



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

Dear Families,

On Wednesday, we paused for Remembrance Day. This was the day, in 1918, when the First World War ended. At 11 o'clock in the morning, the fighting stopped. On this day, we remember those who gave their lives so that we can live in peace. We acknowledge the bravery shown by all involved in past and present wars, their sacrifices, and their hope for peace. Many thanks to Darcy and Leni for leading a service over the speaker at school and well done to Mia, Jazzy and Syd who represented our school with reverence at the memorial held at the Daylesford Cenotaph.



## Swimming

It has been a great start to our swimming program. A big thank you to parents and carers for having names on all items of clothing - this has been a terrific help! Students have displayed terrific organisational skills and we have received many positive comments from the swimming instructors.



# ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

29 Smith St, Daylesford, Vic 3460

Phone: (03) 5348 1261

Excellence, Nurture, Community

Website: [www.smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au)

Email: [admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au)

**Next Tuesday, in addition to bringing their regular swimming materials, students are asked to bring old casual clothes which can be worn into the pool.**



## Student Achievements

Congratulations to Mackenzie Dunne and her dog, Dottie, for winning best dressed at the Ballarat Show last weekend. Mackenzie and Dottie also came first in the puppy dachshund dash!





Congratulations also to Archie Adams who has progressed to the next stage following his efforts at the Primary School Golf Tournament held at Midland's Golf Club last Friday! Well done to all students who participated and thanks to the parents who were able to assist on the day.

### **Reopening of PAM (Web Only)**

The SIMON Development Team has implemented a range of additional security measures in response to the incident, including a full password reset, re-enforcement of Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), and new account lockout provisions. As a result, we are reopening PAM for web access only. The PAM mobile app will remain offline for now and we will provide further updates on this as soon as possible.

### **What's New: Enhanced Security Measures**

There has been a full password reset for all PAM users. When you next log on to PAM, you will need to reset your password by selecting the "Forgot Password" option on the PAM login page to request a new password link be sent to your registered email account.

Further information on how to do this is attached and password guidance is set out below.

### **Password Requirements**

- Password resets are mandatory for all users – as outlined above, users will need to use the "Forgot Password" option on the PAM login screen to request a new password link which will be sent the registered email account.
- Create a password with a minimum of 12 characters.
- Include uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters.
- Reuse of the last two passwords is blocked.
- Common passwords (including username or email) are not permitted.

### **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)**

- MFA is still required for all users accessing PAM via the web.
- A 6-digit authentication code will be sent to the registered email address associated with your account.
- Further instructions for utilising MFA are attached.

### **Account Lockout Policies**

- After three (3) consecutive failed login attempts, accounts will be locked for five (5) minutes. All such events will be logged and monitored.
- After 10 consecutive failed MFA attempts, accounts will be locked and will require school assistance to unlock.



## Additional Monitoring

The SIMON platform is actively monitored for unusual account lockout patterns, with alerts sent to our security team for prompt action.

## Next Steps

- If you experience any difficulties, please contact: [admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au). We thank you for your patience and support as we have worked with the SIMON Schools team to reinstate access to PAM.

## Dates

Please take note of the following dates for this term:

(New events are highlighted in yellow)

### Week 7

Sunday November 16: Sacrament of Eucharist Dismissal #3: St. Peter's Church beginning 10:30am

Monday November 17: Swimming

Tuesday November 18: Swimming (students to bring old casual clothes)

Wednesday November 19: Swimming (no lunch orders)

Friday: Playgroup in the Presentation Centre: 10am-11am

### Week 8

Sunday November 23: Sacrament of Eucharist at St. Peter's Church beginning 10:30am

Tuesday November 25: 2026 Foundation Morning #2

Friday November 28: Innovation 2 Assembly in the Presentation Centre at 9:05am,

Playgroup in the Presentation Centre: 10am-11am and **Advent Liturgy 1 in the Presentation Centre: 2:40pm-3pm**

### Week 9

Monday December 1: **Mini Vinnies choir visit to Hepburn House (12pm-1pm)**

Tuesday December 2: Going Up Day (9am-11am) all families are invited to gather for morning tea in the Presentation Centre during this time

Wednesday December 3: Final lunch orders for the year

Friday December 5: Playgroup in the Presentation Centre: 10am-11am, **Advent Liturgy 2 in the Presentation Centre: 2:40pm-3pm and School Disco in the Presentation Centre: 3:30pm-5:30pm**





## **Week 10**

Tuesday December 9: Daylesford Secondary College Transition Day

Thursday December 11: Year 6 Graduation

Friday December 12: Discovery 1 Assembly in the Presentation Centre at 9:05am, Playgroup in the Presentation Centre: 10am-11am and **Advent Liturgy 3 in the Presentation Centre: 2:40pm-3pm**

## **Week 11**

Monday December 15: Year 6 Fun Day

Wednesday December 17: Final day for students, end of Year Mass (9:30am-10:30am), and Awards (10:30am-11am) at St. Peter's Church, whole school picnic at Jubilee Lake (11:30am-1:30pm) and reports home

