's passing into eternal life. ***It is very important that all students arrive at school by 8.45am on that day (and every day).***

Father's Day Celebration - To all our fathers, grandfathers and father figures, don't forget to join us for our Father's Day celebrations on **Friday September 5th**. We will begin with Assembly at 9.00am led by our 1/2 Students. Our special Father's Day Morning Tea will commence at 9.30am following Assembly. This is our way of saying thanks to all the men in our community who do so much for us.

Once again this year we are asking for a cash donation and all funds raised will go directly to the Cancer Council. **Please note, that this is not an entrance fee, it is a voluntary donation.**

By raising funds for the Cancer Council we are enacting our Mercy Value of Service – *"At the same time, it enkindles within us a desire to assist others, so that they too may have life, and have it to the full."* (John 10:10).

After Morning Tea all guests are invited and welcome to visit the children in their classrooms for Father's Day activities.

Book Week 2025: Book Week is just around the corner. This year the theme is "Book an Adventure". For all those costume enthusiasts we will be having a Book Week parade at **9.00am on Friday 22nd August**.

Italian Day Celebrations - We will be celebrating Italian Day next Thursday, August 14th and it promises to be a fun day filled with great activities, laughter and delicious food. All details have been shared. Activities will be held between 9.15-11.00am and the Performance of 'La Favola dell'ingrediente Segreto' is on at 12.00pm in our Hall. Students are asked to wear a 'touch of Italy'.

This could be as simple as wearing clothes that have one or more of the Italian colours of verde, bianco e rosso (green, white and red), or even Italian soccer tops etc. All welcome!

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Lunch Orders available through the Canteen on Thursday August 14th.



Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS) - Once again this year we are participating in the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS). MACSSIS is an annual process where we listen to the thoughts and feelings students (Yrs 4, 5 & 6), families and staff have about the great things happening at St Mark's, and how our school can be even better. These surveys help inform the ongoing improvement of schools across the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

MACSSIS data benefits everyone within our school and provides valuable community insights on areas that we can focus on. We believe it is important to encourage families to have a voice and contribute to shaping the ongoing improvement of the school.

The survey is only available online, can be accessed from Monday September 1st and needs to be completed by Friday September 19th. This survey may only be completed once.

For families with more than one child attending our school, we ask that you **focus on the eldest child attending the school**. We invite all families to respond via this survey and participation is completely voluntary. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers – all responses are completely anonymous and at no point are any of the responses from students, families or staff identifiable by the school.

The survey is available in English, Arabic, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Tagalog and Vietnamese. All details on how to access the survey will be shared with families soon.

2025 Christmas Carols - Please set aside Thursday December 4th so you can join us at 2.00pm for our annual Christmas Carols. More details will be shared in Term 4.

Out of School Hours Care - Emergency Bookings - Youth Leadership Victoria has advised that when parents need to make a booking at short notice they can contact YLV Area Manager Karen Nava directly on the following – karen@ylv.com.au; 0400 194 859

Family Fun Day Update - The Family Fun Day is on Saturday October 25th, 11.00am-4.00pm and preparations have begun in earnest. Watch this space!

2025 School Fees & Curriculum Levies - Families are reminded to please contact the Office if you have not received your 2025 Fee Statement and a new one will be sent to you.

I encourage all families to consider setting up a Direct Debit to ensure that Fees and Levies are paid on a regular basis and can be paid off by early Term 4.

Families experiencing financial hardship are welcome to contact me so that we can explore confidential financial support arrangements.

2026 Prep Enrolments - Please tell your friends that there are still places available for Prep 2026 at St Mark's. I am available for School Tours, which can be booked through the Office on 8335 4100.

Intentions for 2026 - It's hard to believe that we are currently in the process of preparing our class structures for 2026. To assist, we need to know if any students (other than Gr 6's) will be leaving St Mark's at the end of 2025. If your child will not be returning to St Mark's in 2026 can you please inform me in writing as soon as possible.

