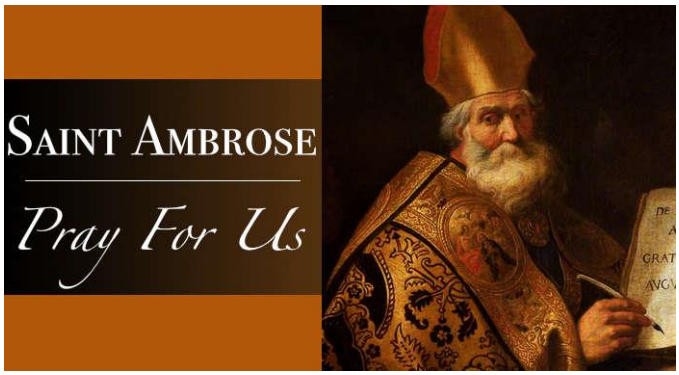
Centred By ***Faith***
In Partnership with **Community**
We Provide Excellence in **Learning**

NEWSLETTER NO.38
FRIDAY, 6TH DECEMBER 2019



Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

St Ambrose Feast Day

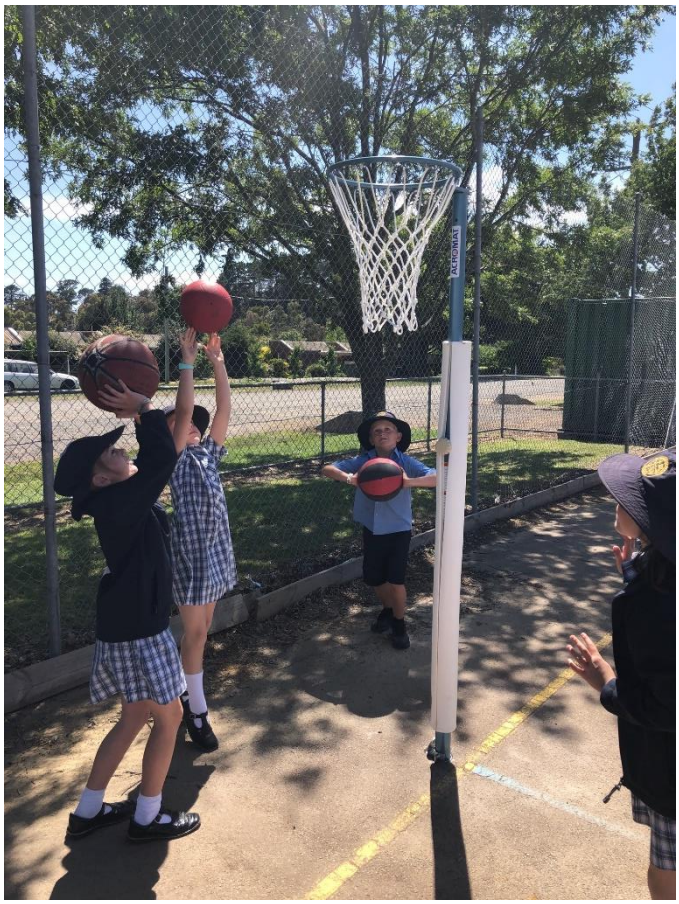
On Wednesday we celebrated the Feast of St Ambrose, the Patron Saint of Beekeepers, beggars, learners and Milan. It's a special day and one that as a Catholic school we ensure doesn't go unnoticed nor enjoyed.

St Ambrose's Feast day is December 7th. Learn more at:
https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=16