Thursday December 18: Final day for staff

## **School Closure Dates - 2026**

Our closure dates for 2026 are as follows (public holidays have not been included):

- Wednesday January 28 - First day of school for students in Years 1-6
- Thursday January 29 - First day of school for students in Foundation
- Thursday March 19 Collaboration Day 1 - Positive Partnerships (St. James, OLHC, St Mary's and St. Michael's)
- Friday March 20 - Collaboration Day 2 - Positive Partnerships
- Thursday May 14 - Staff RE Retreat - Laudato Si with Sarah Page
- Friday May 15 - Staff RE Retreat - Laudato Si with Sarah Page
- Friday September 18 - ReLATE closure day
- Monday November 2 - Curriculum Day
- Thursday December 17 - Final day for all students

## **Camp - save the date**

Our 2026 camp for Years 3-6 students will be taking place at Sovereign Hill from Wednesday February 25 - Friday February 27.

## **End of year awards (at our Final Assembly)**

This year we will again be presenting awards for the following:



*\*Catherine King Award for Community Service - parent/staff member*

*\*Student homeroom award - 1 x high effort, 1 x class spirit and 1 x high achievement, for each learning team.*

The following 4 awards are open to all senior students at St Michael's. They are presented by 4 community groups and are symbolic of the qualities of excellence, *nurture and community*. We use *nurture, excellence and community* in all that we do at school to help keep us grounded in our vision and mission.

*\*1. St. Peter's Parish Award (Nurture)*

*Nurture:* we recognise the recipient of this award as someone who is faith inspired to think of and care for others, as well as our environment. This person is humble and inclusive. This person promotes Gospel values in the relationships they form, and seek to promote justice and peace. This person supports both the school and parish community through their participation and service.

*\*2. RSL Award (Excellence)*

*Excellence:* we recognise the recipient of this award as someone who strives for excellence in their efforts and application. This person is self motivated and well organized. This person seeks resources to assist in fulfilling their objective and go about their efforts with authenticity and integrity. This person's efforts are driven by high standards they set themselves and a genuine endeavor to improve. This person sees setbacks and failure as both temporary, and integral, to achieving excellence.

*\*3. Stephen Haintz and David Baxter Award (Community):* We recognise the recipient of this award/s as someone who takes great pride in being a member of the St. Michael's School community. This person may reach out to others on a regular basis, take pride in their uniform and display care for our school grounds. This person may also volunteer their time to assist at special school events held throughout the year.

*\*4 Rotary Award (Community)*

*Community:* we recognise the recipient of this award/s as someone who fosters positive and respectful relationships amongst all members of the school community. This person enhances our school community through their enthusiasm and positivity, consistently active in the life of the school. This person takes great pride in their own learning and is eager to support other learners as well. This person greatly respects our physical spaces, including our natural environment, and makes a conscious effort to ensure these are well presented and cared for.



## **LEARNING & TEACHING**

### **Reports**

Teachers are currently in the process of gathering evidence which will be used to formulate Semester Two reports. I commend the teachers for the detailed and thorough process they are each going through in order to produce accurate assessments of each student's learning progress over the course of the semester. Reports will be made available on the final day of school for students - Wednesday December 17.

## **WELLBEING**

### **CPR**

Yesterday we welcomed Katie Burt from Pulse CPR to our school. Katie worked with all staff on updating our CPR training. We are extremely fortunate to be able to work with someone as passionate and knowledgeable as Kaitie!



### **Helping Families Prepare for the New Social Media Age Restrictions**

The Australian Government is introducing new age restrictions for social media, meaning young people under 16 years old will no longer be able to create or maintain accounts on



most major platforms, including TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, X (Twitter), and YouTube.

These changes are designed to make online spaces safer and more age-appropriate for children and teenagers. The goal is to give young people time to develop the digital literacy, emotional resilience, and social skills they need before engaging in social media use.

### What This Means for Families

For many families, this shift may feel significant. Social media has become a common way for young people to connect with friends, follow interests, and express themselves creatively. The upcoming restrictions may mean young people lose access to some of the platforms they currently use daily.

The eSafety Commissioner encourages families to start preparing now. Their 8-Step Action Plan for Under-16s offers a helpful guide for supporting children through this change. It suggests families:

- Check which apps your child currently uses and note which will become age-restricted.
- Make a list of friends, family, and groups your child wants to stay connected with, and think about other ways to do this.
- Explore new ways to follow creators, learn, and socialise through age-appropriate platforms.
- Back up photos, videos, and messages your child wants to keep.
- Start reducing social media use gradually to avoid a sudden change.
- Keep communication open about how your child is feeling and any challenges they face.

### How Parents Can Support Their Children

Parents play a crucial role in helping young people navigate this transition. The eSafety Commissioner's website offers a dedicated section for parents at [esafety.gov.au/parents](https://esafety.gov.au/parents). This page includes step-by-step guidance, practical tips, and resources to help families manage online safety and digital wellbeing at home.