Catholic Secondary College Enrolments - local Catholic Secondary Colleges take Year 7 enrolments during a student's Grade 5 year. I encourage families of current Grade 4 & 5 students to contact secondary colleges that they are considering for their child, in order to determine enrolment requirements and cut off dates. **Yr 7 2027 enrolments (current Yr 5s) close on Friday August 15th, 2025.**

St Mark's Playgroup - Playgroup is held in our Hall each Tuesday morning from 9.00-11.00am for 0-4YO's. Please spread the word with your family and friends. All welcome! Please see the attached Flier for all details.

2025 Term Dates

| TERM | COMMENCES | ENDS |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| TERM 3 | Monday 21.07.25 at 8.50am | Thursday 18.09.25 at 1.00pm – OSHC Available |
| TERM 4 | Monday 6.10.25 at 8.50am | Wednesday 17.12.25 at 1.00pm – OSHC Available |

2025 School Closure Days

| DATE | FOCUS |
|-------------------|---|
| TERM 3 | |
| Friday 19.09.25 | Staff Professional Learning - OSHC Available |
| TERM 4 | |
| Monday 3.11.25 | Staff Professional Practice & TIL Acquittal Day – OSHC closed |
| Thursday 18.12.25 | STAFF TIL Acquittal Day – OSHC Available |
| Friday 19.12.25 | STAFF TIL Acquittal Day – OSHC Available |

2025 Sacrament Dates

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|--|
| Celebration of Confirmation - Grade 6: Friday 8 th of August at 6.00pm in St Mark's Church |
| Reconciliation Family Night - Tuesday 19 th of August at 7.00pm |
| Celebration of Reconciliation - Grade 3: Wednesday 3 rd of September at 7.00pm in St Mark's Church |

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following people who are celebrating their Birthday.

| Date | Name | LA | Date | Name | LA |
|------------|---------|-----|-------------|--------|-----|
| 6th August | Aiden | LA2 | 7th August | Luniva | LA7 |
| 7th August | Charbel | LA4 | 11th August | Zeki | LA9 |

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Term 3 Week 2

| Learning Area | Name |
|---------------|---|
| LA1 | Louis - for always being so kind and respectful to your peers. You always listen to others and show consideration to everyone. We are so proud of you! |
| LA2 | Arlo - for being so resilient when writing sentences in our phonics lessons. Even though it is tricky, you give it a go and never give up! You are a successful learner Arlo, well done! |
| LA3 | Viola - for being a courageous learner, and having-a-go and trying new things. Your positivity brightens our classroom and we are very lucky you are a part of LA3. |
| LA4 | Earl - for persisting when counting by 2's - beginning at a whole range of different numbers. You never give up and you check to make sure your numbers are correct. Well Done. |
| LA5 | Elias – for demonstrating persistence in learning. Elias, your consistent effort during literacy lessons has truly paid off. You've shown great determination and it's wonderful to see how your hard work is building your confidence, especially in spelling! |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| LA7 | Costa - congratulations on making significant growth in the areas of Area and Perimeter. You reflected on skills gained and used new learning to solve challenging problems. Keep up the amazing work! |
| LA8 | Sienna, you've shown incredible courage and persistence during the Area & Perimeter unit, and your recent results beautifully demonstrate that progress. This fantastic growth is a direct reflection of the positive attitude you've brought to all your learning. |
| LA9 | Zeki - for being a curious learner. You are always asking questions about your learning and looking for new answers! Well done Zeki, keep it up! |
| LA10 | Noah - for being such a respectful and kind learner! Your inclusive attitude helps create a warm and friendly classroom where everyone feels they belong. Well done! |