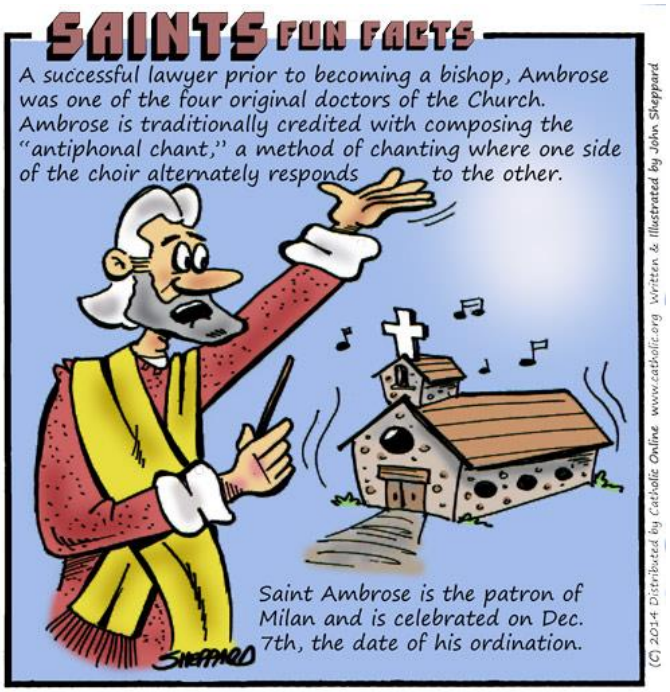
Junior Netball Posts

Last weekend I met with Anna Hardwick and an engineer (borrowed, for the morning from her husband)! Our mission was to install two junior netball posts which was the final taking action phase of a Grade One/Two Inquiry Unit into 'Playtime' during Term Two. Our very own Carnival Committee provided the funds from the 2019 Carnival. A perfect example of our parents supporting the school and the students learning. It was very empowering for the students to see their learning come to fruition.

Cosette (Prep M) was very enthusiastic, with friend Sienna encouraging from the sidelines☺



Kindest regards,
Debbie Geisler - Principal



Dates for the Diary

Term 4 Week 10

Monday: 09.12
- Staff Prayer & Briefing: 8.15am
- **Student Orientation Day 2 (Grade 1-6)**
- **School Assembly 2.55pm**

Tuesday: 10.12

Wednesday: 11.12
- Canteen Day

Thursday: 12.12
- Staff Meeting 3.45pm

Friday: 13.12
- Last Canteen Day for the year
- **Grade 6 Celebration Day**

Saturday: 14.12

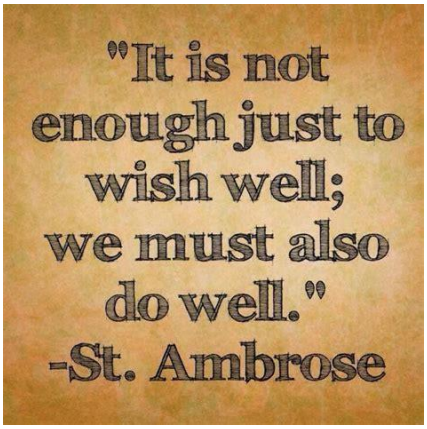
Sunday: 15.12
- 3rd Sunday of Advent

Week 11

Monday: 16.12
- Staff Prayer & Briefing: 8.15am

Tuesday: 17.12
- **Grade 6 Graduation Mass – 6.00pm**

Wednesday: 18.12
- **End of Year Mass 9.30am**
- **End of Year Award Ceremony – 2.00pm**
- No Canteen
- Dismissal time – 3.30pm



Introducing our New Staff for 2020

Mrs Amanda Ramshaw – 5/6R

Mr Andrew Caminiti – 3/4C

On Monday our students participated in their first 2020 Class Orientation Day. It's a brilliant opportunity to familiarise themselves with possibly new teachers, new students, new faces, whilst also recognising familiar faces as well. As mentioned in many previous newsletters, our transition / orientation program has been developed to assist your child in developing social, emotional and personal skills that will assist them not only now, but into the future. One of the certainties of life is the experience of 'change'. Learning how to make the most of it now, leads to a very positive mind set for the future.

Mrs Kate Old – 1/2O

We would like to congratulate Amanda Ramshaw, Andrew Caminiti and Kate Old on their appointment as classroom teachers for 2020.

