



ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Excellence, Nurture, Community

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Friday June 26th 2026

Prayer for the End of the School Term

Loving God,

As we come to the end of this school term, we pause to give You thanks for the many blessings You have given us. Thank You for the learning we have shared, the friendships we have strengthened, the challenges we have overcome, and the moments of joy and laughter that have filled our classrooms and playgrounds.

We thank You for our teachers, learning support staff, office staff, leadership team, volunteers, and families who work together each day to nurture and care for our students. Bless them for their dedication, patience, and generosity.

As we begin our holiday break, grant us rest and renewal. Help us to enjoy time with our families and friends, to appreciate the beauty of Your creation, and to return refreshed and ready for a new term.

Keep everyone in our school community safe in their travels and daily activities. Watch over those who may be unwell, lonely, or facing difficulties, and surround them with Your peace and comfort.

May we continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, carrying Your light wherever we go.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dear Families,

Last Friday, we enjoyed a successful talent show and school disco. Congratulations to all students who attended the night and participated with terrific enthusiasm! A big thank you to the students and staff who organised and coordinated the event with a special mention to Frankie, Archie and Maksym who were our MCs and DJs. Thanks also to Brett Doig for providing our sound and lighting, Joe Pastore for cooking the bbq and Pip Pearce who assisted with our catering.



Damascus College

Last week we welcomed Stephen Misfud - Principal of Damascus College, to our school. During his visit, Stephen was very complimentary about the level of engagement he noticed regarding the learning and teaching on display at St. Michael's. Attached to the newsletter you will find information regarding scholarship opportunities at Damascus. Students in Year 5 will participate in a SEED visit to Damascus College, Loreto College and/or St. Patrick's College, next term.



Echoes of Courage

On Tuesday November 10, an 'Echoes of Courage' event will be taking place at Daylesford Town Hall. All St. Michael's students will be involved in producing art work with a focus on Remembrance Day. We are looking for some additional students who might feel confident enough to share their individual talents to commemorate this event. This could be playing a musical instrument, reciting poetry, performing a play etc. If your child would like to be involved, please email: thogan@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au

As this will be our final newsletter for the term, I would like to thank parents, carers and staff for working hard to ensure a successful term of social, spiritual and academic growth has been achieved for our students. I hope that families have the opportunity to rest over the upcoming break and we look forward to welcoming students back to school next term.

School Closure Days

A reminder of our final school closure days for the year:

Friday September 18th

Monday November 2nd

Please note that **Thursday December 17** will be the final day of the year for students.

St Michaels 5 Certificates

The St. Michael's 5 are a set of expectations that we follow here at St. Michael's to make sure everyone feels safe, welcome, respected and are ready to learn.

Our 5 are:

1. Use kind words, voices and actions.
2. Keep our hands, feet and objects to ourselves.
3. Take pride in our appearance and the appearance of our school environment.
4. Follow classroom and school routines.
5. Look after ourselves, others and all equipment.

Starting today and continuing next term, 4 or 5 students will be nominated by their teachers or peers to receive an award for demonstrating St. Michael's 5.

The St. Michael's 5 award winners will get to choose a prize from a Lucky Dip jar. The teachers are currently organising this so the prizes will be given out next term.

Congratulations to our first 5 winners -

**Joel Ware - Look after ourselves, others and all equipment.
For always being willing to help others, and is always showing nurture to others who need help in the Innovation 1 classroom.**

**Archie Pearce - Use kind words, voices and actions.
For consistently treating others with kindness and readily offering assistance to students at recess and lunch.**

**Emmett McColl - Look after ourselves, others and all equipment.
For demonstrating kindness and courtesy toward an injured peer during a sporting game.**

**Mia O'Keefe - Follow classroom and school routines.
For consistently being well-organised with her time and resources, and always being ready to learn and engaging enthusiastically in all sessions.**

**Max Richards - Take pride in our appearance and the appearance of our school environment.
For offering assistance to clean up in the Discovery classroom, showing an understanding that these young children accidentally make a mess when eating lunch orders.**



Key Dates for Term 3

Week 1

Monday July 13: Term 1 commences for students and staff

Wednesday July 15: No lunch orders

Week 2

Wednesday July 22: SAC Meeting (5:30pm-6:30pm)

Friday July 24: Innovation 1 Assembly and National Tree Planting Day (Years 4-6 excursion to Glenlyon)

Week 3

Monday July 27-Wednesday July 29: Dental Van

Tuesday July 28: Student Led Conferences

Wednesday July 29: Student Led Conferences

Thursday July 30: Sacred Heart Kyneton School Band visit (whole school performance)

Week 4

Monday August 3: PSGs Day 1

Tuesday August 4: PSGs Day 2

Friday August 7: Connection Assembly

Week 5

Monday August 10: Book Fair begins

Thursday August 13: Daylesford Secondary College Transition Day for Year 6 students

Week 6

Friday August 21: Discovery 2 Assembly

Week 7

Monday August 24: Book Week begins and Year 5 SEED visit to Damascus College (tbc)

Wednesday August 26: Year 5 SEED visits to Loreto and St. Patrick's College and SAC meeting (5:30pm-6:30pm)

Friday August 28: Book Week Parade (9:05am in the Presentation Centre)

Week 8

Monday August 31: Excursion to Parliament House for students in Years 4-6

Friday September 4: Discovery 1 Assembly

Week 9

Wednesday September 9: No lunch orders and whole school concert practice at the Daylesford Town Hall

Thursday September 10: School Concert at the Daylesford Town Hall (more details to follow)

Week 10

Tuesday September 15: Winter Sports Day for students in Years 3-6

Wednesday September 16: No lunch orders

Thursday September 17: Final day of term for students (3:15pm finish)

Friday September 18: School Closure Day (staff PD)

LEARNING & TEACHING

End of Semester Reports

School reports can be accessed via PAM from today. Reports are provided twice yearly to indicate student achievement and growth. They are one mechanism we use to communicate this with parents. We also have formal student-parent-teacher conversations twice a year, along with the informal communication that can happen anytime between home and school. I commend the teachers for taking the time to ensure that detailed and evidence based reports have been written for each student.

