



# ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Excellence, Nurture, Community

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Friday October 31st 2025

Dear Families,

Today we join schools around the world in celebrating World Teachers' Day — a special time to recognize the incredible work our teachers do every single day.

At St. Michael's, our teachers work hard to inspire curiosity, encourage creativity, and help students discover their unique strengths. Their patience, care, and dedication make our school a place where everyone can learn, grow, and succeed.

We thank our amazing teachers for all they do to make a difference in the lives of our students. Happy World Teachers' Day to our wonderful teachers!



## Simon/PAM

On Friday 24 October, the SIMON service, including access to the Parent Access Module (PAM) and SIMONEverywhere mobile application were taken offline after some unusual login attempts were detected. This involved the unauthorised use of student and staff user credentials to create fake accounts.

St. Michael's and SIMONSchools take cyber security very seriously. External experts have been engaged to help ensure we take all appropriate action in response to this activity.

From our investigation to date, we do **not** have any evidence to suggest that any user information held on the platform has been affected, or that any other systems are involved. Should this position change, we will notify relevant parties as required.

Students will be able to access SIMON whilst logged in on-campus, however we will be keeping SIMONEverywhere and the Parent Access Module (PAM) offline until further notice. This precaution is being taken to ensure the safety and security of all users while we work to further understand this unusual activity and resolve the situation.

If you need to log a student absence during this period, update important medical information or provide consent for an excursion, please contact our school directly via [admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@smdaylesford.catholic.edu.au) or (03) 5348 1261.

We understand this may cause some inconvenience and appreciate your patience and support as we work to restore full service.

We will be in touch with a further update regarding access to PAM and SIMON Everywhere as soon as we can. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

### **Golf**

All the very best to Mason, Jack, Archie, Jesse, Alex, Vernisia and Myla who will be representing our school at the Primary School Golf Tournament being held at Midlands Golf Club today.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Olivia King (daughter of Shay King) who will be getting married this weekend! Shay has been on long service leave this week to help Olivia prepare for the big day.

### **Swimming**

We look forward to swimming lessons taking place each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during Weeks 6 & 7. A letter will be sent via email to families next week. We ask that students make sure they bring the following items with them to school on swimming days:

- Swimwear appropriate for physical activity (to be worn under school uniform)
- Towel
- Thongs or crocs
- Spare underwear
- Plastic bag for wet bathers/towel
- Goggles are optional.
- Comb or brush, if needed

**All items need to be clearly labelled.** Swimming caps will be provided.

### **Uniform**

A reminder that students need to be in their full, correct **summer** uniform, and **MUST** have their hats with them to be able to be outside for both PE/Sport and for recess and lunch break. Please ensure your child only wears their runners on PE/Sport days.

Hats **MUST** be worn in order for students to play outside at recess or lunch, or participate in PE lessons.

## **Dates**

Please take note of the following dates for this term:

### **Week 5**

Sunday November 2: Sacrament of Eucharist Dismissal #1: St. Peter's Church beginning 10:30am

Monday November 3: School Closure Day

Tuesday November 4: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

### **Week 6**

Sunday November 9: Sacrament of Eucharist Dismissal #2: St. Peter's Church beginning 10:30am

Monday November 10: Swimming

Tuesday November 11: Remembrance Day and Swimming

Wednesday November 13: Swimming (no lunch orders)

Friday November 14: Innovation 2 Assembly in the Presentation Centre at 9:05am

### **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

Wednesday November 19: Swimming (no lunch orders)

### **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

### **Week 9**

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

### **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

### **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 and reports home.

Thursday December 18: Final day for staff



## **Professional Learning with Shane Crawford**

On Wednesday, we welcomed Shane Crawford - Director of EduPoint to our school. Over the past 6 years, Shane has worked with St. Michael's students and staff on how we can maximize learning and teaching opportunities at school.

A St Michael's Learner.....

