



ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Excellence, Nurture, Community

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Friday May 29th 2026

Prayer for National Reconciliation Week

Loving God,

We give thanks for the rich cultures, stories, and traditions of the First Nations Peoples of Australia.
Help us to walk together with respect, understanding, and compassion.

During National Reconciliation Week,
teach us to listen deeply,
to learn from one another,
and to work for justice, healing, and peace.

May our school community be a place
where every person is valued,
where kindness guides our actions,
and where reconciliation grows through truth and friendship.
Give us courage to care for each other and for this land we share.
May we always walk together in hope.
Amen.

Dear Families,

This week acknowledged Reconciliation Week. It is an important time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Many thanks to the Year 6 students who led morning prayer on Tuesday for National Sorry Day.

PAM Accounts

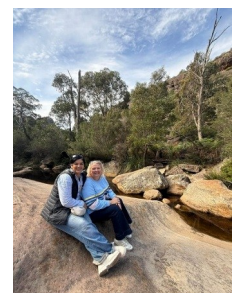
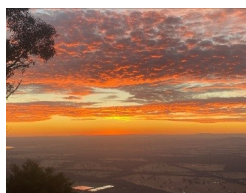
Our school has 120 active PAM accounts, however, only 21 accounts have downloaded the Simon Everywhere App. The Simon Everywhere App allows push notifications to be sent straight to your phone. Please download the app today!



Staff Retreat

On May 14-15, St. Michael's staff participated in a retreat held in Halls Gap. The focus over the 2 days was: *Building Paths of Peace, Planting Seeds of Hope. Inspired by the Laudato Si action goals, we were extremely fortunate to be led by Sarah Page (Social Justice Education Officer) who shared her knowledge and passion of God's creation with us. A key takeaway was the interconnectedness of all life and our responsibility to care for our common home. It was a unique opportunity to grow together in knowledge and wisdom, having our hearts opened, our spirits refreshed and our feet ready for the path ahead. A special thank you to Sarah Mooney for her wonderful organisation of this event.*

Thanks also to Liv Jurcan who generously donated some delicious Istra bacon to keep our energy levels up over the 2 days!



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 by 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

Learning Support Staff

World Education Support Personnel Day was held on May 16. At St. Michael's, we acknowledge and celebrate the incredible contribution of our Learning Support Officers. Their dedication, patience, and compassion play a vital role in the daily life of our school community.

Helen, Kim, Caitie, Juliette, and Laura work tirelessly alongside teachers and students, providing encouragement, guidance, and individualised support that helps every learner feel valued, included, and capable of success. Whether assisting in the classroom, supporting student wellbeing, or helping students build confidence and independence, their impact is felt in countless ways each day.

Welcome

We welcome Danielle Kirk as a new Learning Support Officer to St. Michael's! Danni will be working with us on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

Farewell and Thankyou

We say farewell and thank you to Cruz Baldovino (SEDA student) who has assisted with our Thursday PE sessions over the past 10 weeks. During this time, Cruz displayed great initiative and worked enthusiastically with all students from Foundation - Year 6. We thank Cruz for his efforts and wish him well for the future.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mila O'Halloran who won the Regional Cross Country event for her age group this week! Mila will now compete in the State Championships and we wish her all the very best.



Slippers and a change of clothes

With the colder months now upon us and with the view of keeping our school buildings in great condition, we are inviting all students to bring a pair of slippers to school. When entering the school building after playing outside, students would take off their school shoes and change into their slippers.

In addition, students who use the oval to play football or soccer at recess and lunch need to bring an old jumper and pair of pants they can put on over the top of their school uniform which they can easily take off when coming back into classrooms.

Goldfields Athletics

Years 3-6 students participated in yesterday's athletics event held at Llanberris. It was wonderful to see the students aiming to achieve their personal best, cheering each other on and celebrating the success of others. A big thank you to the staff and families who supported the students so well over the course of the day.



Soccer at Morshead Park

Well done to Manny, Kim, Lee Stevens and the 16 students who represented St. Michael's at the Primary School soccer tournament held at Morshead Park today.



Raising a concern

In many cases, a concern can be addressed through communication early in the process. **It is important that all concerns are raised in a manner which is in keeping with our Parents/Guardians/Carers Code of Conduct:** <https://www.smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au/policies>

Parents/caregivers or students should make an appointment to discuss the concern with the student's class teacher. **The best way to do this is to contact the school office or to send an email to the staff member to arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone call or meeting.**

- The classroom teacher may be able to resolve the concern or may ask another staff member to assist.
- If the parent/caregiver or student does not feel that this approach has addressed the concern they may wish to raise a complaint with a senior member of staff or the Principal.
- Formal complaints should be lodged with the Principal.

Key Dates for Term 2

Week 7

Monday June 1: PSGs Day 1

Tuesday June 2: PSGs Day 2

Wednesday June 3: Daylesford Secondary Transition Day for Years 5 & 6 students

Week 8

Monday June 8: King's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday June 12: Discovery 1 Assembly (9:05am)

Week 9

Wednesday June 17: Mini Vinnies Presentation for students in Years 3-6 (9am-10am)

Friday June 19: St. Michael's has got Talent (3:30pm-5:30pm in the Presentation Centre)

Week 10

Friday June 26: Innovation 2 Assembly (9:05am), reports home and final day of term (2:15pm finish)

School Closure Days

A reminder of our 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.

LEARNING & TEACHING

National Simultaneous Storytime

On Wednesday this week, students from Foundation - Year 6 heard the story of *Lunaroo the Kangaroo Baller* as we joined with thousands of students across Australia for National Simultaneous Storytime. Many thanks to Breanna Millard for organising this initiative for our school.