Term 3 Week 3

| Learning Area | Name |
|---------------|--|
| LA1 | Johnny - for being a courageous learner during writing and reading. It has been so exciting to see you attempting new learning. You are making incredible progress and you should be so proud! Well done Johnny |
| LA2 | Isabel - for being a curious writer. You have extended your learning by including thoughtful, detailed sentences into your story and having a go at spelling tricky words. Keep it up Isabel! |
| LA3 | Natalie - for being a collaborative learner and sharing your understanding of 2 and 3-dimensional shapes with the whole class. Your use of maths vocabulary helps others to learn and understand new concepts. |
| LA4 | Avantika - for being a reflective learner who has worked hard to understand and explain how to find the difference when solving addition and subtraction problems. You show great thinking and a confident understanding of how numbers work to solve problems accurately. |
| LA5 | Lukas - for being a collaborative learner. Your willingness to help others and your positive attitude make you a fantastic role model in the classroom. Well done Lukas! |
| LA7 | Leonardo - congratulations on demonstrating the disposition of <u>persistence</u> . It was wonderful to see how supportive you were when helping your Prep buddy complete tasks during the Prep's 100 days of school celebrations. |
| LA8 | Orlando, your resilience in catching up on and completing tasks that you missed while overseas is impressive. This has been particularly evident during the Area & Perimeter unit and when finishing your persuasive text. |
| LA9 | Grace - for being a collaborative learner. You are always sharing your expertise with others in the class and helping everyone around you. You should be very proud of yourself! |
| LA10 | Noah - for being a respectful and focused learner. Your dedication to staying attentive, avoiding distractions and creating a welcoming environment for others is truly commendable. Keep up the amazing work! |

Welcome - this week we will welcome new student Will (LA10) to St Mark's. We wish Will and his family every blessing as they begin their time with us.

Our Condolences - We offer our heartfelt condolences to staff member and our Religious Education Leader Dot Mash, and her family on the recent passing of her dear brother Bryan. Please keep Dot and her family in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. May perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

God Bless,
Peter Wilson, Principal

'The St Mark's Catholic Primary School, Fawkner Community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.'



St Mark's Catholic Primary School respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, learn, work and play. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

| TERM 3 | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| AUGUST | | |
| WEEK 3 | | |
| Friday 8 th | Confirmation Retreat Day | |
| Friday 8 th | P/1/2 Excursion to Edendale Community Environment Garden | |
| Friday 8 th | 6.00pm | Celebration of Confirmation @ St Mark's – Bishop Renee Ramirez |
| WEEK 4 | | |
| Tuesday 12 th | Book Fair | |
| Thursday 14 th | ITALIAN DAY CELEBRATIONS | |
| Friday 15 th | 9.00am | Feast of the Assumption – Whole School Mass |
| WEEK 5 | | |
| Monday 18 th | CBCA Book Week "Book an Adventure" | |
| Tuesday 19 th | 7.00pm | Reconciliation Family Night |
| Thursday 21 st | Gr5/6 Hooptime Basketball Tournament | |
| Friday 22 nd | 9.00am | Book Week Parade (Dress up day) |
| WEEK 6 | | |
| Tuesday 26 th | Gr 5/6 Excursion to ACMI | |
| Thursday 28 th | 7.00pm | Online Cyber Safety Session for Parents – details to be advised |
| Friday 29 th | Semper Dental Van @ St Mark's | |
| Friday 29 th | | |
| Friday 29 th | 6.00-7.30pm | St Mark's Family Disco |
| SEPTEMBER | | |
| WEEK 7 | | |
| Monday 1 st | Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS) Open Today | |
| Tuesday 2 nd | SSV Glenroy District Athletics Championships | |
| Wednesday 3 rd | 1 st Reconciliation Retreat Day | |
| Wednesday 3 rd | 7.00pm | Celebration of 1 st Reconciliation at St Mark's |
| Thursday 4 th | | Gr6 @ Penola College Volleyball Competition |
| Friday 5 th | 9.00am | Father's Day Assembly – hosted by Gr 1/2's |
| Friday 5 th | 9.30am | Father's Day Morning Tea |