The eSafety site also has a section written specifically for young people, with advice on staying connected, protecting their privacy, and coping with change.

Families can also access free **eSafety webinars**, designed to help parents and carers understand current online risks, learn how to set up parental controls, and explore ways to foster positive online habits. These webinars are a valuable opportunity to hear from experts and ask questions in a supportive environment.





## Where to Find Help

If your child experiences something distressing online — whether or not they're using a restricted platform — they can still report it and seek support through eSafety's **I Need Help** page. Services like **Kids Helpline (1800 55 1800)** are also available 24 hours a day for young people aged 5 to 25.

For more details, resources, and the full action plan, visit the [eSafety Commissioner's website](#) and explore their pages for both parents and young people. Starting these conversations early can help families navigate the transition smoothly and confidently.

## **CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

### **Sacramental program**

We wish Makyskym, Belle, Hudson, Mackenzie and Tristan all the best as they continue their preparations to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist. Please see dates below:

### **Sunday November 16 - Dismissal #3 (St. Peter's Church @ 10:30am)**

The Sacrament of Eucharist will be celebrated on **Sunday November 23 (St. Peter's Church @ 10:30am)**.

### **Mini Vinnies**

A large number of Mini Vinnies students have been working with St. Peter's Parishioners Millie and Jude as we work towards preparing a concert we can share with the residents of Hepburn House. The Mini Vinnies will also be organising a school disco which will be held on Friday December 5 from 3:30pm-5:30pm. More details to follow.



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## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**November 7**

Congratulations to Myla, Leni and Vernisia who arranged a successful fundraising event for MND Australia last Friday. Almost \$250 was raised!



**Next Friday November 21**, Syd and Beckett will be raising funds for the Hepburn Wildlife Shelter. This will be the final Little Feet Big Footprints fundraiser of the year. Again, thank you for your generous support of these worthwhile initiatives.

### **Caring for Our Wildlife**



Support our students as they raise funds for the incredible work of **Hepburn Wildlife Shelter**.

**What's on offer:**

- Cookies — \$1
- Cupcakes — \$2
- Lollie bags — \$1
- Ping Pong Toss — \$1 for 5 throws

**Date:** 21st November

**Time:** Lunchtime

**Location:** Undercover area at St Michael's Primary School

Thank you for helping care for our local wildlife.



## **Playgroup**

Our playgroup will continue each Friday morning (10am-11am) in our Presentation Centre. All families with preschool aged children are most welcome to attend.

## **Christmas raffle**

The Community Team are once again supporting local businesses by purchasing vouchers which will be the prizes for our Christmas raffle at our Awards Assembly on Wednesday December 17. All school families will be entered into our raffle.

## **Hamper for St Vinnies**

As in previous years, St Vinnies have asked us to contribute to their hampers for those less fortunate in our community. We are more than happy to help collect non-perishable items and spread some joy and cheer for those who are doing it especially tough at the moment. We look forward to presenting this hamper at our end of year Mass to be held at St. Peter's Church on Wednesday December 17. If you are able to donate any items to go towards our hamper, please bring them to the office. Thanks in anticipation of your support.

## **Glenlyon**

We now turn our attention to our next big fundraising event - catering for the Glenlyon Sports Day being held on New Year's Day! Please keep an eye open for sign up sheets in our school foyer.

## **LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT**

### **2025 School fees**

Many thanks to the families who have paid any outstanding school fees for 2025. We ask that all families who are yet to pay their school fees for this year to **finalise payment by October 24**. Our NAB account details are **Account Name: St Michaels General BSB 083 004 Account No 711437401**. Please make contact with the school should you have any queries.

### **2026 School fees**

#### **Family Tuition Fee**

This fee is charged on a family basis. In 2026 it will be **\$1100 per year**. This may be payable in weekly, fortnightly or quarterly instalments via direct debit.

Funds from the Family Tuition Fee provide the bulk of our local contribution towards the cost of the day to day operation of the school.

The State and Commonwealth Governments also provide funds for this purpose.



## **Family Capital Fee**

This fee is charged on a family basis and is **\$ 290 per family**.

Funds from the Family Capital Fee assist in meeting the building and grounds improvements and maintenance. This fee is payable in the same way as the Family Tuition Fee.

## **Technology Fee**

This fee is charged on a per student basis and is **\$100**

Funds from the Technology Fee go towards the purchase of notebooks, hardware, software, licences and maintenance of these items.

## **Swimming Fee**

This fee is charged on a per student basis and is **\$90**

## **Student Fee**

This fee is charged on a per student basis and is **\$260**.

Funds from the Student Fee go towards the cost of student requisites for class and school programs throughout the year.

**This fee is due for payment by Friday February 20, 2026**

## **Camp Fee** (students in Years 3-6): **\$300**

Students Commencing Year 3 in 2026 will receive a Chromebook computer (**cost to be advised**)

## **2026**

To assist with our planning for 2026, for any families that won't be returning to St. Michael's next year, we ask that you let us know as soon as possible. Thanks in anticipation.

Enjoy your weekend!

Kind regards,

Tim