2020 Classroom Structures & Specialist Classes

The 2020 Classes and Teaching staff are as follows:

Prep/1 R
Classroom teacher: Ms Barb Ryan
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Rhonda Scanlon
Location: Current Prep E Classroom

Prep/1 M
Classroom Teacher: Miss Emma McMahon
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Sandy Howe
Location: Emma remains in same classroom

Prep/1 TA
Classroom Teacher: Mrs Maree Thomas (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs) and Mrs Jenni Awty (every Friday)
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Janene Attard (Mon & Tues)and Mr Joel Dwyer (Wed & Fri)
Location: Current Grade 2T Classroom

1/2E
Classroom Teacher: Ms Britt Elliott
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Fiona Forbes (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs)
Location: Current 1/2R Classroom

1/2O
Classroom Teacher: Mrs Kate Old
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Fiona Forbes (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs)
Location: Current 1/2TW Classroom

3/4C
Classroom Teacher: Mr Andrew Caminiti
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Jodie Wolfi (Mon, Tues & Fri) and Mrs Janene Attard (Wed & Thurs)
Location: Current Grade 3/4M Classroom

3/4P
Classroom Teacher: Mr Micheal Portelli
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Jenny Nelson (Mon, Tues & Wed) and Mrs Joanna Roch (Thurs & Fri)
Location: Current Grade 3/4PB Classroom

3/4F
Classroom Teacher: Mrs Marg Flett
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Joanna Roch (Mon & Tues) and Mrs Jodie Wolfi (Wed & Thurs)
Location: Marg remains in same classroom

5/6R
Classroom Teacher: Mrs Amanda Ramshaw
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Tracey Paton (Mon, Tues & Wed) and Mr Joel Dwyer (Mon & Tues)
Location: Current Grade 5/6P Classroom

5/6M
Classroom Teacher: Mrs Brenda McDonald
Learning Support Officer: Mrs Tracey Paton (Mon, Tues & Wed) and Mr Joel Dwyer (Mon & Tues)
Location: Brenda remains in same classroom

Specialist Classes:

Performing Arts *- Specialist Teacher: Mrs Eloise Myers*
Visual Arts *- Specialist Teacher: Mrs Clare Shannon*
Physical Ed. *- Specialist Teacher: Mrs Kristy Cavric*
Japanese *- Specialist Teacher: Mrs Miho Yamashita*
E-Learning*- Specialist Teacher: Mrs Kelly Woodman*

To Amy, Lisa, Rebecca and Bonnie the St Ambrose staff and community would like to express our heartfelt gratefulness and appreciation for your professionalism, dedication and care that you have given to all the students who have been in your care. Thank you for having such a positive impact. We wish you every happiness and success in all future endeavours and adventures.

We warmly invite you to celebrate with us this Sunday **8 December 2019 at 4pm** for our annual carols service. The service will last 45 minutes. Drinks and refreshments will be provided in the parish gardens afterwards. The children can dress as their favourite nativity character.

Kind regards,
Sharon, Parish Representative

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Christmas Raffle time has arrived. We will have a number of hampers made up as prizes and, in the spirit of Christmas and generosity of heart, a number of hampers will be donated to the Parish to be given to families as part of the Ambrose Care program. We are asking each class to focus on a themed hamper as a guide for their donations. We have compiled a list per class so we don't double up too much. See Caremonkey for details.

Donations need to be new and in date. A good idea is to donate something that you would like to receive yourself.

Raffle books have been sent out and must be returned to the office by Monday 16 December. Please return ticket stubs and money in an envelope or plastic zip lock bag clearly named with class written on top. Tickets are $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00. The raffle will be drawn on the last day of school at Assembly.

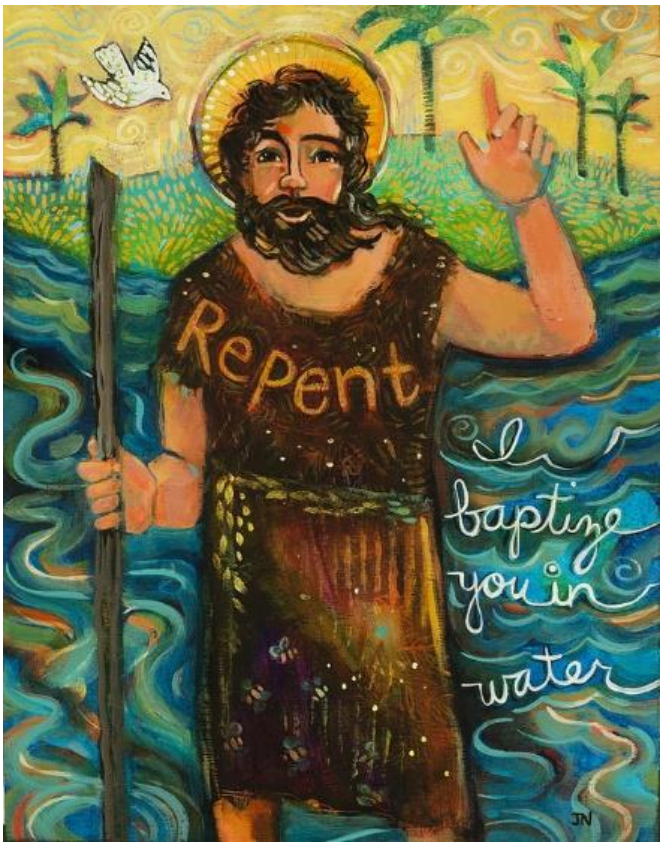
This Christmas raffle is a much anticipated event for the children and has become one of our school's festive time traditions. We thank you in advance for your donations and help.