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|---------------------------|---|---|
| Friday 5 th | 10.00am | Father's Day Classroom Visits |
| WEEK 8 | | |
| Sunday 7 th | HAPPY FATHER'S DAY | |
| WEEK 9 | | |
| Thursday 18 th | 1.00pm | Final day for students – students dismissed at 1.00pm – Aftercare Available |
| Friday 19 th | Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS) Close Today | |
| Friday 19 th | Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning Day– Aftercare Available | |

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

8th August- Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)

On August 8th, our Church celebrates the Feast of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop). Mary was an Australian nun who, in collaboration with Fr Tenison Woods, founded the Sisters of St Joseph. She was declared Australia's first saint by the Catholic Church on 17 October 2010. Mary demonstrated many of the Mercy Values in her life, working with others in demonstrating compassion and service by setting up schools for children from poor families and caring for orphans, young women who were in need of help and protection.



Confirmation Retreat Day

The Year 6 students will gather this Friday for the Confirmation Retreat Day. The day will begin with attending the Parish Mass, followed by learning related to Confirmation.



Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated this Friday 8th August at 6.00pm in St Mark's Church. Our new Auxiliary Bishop Rene Ramirez will confirm eleven of our Year 6 students during the Confirmation Mass. Please keep the children in your prayers, as they make final preparations for this next step in their journey of faith.

The candidates will be presented with their Confirmation Certificates at the School Assembly on Friday 15th August.

Prayer for Confirmation Candidates



*Heavenly Father, God of power and of love.
We pray for the children in our community
who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope and love.
May their hearts welcome you gladly;
May their ears hear your voice in the scriptures;
May their eyes see you in all things;
And may they proclaim your glory
as they walk in the ways of Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Saviour.
Amen.*

Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven- 15th August

We warmly invite you to come and join us at St Mark's Church next Friday 15th August at 9.00am to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. On this day we celebrate Mary's heavenly birthday- the day that she was taken body and soul into heaven.

In the Gospel, we read that Mary responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit by setting out on a mission of charity and service- to visit Zechariah and Elizabeth. Mary's act of service for Elizabeth remains a model for us today, as we meet Christ in our daily lives through our acts of service and charity.

Gospel- Mary Visits Elizabeth (Lk 1:39-56)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.
Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed,
for the Almighty has done great things for me.
Holy is his name,
and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.
He has shown the power of his arm,
he has routed the proud of heart.
He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.
The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.
He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy
– according to the promise he made to our ancestors –
of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

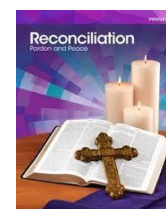
The Gospel of the Lord

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Please keep our Year 3 students in your prayers as they continue preparations for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which is to be celebrated on Wednesday 3rd September at 7.00 p.m. We look forward to meeting the children and their families at the Family Night on Tuesday 19th August at 7.00pm.

Saints Club News! - Putting our Mercy Values of 'Service and Compassion' into action!

Our focus this term is to support the needy people in our local community. We look forward to putting our Mercy Values of 'Service and Compassion' into action, by working in groups each week to cook food for the HOPE Cafe.



Students' snapshots about their cooking experience



In Week 1 for the Saints Club we worked together with the preps and grade 1 and 2 children to bake chocolate-chip, apple cinnamon and apple crumble muffins for the hope cafe.

By Poppy and Anabel



In Week 2 we cooked with the preps and made chocolate-chip, cinnamon and blueberry muffins. It was fun working with the kids in different year levels. In our group were Zoe, Jaylarni, Billy, Maison, Holly, Lyla and Julian. We would like to thank the teachers who helped us make the muffins, which were Mrs. Lancaster and Ms. Mash.

By Jaylarni and Zoe

RE LEADER Dot Mash

Italian Day



Care famiglie,
Our Italian Day on **Thursday 14th August** is just around the corner.