SRC

The SRC is an important leadership group within our school that allows students to represent the voice of their peers, contribute ideas to improve school life, and help organise and support school initiatives and events. This morning we announced new SRC members from Years 1-5, who will join with our existing Year 6 SRC members.

Student voice and agency are highly valued at St. Michael's, as they empower students to actively contribute to their learning environment and school community. Providing students with opportunities to share their ideas, perspectives, and experiences helps build confidence, leadership skills, responsibility, and a sense of belonging. Through the SRC, students learn that their opinions matter and that they can make a positive difference within our school.



Reports

This term teachers have been planning and assessing in preparation for report writing. As per School Policy, your child will receive a report twice a year - one for Semester One and another for Semester Two. Closer to the end of the term, we will provide information on reading and understanding your child's report. This is always a celebration of your child's learning and allows the children to set goals for the second half of the school year.

WELLBEING

School TV

School TV is an award winning resource which helps to support the mental health and well being of young people. You will find short videos and articles on cybersafety, discussing conflict, resilience, respectful relationships, friendship and belonging to name a few. For more information, click on the following link:

<https://smdaylesford.catholic.schooltv.me>

Food at School

If needed, should a student require lunch at school, we are always happy to help out. If your child has received lunch, you will receive a notification via PAM to make you aware this has occurred.

Student dismissal at 3:15pm

We are conscious that students are very keen to be reunited with loved ones at the end of each school day. However, it is important that students do not run from the side gate towards the road. We ask that parents and carers make themselves visible to their children by waiting in the courtyard area at the front of the school. Students will be reminded about the importance of the teacher on duty acknowledging their parent or carer is waiting for them at which point they can exit safely and slowly via the side gate. Thank you in anticipation of your support in ensuring students are safely collected from school.

Toys/collector cards at school

Our goal is to provide a learning environment where every child can stay focused, feel safe, and enjoy their school day. To support this, we ask that all personal toys and trading cards are given to each child's respective classroom teacher for safe keeping. If children are bringing a ball to school, we ask that their name is on it.

Students are permitted to bring trading cards to school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday where they will have an opportunity to show their cards/trade with others in the Library from 1:55pm-2:15pm. **Cards are to remain in school bags at all other times.**

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us maintain a positive and productive school atmosphere!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Walk Safely to School Day

It was wonderful to see so many students join us last Friday for Walk Safely to School Day. Many thanks to Claire Allen who organised this event for our school.



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.

Playgroup

Our Playgroup sessions will continue this term on the following dates:

June 4, June 11 and June 18

Sessions will be held in the Presentation Centre from 9:30am-11:30am and will be run by Central Highlands Rural Health Playgroup.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Sacramental program

Congratulations Hope Hardwick and Vaughn Buby who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Peter's Church last Sunday.



Catholic Education Week (May 25–29)

The theme for this year was "Peace be with you all". We focus on bringing hope, compassion, and understanding to communities, reflecting a message of peace and divine love.

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.

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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 will be active in the kindergarten communities this year and will be keen to say hi to these children when we drop in.

Have a great weekend!

Tim



A FREE WEBINAR

Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience

PART 2

Supporting Primary & Secondary students

This webinar is **Part II** of a series.

In this session, topics include:

- Staying Calm and Connected
- Building Daily Routines
- Meeting the Needs of Neurodivergent Learners



Online, Wednesday
10 June, 2026
7.30 pm



Dr Emma Woodward

Emma is recognised for her work as a child psychologist and TEDx speaker, keynote presenter, trainer and facilitator. She is also a regular SchoolTV presenter.



Dr Joe Stammeijer

A specialist in forensic psychiatry and a lecturer in medical education focusing on innovative practice and professional leadership. Joe is also a contributor to SchoolTV.

Don't miss out.
FREE event.
Scan to register.



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



REGISTER
FOR A
TOUR!

KINDERGARTEN
2027

Tour & Information sessions for new families for 3yr-old & 4yr-old kindergarten in 2027



WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE

| 3:45 - 4:45 PM |

Scan the QR Code to register your attendance



ENROL NOW
for kinder in
2027

Visit
ecka.org.au

Hepburn Kindergarten
is a member of



Get your diary,
save the date

FOR THE
2026

ST MICHAEL'S FETE!



Sunday November 8

The biannual Fete and major school fundraiser will
be held on Sunday the 8th of November 2026.

The fete is a fabulous way for us to work together
as a community and showcase our school.



Many hands make light work,
we kindly ask all families
to get involved



If you would like to be a part of the
Fete Working Group

we would love to have you!



fete@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au

WHAT DOES THE FETE INVOLVE?



As we prepare for the Fete here are some ideas of what has been included in the Fete previously.

Trash & Treasure
Spinning Wheel
Rides
Plant Stall
Silent Auction
Live Entertainment
Face Painting
Carnival Food
BBQ
Craft Activities
Novelty Toys
Live Auction
Dunk Tank
Second Hand Clothing Stall
Second Hand Book Stall
Cake Stall

Do you have any additional ideas or skills that can help?

We are looking for people from our amazing community to assist in making the day a great success.

Are you interested in joining the Fete Working Group?

Do you have a flare for design?

Can you coordinate a stall or activity?

Are you happy to run odd jobs?

Throughout the year we will be looking for the assistance of all families, in some way, shape or form. Please get involved early!

PLEASE CONTACT

FETE@SMDAYLESFORD.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

Put November 8 in your calendar!!