This Weekends Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.
In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:
A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.
Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins.
But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Gospel Reflection

When John the Baptist performed baptism it was for the forgiveness of sin. The baptism he gave was a mark of the desire to enter into a new life of right action. It was not a baptism of initiation into community that is the case today. John had two key words that he is recorded as preaching: repent and prepare. His call for repentance was a call to turn away from sin; a call to have a change of heart; a call to turn one's life around and make a fresh start. His call for preparation is in the long line of prophets that includes the great prophet Isaiah from whom we take today's first reading. All of the prophets urged the people towards hope in the future. Isaiah and others spoke specifically of a person – a Messiah – who would bring that hope to reality. But the tradition demanded a readiness for the Messiah and that was the call to preparation that John the Baptist echoed at the beginning of the public life of Jesus.



Living the Gospel – Prepare Ye!

John the Baptist's call to 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.

© Greg Sunter

Celebrating the Feast Day of St Ambrose

On Wednesday we celebrated our Feast Day by spending the morning together at the movies.

The 'buddies' watched out for each other.

A BIG thank you to Hardwicks for donating the scrumptious sausages that were eagerly devoured after returning from the movies.

Thank you also to Mrs O'Callaghan for organising the fun-filled day and to Mrs Meyer for preparing our Feast Day Mass and leading the students in joyful song!

Thank you to our merry band of BBQers!!! (Alison, Liz, Michelle, Jenni, Jo and Anita)☺

Platters of fruit were cut for each class to enjoy.

I, 2, 3….SAUSAGES!!!

BIKE SAFETY!

Cycling safely on the footpaths

This term during Sports lessons the senior students have had Bike Ed and have been learning how to ride their push bikes safely.

Courtesy on paths

When riding on paths there are rules designed for everyone's safety:

- keep to the left of the path
- don't ride too fast or do anything unexpected
- let others know that you are approaching by using your bell or calling out
- give way to pedestrians
- obey signs along the path and ride in single file, especially on shared paths and footpaths
- ride side by side only when the path is wide enough and when it is safe.

Be alert on paths

There are many things to watch out for when riding on paths, including:

- other path users – be extra careful near small children, older people and people with vision impairments
- dogs or other animals
- driveways, laneways or places where the path crosses a road
- hazards such as changes in the surface of the path, steep hills, puddles, pot-holes, blind corners and broken glass.

If a road has to be crossed, the rider should stop, dismount and walk across.

NB: Here at St Ambrose our students who ride home must also dismount their bikes and walk their bike along the footpath in front of the

school while students and parents are moving towards their cars.
IMPORTANT: *Students should also dismount their bike and walk it in other busy parts of the town, such as: crossing High Street and travelling past Woodend Primary School, especially just before or after school times!*

Let's all be 'BIKE SAFE'.

Saturday 14th March 2020

The 2020 Carnival is in full swing!

Carnival Working Bee and general clean-up of the school will be held on **Saturday 15th February 2020 @ 10:00am.** This was a huge success last year! Bring the kids along and enjoy a BBQ after the big clean up.

We are now starting to get our class & community stalls organised.