We are looking forward to having a fun filled day with Italian themed activities and a delicious pizza and gelato lunch.

The day will conclude with an interactive performance called "La Favola dell'ingrediente Segreto" which will



include singing and dancing as the students join secret agent Giacomina Bonda on her new adventure as she travels through the world of Fairytales to find mamma.

Students are invited to come dressed in casual clothes with a 'touch of Italy'.

This could be as simple as wearing clothes that have one or more of the Italian colours of verde, bianco e rosso (green, white and red), or even Italian soccer tops etc.

You are warmly invited to come and join us on the day.

Grazie

Signorina Catalano
Italian Teacher

2025 Children's Forum at Merri-bek Civic Centre

On Friday 1st August, a group of Year 5 students attended the Children's Forum at Merri-bek Civic Centre in Coburg. We had a fun-filled day of networking, building our leadership skills and engaging in meaningful leadership activities on how we can make Merri-bek a better place for everyone.

Our first activity was to give feedback about what it is like living and going to school in Merri-bek and what issues we may have. We were able to give our own feedback on things that concern us. Some examples were, getting rid of graffiti, having more dog parks in the area and having more places to play and run around.

Our second activity was how we could make our libraries a better place and what we thought libraries would look like in the future. We want safe places to relax and hang out in, with books and other resources being available for us to use and take home.

Our third activity was about how we can limit our pollution, especially plastics so that the animals in Merri creek can live safely. Animals like platypuses, frogs, echidnas and eels. Dogs jumping into the creek is also dangerous for our wild life and it is not so good for our dogs as well, as they can get sick too from the polluted water.

Our last activity was an art activity. We were asked to draw what we think a great community looked like and how we can all make changes to make our community great places to live.

We were very lucky to have our snacks and lunch catered for and we even got free show bags and photos from a photo booth! We met many different people from different schools which was really nice. Overall it was a great experience.

Written in collaboration by Jaidyn P, Zoe, Alyssa, Adya and Joseph.



Daniela Lazzaro
LA 7 TEACHER

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIRS

Books bring us together!

BOOK FAIR IS HERE!!

Our **St Marks Book Fair** is on next week from **Tuesday 12th August** until **Friday 15th August**. All the books will arrive on Tuesday 12th August. Once we have set up the book cases, the children will be able to have a walk through and fill in their "Wish Lists" which they will then share with you at home.

The children have brought home a flyer with more information about the Book Fair and how you can pre-order books online.

We are also looking for parent helpers to assist with the Book Fair sales. The days and times are Wed, Thurs and Friday, either in the morning (8-9am) or after school (3-4pm). Please let Angela in the office know of your availability.

Thanking you in advance,
Angela & Vicki



Parent Resource

Children out and about in the community



Starting Out Safely

Parents have a vital role in teaching children how to be safe road users. As children's first educators you influence their attitudes and behaviours from the earliest years. This guide provides some advice on how you can do this.

Children learn best in real life situations. Every time you go for a walk, ride a bike with your child or go on a car trip it is an opportunity to explore road safety. There are also health benefits for children to be out and about. Currently the average Australian child spends less than two hours a day outside.

Parents as role models

Children imitate adult behaviours. It is important that you think about what you are teaching your children by how you act as a road user.

Your behavior needs to be consistent with what you are expecting from your child. As the saying goes "Actions speak louder than words".

It's never too early to start teaching children about road safety

The early years are a time when children develop an understanding of their local community and about being active citizens.

Road trauma is a leading cause of death and disabling injury for children in Australia. Road related incidents involving children often occur because children are still developing the skills needed for safe road use. We can all play a role in helping to reduce the incidence of road trauma.