### **Learning Clarity - Understanding of Learning**

- Knows and understands how they learn best
- Knows the learning intentions and success criteria
- Has goals to support their learning
- Has clarity around where they are at with their learning and where to next
- Is well-rounded and connects their learning to different ways of knowing
- Applies their knowledge to real-world scenarios
- Feedback skills - can both give and receive feedback from others

A learner understands how they learn best and the learning intentions and success criteria, sets goals to support their learning, possesses clarity about their current progress and next steps, connects their learning to various perspectives, applies knowledge to real-world scenarios, and effectively gives and receives feedback.

### **Dispositions - Collaboration**

- Is collaborative and can express their thoughts and feelings freely
- Can empathise with others
- Is collaborative and curious
- Isn't afraid to make mistakes
- Sees mistakes as opportunities for growth
- Understands when and how they need support
- Knows what to do when they don't know what to do
- Knows that it's OK not to know
- Persistent and never gives up
- Open-minded to alternative perspectives
- Resilient – grit will persevere in challenges
- Shows courage and grit in the face of challenge
- Critical thinker – questions things: the why not and how to
- Resourceful – knows how they learn and how they can go about solving problems
- Uses a range of resources to assist with learning – not just the teacher
- Respectful – dignity for the human person regardless of who they are

A learner demonstrates collaboration by expressing thoughts and feelings freely while empathizing with others and remaining curious; embraces a growth mindset by viewing mistakes as opportunities for growth, knowing when and how to seek support being comfortable with uncertainty; exhibits resilience and grit through persistence, open-mindedness, and courage in challenges; engages in critical thinking, is resourceful in understanding their learning process and utilising various resources beyond the teacher; and shows respect by upholding the dignity of every individual.



### **St Michael's 5 -Modelling Values**

- Follows and models the St Michael's 5
- Feels safe and supported in their learning environment
- Is a good role model to their peers
- Takes full responsibility
- Empathetic – understands that everyone is different and that's ok
- Contributes positively toward a respectful learning environment

A learner embodies the St Michael's 5 by modelling its values, feeling safe and supported in their learning environment, serving as a positive role model to peers, taking full responsibility, demonstrating empathy towards individual differences, and contributing positively to a respectful learning atmosphere.

### **Engagement - Willingness to Try**

- Gives things a go even if it's something not of interest
- Are focused learners
- Demonstrates autonomy
- Exhibits independence as they get what they put in
- Independent and confident to have a go
- Learns from others
- Motivated to be better than yesterday

A learner demonstrates engagement by willingly trying new things, maintaining focus and independence, exhibiting autonomy, learning from others, and being motivated to improve themselves each day.

### **Catholic Learner - Spirituality**

- Exhibits a sense of belief in the greater good
- Embodies Gospel values promoting a nurturing environment and Catholic identity

A Catholic learner exhibits a belief in the greater good and embodies Gospel values that promote a nurturing environment and a strong Catholic identity.

As you can see, an extensive list has been created! As a staff, we will now spend some time creating 10 'A St. Michael's Learner' statements which can be followed by students.

## **WELLBEING**

### **School TV**

It is not always easy for children to always know how to manage friendships. Learning how to make new friends and keep them involves a number of skills every young person needs to understand and develop. For some these skills will come very naturally, allowing them to easily move between different friendship groups, sharing their experiences and opening up to new people. For others, this can be much harder to navigate. Belonging to a group that is like-minded with similar interests is highly beneficial to a child's wellbeing. Friendships are full of ups and downs and it is better for kids to learn how to manage and build their own friendships, even though as an adult you may be tempted to interfere. For more information, visit: <https://smdaylesford.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/friendship-belonging>

## **CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

### **Sacramental program**

We wish Makyskym, Belle, Hudson, Mackenzie and Tristan all the best as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist over the coming weeks. Please see dates below:

**Sunday November 2 - Dismissal #1 (St. Peter's Church @ 10:30am)**

**Sunday November 9 - Dismissal #2 (St. Peter's Church @ 10:30am)**

**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**

Well done to Archie, Sophia and Kul who spent some time at the Daylesford Kindergarten on Wednesday, helping the students create their very own puppet shows. Many thanks to Juliette who supported the students with this activity.