- Tracy Paton is once again running our Pre Loved Clothing Stall (good quality!). Tracy is ready to start taking donations! So please leave all good quality clothing donations at the office or take directly to Tracy in the Library.
- Our Home Made/Hand Made Stall will once again be running. Looking for donations of any hand made goods eg quilts, knitted goods, jams or relishes! These are just ideas and happy to take donations of anything creative
- The Plant Stall is always looking for propagated plants. So jump into your gardens and start potting up your cuttings!

Positions that need filling urgently!

The Silent Auction is one of the carnival's main fundraisers. Anita Rietveld has also decided to step down after organising it the last couple of years. She has done an amazing job of organising the Silent Auction and she couldn't have done it all without the help of Theresa Corboy. Anita would give the next volunteer a proper hand over.

Please contact either the school office or the carnival committee (stambrosecarnival@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer for any of the above positions. Please remember we need as many helpers as possible!

Do you love our school Carnival and want to see it go ahead in 2021?
The Carnival is a huge part of not only the St Ambrose Community but the Woodend Community as a whole. The current committee got together in mid 2018 to get the Carnival back up and running after a year off in March 2018.
At the end of our next Carnival, Saturday 14th March 2020, Anna Hardwick & Jess Tucker will be standing down as Carnival Co-Ordinators along with a number of other positions (see below).
We are seeking people to join the Committee, take on these roles and to 'shadow' us for the up-coming Carnival. This way a proper handover can be done.

Please remember if roles are not filled there will be no Carnival in 2021.
The roles which are needing to be filled for 2020/2021 are:
- Carnival Co-ordinator(s)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Rides & Amusements
- Entertainment
- Social Media Co-ordinator

We are looking forward to hearing from as many people as possible! Our **next meeting** will be held on **Thursday 6th February 2020 @ 7:00pm** in the staffroom and anyone is welcome!!!

If you have any questions relating to these positions please contact Anna Hardwick or Jessica Tucker.

ART FOLIOS

Art folios have been sent home with students yesterday and today. Please empty folios of artwork and return to school in 2020 to fill with next year's creations.

ST AMBROSE SCHOOL
SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

TOY DRIVE

Christmas is traditionally a time of JOY and GIVING as we celebrate Jesus' Birthday. But what if your family couldn't afford a gift for your birthday? We are collecting NEW toys and gifts in their original packaging to dontate to Helping Hands Mission's Birthday Cupboard. These gifts will help make a difference to disadvantaged families and their children, not just for Christmas but all year round!

Even the smallest donation can help. Gift Cards and donations also welcome allowing our group to shop directly for the Birthday Cupboard.

St Ambrose Parish School,
14/17 Templeton St, Woodend VIC 3435

Helping Hands Mission Inc.

Made with PosterMyWall.com
Getty Stock

Bug-A-Lugs Holiday Program January 2020

Monday 23/12	Tuesday 24/12	Thursday 2nd	Friday 3rd	Monday 6th
CrAzY Colour Day	Christmas Fun	Come Celebrate 2020!! Carnival Day	Geelong	
Tuesday 7th	**Wednesday 8th**	**Thursday 9th**	**Friday 10th**	**Monday 13th**
Horse Riding		Come dressed as your favourite book/ TV character		Explore Ancient Egypt
Tuesday 14th	**Wednesday 15th**	**Thursday 16th**	**Friday 17th**	**Monday 20th**
Bug-A-Lugs Olympics	Life Saving Victoria Port Melbourne Beach			Bug-A-Lugs Open
Tuesday 21st	**Wednesday 22nd**	**Thursday 23rd**	**Friday 24th**	**Monday 27th**
Water Fun Day	Resin Jewellery Workshop plus Minute to win it challenges		Australia Day Fun	
Tuesday 28th	**Wednesday 29th**	**Thursday 30th**	**Thursday 31st**	
Bendigo Movies Spies in Disguise!	Chillax Day	School is back for most. We will run a program today if we receive enough interest.		

Childcare Rebates ✓ Qualified Educators ✓ Full First Aid Trained ✓

CHILDREN'S CHECK LIST

HAT ✓ WATER BOTTLE ✓ EXTRA FOOD ✓

In House

Excursion

Bug-A-Lugs OSHC
Is located at 3 Hoyle Crt, Kyneton 3444
Phone: 5422 2767
Full program information and bookings are available on our website
www.bug-a-lugs.com.au