Every time you go for a walk, ride a bike with your child or go on a car trip it is an opportunity to explore road safety



Presented by



EARLY
LEARNING
ASSOCIATION
AUSTRALIA



1

CHILDREN AS PEDESTRIANS

Children have difficulties in judging how fast a vehicle may be travelling and how long it takes to walk from one side of the road to another.

Children are the smallest road users and because of their size, they are at a significant disadvantage in the road environment. Parents can help make children safer pedestrians.

Role model

- ☀ Walk across pedestrian crossings or traffic lights (if available) and avoid crossing the street between cars.
- ☀ Only ever cross when there is a green walk signal.
- ☀ If there is no crossing, choose the safest, clearest and most visible place to cross.
- ☀ Always look both ways before crossing the road.
- ☀ Concentrate at the kerb before crossing (never be on the phone or talking to another adult).
- ☀ Always check for moving cars in driveways.

Talk with children

It is important to have conversations with children about what needs to be done to make sure they are safe as pedestrians. Don't just tell children what to do or not to do. Asking them questions and having conversations with them allows children to think more deeply about what is happening around them.

- ☀ Introduce vocabulary such as 'traffic' and what this includes; cars, buses, bicycles, trucks, etc.
- ☀ Discuss the importance of holding hands to cross the road together.
- ☀ Discuss the speed of the traffic.
- ☀ Discuss the possibility of cars moving when walking past driveways and laneways.
- ☀ Help children understand the different road signs you can see.
- ☀ Discuss the importance of only crossing at traffic lights when there is a green walk signal. Discuss why it is important not to assume that because there is a green walk signal that it is safe to cross. Discuss the importance of drivers being able to see you before crossing the road. Could there be cars coming from around the corner?
- ☀ Look up maps of your area and discuss what is the safest route to where you are going.
- ☀ Print a map of your area and highlight where you have walked.
- ☀ Discuss Stop Look Listen and Think.
- ☀ Stop at the kerb
- ☀ Look both ways
- ☀ Listen for Traffic
- ☀ Think – Decide if it is safe to cross



2

CHILDREN AS CYCLISTS

All cyclists and scooter riders in Victoria and their passengers are required by law to wear bicycle helmets that meet the current Australian Standards when riding in public places such as roads, bicycle paths, recreational parks and car parks.

It is recommended that children wear helmets when using any wheeled toy such as skateboards, rollerblades, roller skates etc.

Role model

- Always obey the road rules while on your bike
- Always wear a correctly fitted helmet (wearing a helmet reduces the risk of head injury by 60-90%).
- If you or your child are not wearing a correctly fitted helmet, you may receive a large fine.
- Only ride on the footpath if you're riding with a child 12 years or under.
- Alert your child to the driveways and laneways.
- Use bicycle paths where possible.
- If the child is a passenger on your bike, ensure the child's seat is correctly fitted.
- Talk with your child about the traffic environment
- Involve your child in deciding whether it is safe to cross – of course you still make the decision.
- Make eye contact with road users – especially at intersections.
- Involve your child in choosing safe places to ride. Use maps to help you decide.



Make sure the bicycle is the right size for your child. A bike that is too big or small can be dangerous.



3

CHILDREN AS PASSENGERS

Child Car Seats

- ☀ Child car seats work in keeping children safe and this is reflected in the law.
- ☀ To provide the best protection for a child in a crash, the child car seat must be the right size for the child, fitted correctly and used correctly.
- ☀ Children do not fit into an adult seatbelt safely until they are approximately 145 cm tall or can pass the 5 step test. This is the average height of a 10 to 12 year old child. There are now booster seats available that will fit an average 12 year old.
- ☀ Children can sustain injuries from adult seatbelts that do not fit them correctly.
- ☀ Research shows that children are safest travelling in the back seat.
- ☀ If the restraint is incorrectly fitted or is the inappropriate size for the child, you may receive a large fine and receive 3 demerit points per infringement.