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. It is anticipated the Mini Vinnies will also be organising a school disco towards the end of the school year. Stay tuned for more information.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **Swiss Italian Festa**

Many thanks to the students and families who represented our school at the Swiss Italian Festa Parade last weekend. Thanks also to Signora Claire for her hard work in preparing for and appropriately acknowledging this significant community event.

**On Friday November 7**, Myla, Vernisia and Leni will be raising money for MND. Please see information below.

### **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.

### **World Festival of Magic**

St. Michael's families have again been invited to the World Festival of Magic performance taking place at Founders Theatre, Federation University on Saturday November 15. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information.

## **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 November 20**. 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.

#### **School closure dates**

Please mark in your diaries our final school closure dates for the year:

**Monday November 3** - Staff professional development day - Report writing

**Tuesday November 4** - Melbourne Cup Public holiday

A reminder that the final student day of school for 2025 will be Wednesday December 17.

Enjoy the long weekend!

Kind regards, Tim



## WE ARE FUNDRAISING FOR...



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of November wear the colours of the MND Australia organisation (light blue, dark blue, white), as well as any MND merchandise that you may have. Bring a gold coin donation as well as a dollar to buy a Zooper Dooper. Lastly, make sure to bring a spare change of clothes and a towel as we will be doing a water balloon fight, (if you do not wish to participate then you don't have to but it will be warm and lot's of fun!)

spare clothes



money



towel



Lions Club of Ballarat proudly presents International Entertainment Australia's...

## 2025 World Festival of Magic

The World Festival of Magic features world-class acts performing astonishing illusions, interactive magic, and comedy. Providing relaxed theatre performances for children, young adults and families in the Grampians Region.

Enjoy the "live performance" experience with a casual attitude to audience noise and movement in an accessible and inclusive environment, where you are welcomed and free to be yourself without restriction or judgement.

One hour shows. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory-friendly).
- who are facing hardship.
- are without access or opportunity to live theatre.

\*Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.

**ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY**, including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

\*Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.

Scan the QR Code to visit the shows website and watch highlights from previous shows...



**FOUNDERS THEATRE - FEDERATION UNIVERSITY**

Chancellor Drive (off University Drive), Mount Helen Campus VIC

SHOW DATE	#1 SHOWTIME	#2 SHOWTIME
SATURDAY, 15 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025	11.30 AM	2.00 PM

To book tickets, please email your name, preferred showtime/s and ticket numbers to...

[meredithnewman@showintent.com.au](mailto:meredithnewman@showintent.com.au)

or call / text 0404-367-782

## DAYLESFORD COMMUNITY OP SHOP



### TREE OF GIVING

Unwrapped gifts for children aged 1 day to 11 years  
Gift cards for youth (12 - 17)

### Community Christmas Day Lunch

Registrations from Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Nov - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec

Cash Donations - DCOS BSB:633 000 Acct:145943866 ref Xmas



Birthday Edition

Daylesford

## DAYLESFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

is celebrating 150 years!



### Kind Creative Connected

Join us for a day of celebrating our past, present and future!

- Welcome speeches
- Student musical performance
- School tours
- Student artwork display
- Daylesford Museum exhibition (at the museum)
- Morning tea
- BBQ
- Cooked food van



Memorabilia available :

- 150<sup>th</sup> celebration paver, to be laid as a commemorative piece in the school
- 150<sup>th</sup> tea towel
- 150<sup>th</sup> mug
- 150<sup>th</sup> magazine including works from current and past students, staff, school council members and community members associated with the school.

Saturday  
15  
NOV

102  
Vincent St,  
Daylesford

10AM - 1PM



## The Wyrd Sisters – Lost in the Future

A fun, spooky comedy for families.

Macbeth's 3 Witches are flung into the future. What could possibly go wrong?

Performed by Daylesford's own Youth Theatre Company

& Inside Out Dance Theatre. (Heist Night, The Day the School went Under)

Sat 8 Nov, 7pm Sun 9 Nov, 2pm

Daylesford Masonic Hall, 16 Vincent St, Daylesford

Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/DGYLB>



# Swiss Italian Festa 2025