We are also using Simon as a tool to communicate with parents, student achievement and growth. Simon allows us to provide 'real time' progress. Please continue to look at your child's PAM account (learning areas) to see these reporting posts throughout the year.

These posts show real time learning and growth of the students, and will give parents and carers an example of where your child is at in specific learning areas.

We hope that the use of Simon (real time), Reports (twice yearly) and student-parent-teacher conversations all combine to provide open and transparent communication.

Student led conversations

Next term, Term 3, we will be holding 3 way chats here at school. Bookings for these conferences will be available on PAM (towards the end of the holidays). These are an important opportunity for student, parent/carer and teacher to come together to discuss the learning of the child. A student led conversation is just that. The student will initiate the conversation by talking about their learning and growth and using work samples as evidence of their progress. As we encourage the students to take ownership of their learning, leading this conversation is an important symbolic representation of this ownership. The teacher may provide prompts and/or clarification and support during this time and the parent/carer similarly, providing affirmation, challenge and support. These conversations do not generally focus on the mid-year report. Should parents/carers wish to discuss the mid-year report, we encourage and invite you to contact your child's teacher directly.

WELLBEING

School TV

Missed the recent SchoolTV webinar?

A recording is now available to replay until **Monday 3 August**.

Click below to watch:

Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience (Part II)

Please view the information attached to this newsletter to help support conversations at home.

The final part of this Webinar Series will be available next term. Further details will be shared as they become available.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SAC

The School Advisory Council plays an important role in the life of the school. For more information about our SAC members and their experiences being a part of the SAC, please view our noticeboard in the school foyer.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Mini Vinnies

‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat....I was a stranger and you invited me in.’ Matthew 25:35.

We recently welcomed Tayla from the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Tayla spoke to students in Years 3-6 about the many ways in which our ‘Mini Vinnies’ group can continue to make meaningful contributions within the community. We also heard terrific insights from long standing volunteers Ian and Trish Tinetti. We are now looking for any students in Years 3-6 who would like to be a part of our Mini Vinnies group for 2026. There will be opportunities for interested students to meet early next term and consider some worthwhile undertakings over the remainder of the year.



Target 1000 Project - Bread Tags

Students at St. Mary's Primary School, Clarke's Hill are collecting bread tags so that they can save them from going to landfill. They hope to collect 1000 bread tags! Part of this project is to help our environment, and part is to help understand the Place Value number system.

Please assist by sending bread tags into St Michael's Daylesford. We will be sending them over to St Mary's.

Bread tags are the small plastic clips used to seal bread bags. Because of their size and material (polystyrene), they can't be recycled through standard curb side systems and often end up in landfills. Plastic bread tags are collected through the **Banish Recycling and Diversion (BRAD) Program**, one of Australia's largest community recycling initiatives. Thousands of Australians send us their hard-to-recycle plastics each month.

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Uniform

There is now an expectation that the correct winter uniform is worn until the end of Term 3.

Sport/PE days: students may wear either tracksuit pants or shorts, and runners.

All other days: students must be in full correct winter uniform - NO shorts, and NO runners.

A note must be provided to your child's teacher in the instance where this cannot be adhered to. Thank you for your support with this.

School fees

Those families who have a health care card are eligible for family fee assistance and the camp/school excursion fund. If you have a health care card please supply the office with a copy for our records so that we can adjust statements as required.

Our fee payment preferred method is direct debit. Forms are available from the office to set up a payment plan, with a frequency and amount of your choosing. We also have an EFTPOS machine at school where they can be paid by card.

2027 enrolments

If you have a child or know someone that is interested in enrolling at St Michael's for 2027, could you please contact Leah (admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au or ph 5348 1261) and she will organise an enrolment for you to complete.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday July 13!

Tim

Toonworld Sessions

Animation workshop

Discover the exciting world of stop motion animation and experience the magic of film production.

 **Monday 29 June**
📍 Creswick Hub, 2-3:30 pm

Creaturetoons

Toonworld's new hands-on model making workshop 'Creaturetoons' children can create a dinosaur or mythical creatures.

 **Tuesday 30 June**
📍 Daylesford Library, 1:30-3 pm

These events are free and accessible, get in touch to discuss.

Bookings essential. Scan the QR code to book or email library@hepburn.vic.gov.au



Hepburn
SHIRE COUNCIL



Grade 5 Parents - Act Now!

Enrolments for Year 7, 2028 close on 24 July, 2026 (students currently in Grade 5).

Explore the possibilities for your child - visit the enrolment page of our website to learn more about College life, to book a tour, or begin your online application. For further enrolment information please contact College Registrar, Rowena Rokesky-Alder.



SACRED HEART COLLEGE KYNETON

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EVERY QUESTION LEAVES A MARK



What makes you curious?

Help create a temporary public artwork w/ Radical Fields as part of Words in Winter.

Join us as we explore curiosity in the heart of Daylesford.

16-17 July
3-5pm daily

@ That Bargain Place
68 Vincent Street, Daylesford



Words in winter

**THAT
BARGAIN
PLACE**