Role model

- ☀ Children watch everything you do and hear what you say when you are behind the wheel. Remember that children start to form attitudes to driving by watching you. "What kind of driver are you raising?" www.towardszero.vic.gov.au/campaign/parents TAC campaign
- ☀ Ensure there are no distractions when driving, such as mobile phones.
- ☀ Ensure everyone, including all adults have their seat belt fastened correctly before departure.
- ☀ Ensure children learn about the safety door.
- ☀ Discuss with children why it is not OK to distract drivers.



Research shows children should continue travelling in a booster seat until they are at least 145cm tall or can pass the 5 step test. They can then use the adult seatbelt with no booster seat.

The Five Step Test

1



Can the child sit with their back against the vehicle seat?

2



Do the child's knees bend in front of the edge of the seat?

3



Does the sash belt sit across the middle of the shoulder?

4



Is the lap belt sitting low across the hips touching the thighs?

5



Can the child stay seated for the whole trip?

If you answer yes to all these questions your child is ready to move to an adult seat belt for that particular car.

Getting out and about benefits children both physically and mentally. The Australian Government Guidelines recommend children from 2 to 5 years should spend at least 3 hours per day outdoors including running, jumping, walking and cycling. It is so important for us all to get out and about in our local neighbourhood for our health and connection to our community.

Parents play a significant role in teaching children about being safe around our roads as pedestrians and cyclists. Walking and riding are free and fun to do.

For more information go to ELAA's Starting Out Safely website www.childroadsafety.org.au and speak to your child's teacher.

Canteen

Hi Everyone

The Canteen is up and running and ready for lunch orders and over the counter sales. Currently Icy Poles are proving very popular these are available in the lunch time break only.

There have been some minor price increases so please check when ordering if your item has had a price change. The new Canteen list is available online or a copy from the office is available. I am looking forward to serving you all and if you have any queries feel free to see me in the Canteen or leave a message at the office and I will get back to you



ST MARK'S CANTEEN MENU 2025

CANTEEN IS CLOSED ON MONDAYS

HOT FOOD

(available for lunch only)

- Hot dog 4.00
- ½ Hot dog 2.00
- Chicken Burger
 - Lettuce & mayo only ✓ 4.20
 - Plain 3.20
 - Cheese extra 0.50
- Lasagne ✓ 7.00
- Macaroni cheese 7.00
- Pizza ✓ 4.00
 - Margarita
- Sausage Roll - jumbo 3.50
- Party Pies 1.25
- Chicken Breast Nuggets ✓ 1.00 ea
- Vegetarian Fried Rice 6.00

✓ ITEMS TICKED ARE SUITABLE AS AN **EVERYDAY** CHOICE
NO TICK MEANS IT IS SUITABLE AS A **SOMETIMES** CHOICE

• Late Lunch Orders Or Children Without Lunch Will Be Given A Basic Sandwich

SNACKS

- Choc Chip Cookie 1.60
- Gingerbread bear 1.80
- Popcorn - butter 1.40
- JJ Snacks - Chicken 1.40
- Veggie Crackers 1.00
- Red Rock Deli Honey Soy Chips 1.20

SAUCE .30c EXTRA
BBQ or TOMATO

PLEASE NOTE DUE TO HEALTH REGULATIONS,
FOOD BOUGHT FROM HOME IS NOT ALLOWED TO
BE HEATED IN THE CANTEEN!

ICY POLES

Lemonade Icy Pole \$2.00
Tubes (fruit based) \$1.30



Available at Lunch Time
1st and 4th Terms only

LUNCH
BAGS
COST 50c
EXTRA
IF YOU
DON'T
PROVIDE
ONE



DRINKS

- PRIMAS - \$1.80
- Orange
- Tropical
- FLAVOURED MILK - \$2.50 ✓
- Chocolate
- Strawberry

Orders will be adjusted if there's not enough money in the order bag!

ROLLS AND SANDWICHES (including Toasted)

White / Wholemeal

(extras: ham, chicken, mayo, etc. .50c)

SALAD

(cheese, tom, cucumber, carrot, beetroot, lettuce)

Plain Roll

Buttered

Vegemite

Cheese

Cheese and Lettuce

Ham and Cheese Toasted Sandwich



| Sandwich | Roll |
|----------|------|
| 5.50 | 6.50 |
| | 1.00 |
| | 1.20 |
| 2.00 | 2.50 |
| 2.50 | 3.10 |
| 2.80 | 3.40 |
| 3.00 | |

Please use a paper lunch
order bag that is big
enough to hold your child's
lunch.

Please make sure your
child's name and LA is
clearly marked on the lunch
order bag too.



MRS. VICKI SMITH - CANTEEN MANAGER, ON SITE FROM 9.00 A.M. UNTIL 12.20 P.M. TUE - FRI



Where we build friendships through play



St Mark's Playgroup



Tuesday mornings - 9.00-11.00am

118 Argyle Street, Fawkner

Children 0 – 5yo welcome



For details phone 8335 4100 or email: admin@smfawkner.catholic.edu.au

Dear parents,

Welcome to Term 2.

We have begun the term with more fun creative activities.

This week the children made their own special butterfly. They were able to choose the colours they liked and stick them onto their butterfly.

We have new activities every week. Come along and join in the fun.

Everyone is welcome to join on Tuesdays from 9.00am until 11.00am.



Ms Bushra Giliana
Playgroup Co-ordinator

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Where can I find out more?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).

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of children aged 0-6yrs

living in Glenroy,
Fawkner & surrounds



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(Early Learning Vic)

84 Lowson St,
Fawkner



To book a spot
please use the QR code
or contact Michaela
earlylinks@mcm.org.au
0438 849 234

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Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Mercy College past students and staff are invited to join us in celebrating 60 years of Mercy College at our...

High Tea Alumni Reunion

Be part of a celebration that honours our past and looks toward the future. The afternoon will include College tours, student performances and plenty of opportunities to reconnect and create new memories.

Sunday 12 October 2025
2.00pm - 5.00pm

Mercy College, McAuley Hall
760 Sydney Road, Coburg 3058
Enter via Gate 3, Convent Court

RSVP by Friday 3 October 2025 via
<https://events.humanitix.com/mercy60>

For further information, please
contact the College on 03 9319 9299 or
email alumnae@mercycoburg.catholic.edu.au





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CATHOLIC COLLEGE
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Penola Catholic College
invites you to join us for a

**FREE
entry**

Kids Community Afternoon

4pm - 6pm Thursday 11 September

Senior Campus, 29 Gibson St, Broadmeadows

Arts and Crafts, Sporting Activities, Photo
Booth, Prizes, Performances, BBQ and More!

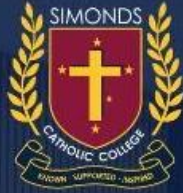
Confirm your attendance

Email: marketing@penola.vic.edu.au

Subject: Your Family Name / School / Number attending



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



YEAR 7 2027
ENROLMENTS OPEN
limited places available at other year levels

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15 AUGUST 2025



Talk & Tour sessions pre-15 August fully booked.
Private Tours available for 2027 Families on 29/7, 31/7, 7/8 & 12/8 at 9:30am & 1:30pm

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Music by **John Du Prez & Eric Idle**

*A new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture
"Monty Python and the Holy Grail"*

From the original screenplay by

Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, Michael Palin

FRI 15 AUG | 7PM Opening Night

SAT 16 AUG | 11:30AM Morning Performance

SAT 16 AUG | 3PM Afternoon Performance

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Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



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KIDS' SOCCER CLASSES RUNNING AT THIS VENUE



ST MARK'S SCHOOL

SATURDAY MORNING CLASSES

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For boys and girls aged 1.5-3 year

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 3-5 year

JUNIOR PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 6-8 year

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your future, your way