

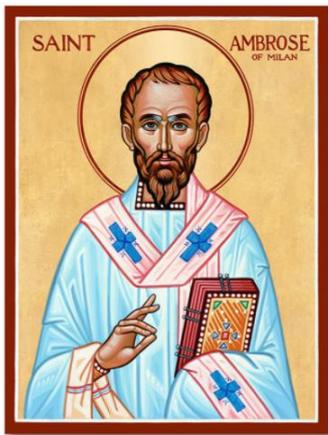
NEWSLETTER No. 9 TERM 4

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 2020



Our Vision: Centred By Faith, In Partnership with Community, We Provide Excellence in Learning

Grade 6 Graduation & Celebration Day	Monday 14 December 2020
Students final day of classes Dismissal – 3.30pm	Tuesday 15 December 2020
Maths Assessment Interviews by appointment. PLEASE BOOK THESE VIA OPEROO ASAP	Wed. 16 & Thurs. 17 December 2020
CDFpay online ordering (uniform shop) closes	Sat. 19 December – Sat. 23 January 2021



Our St Ambrose community acknowledges the traditional owners of this land-their ancestors and is committed to reconciliation with Indigenous Australians and in caring for our planet.



Second Sunday of Advent: FAITH
Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

God of patience, show us your wisdom in time, that we may grow to expect your action on your time. Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves. Make us receptive to your timing in others. Help us see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting. Amen.



Dear Families, Parishioners and Friends,



We were delighted to acknowledge the feast of our patron St. Ambrose of Milan who was named the patron saint of learning and bee keepers due to his love of learning and his great wisdom.

As many of you already know, it is the tradition of our school to have a special event to celebrate our patron's feast as a whole school community. It was wonderful to witness the surprise and joy on our children's faces as they arrived at school on this morning. Our children have done an incredible job over this very different and often challenging year and it is our hope that Wednesday's incursion allowed them to relax

and enjoy the company of their class mates whilst having lots of fun! We thank Anna and Kristy who did the background work in organising the amusements as well as Alison who assisted with the fruit platters and Jenni with the sausage sizzle. Rachel was a super assistant to Ms Shannon with the mural painting as well!



In the spirit of St Ambrose we do hope that your children had a happy day which they will remember in years to come.

Our year 6 students celebrated their final St Ambrose day with us as students of our great school. They have been working with singer songwriter Gen Bryant as well as with Mrs. Meyer and her talented friend John Baxter to create the music videos which played to launch our St Ambrose feast day celebrations 2020! Thanks also to Mrs. Meyer and all of the staff for making our feast day so special. With games to play, sideshows to enjoy, murels to paint, fruit and sausages to eat and crafts to make as well as our Liturgy to complete this day; indeed it was wonderful from start to finish!



Our school was also buzzing with activity on Tuesday when our children stepped up into their 2021 classes for the morning. Our preps who are starting next year seemed very settled and our current students were delighted to meet them!

Each New Year brings change and further opportunity. When change is framed with a positive and growth mindset your child is supported in their development.

The transition (Orientation) days as well as our 1-1 Numeracy and Literacy testing times are a strategy we use to provide our students with a sense of belonging along with an opportunity to get to know both the teacher and the students they will share the coming

year with. It also allows time to get a sense of the learning environment they will be working within. Transition, better described as a process of getting used to change, provides your child with huge opportunities for personal, emotional and social growth. It's something we should not fear but embrace. The following are a few tips for you as a parent in supporting your child as they move into their next stage of schooling:



Encourage self-advocacy. Self-advocacy is one of the most important skills your child will learn over the next few years. Speaking up for himself or herself and knowing how to ask for what they need is a critical, lifelong skill. Your child can only learn it if you make an intentional effort to back away and let him or her step up to this next stage.

When your child has a question about a project or a homework task, encourage them to contact their teacher. Help your child brainstorm what to say, and maybe even craft the email or conversation together, but let the message come from your child.



When your child feels like another student wronged him or her, encourage your child to report the incident to the teacher or even principal, but let him or her take the lead. You can also check in with your child's teacher if you feel the need to make sure that your child did speak with their teacher. A quick email will keep communication channels open.

Allow your child to face challenges.

This one is always hard for parents, and for good reasons. We don't like to see our children struggle. Our instinct is to jump in and rescue. However, we all know that the greatest lessons in life come from learning from our mistakes, and if our goal is to raise children to become strong, independent adults, we need to learn to let them stumble.



Our children take their lead from our energy as parents. The attitude you project will be the attitude they absorb. Allow your child to experience the “natural consequences” of their decisions and actions. Maybe your child will receive feedback that they don't want to hear but hopefully this will support healthy change.



Focus on growth instead of grades. Your child won't earn an A on every single task, and that's okay. Focus your conversations on how hard he or she is working, what is being learned, what support is needed, and how skills are growing, rather than just what your child's grades are. The most important thing parents can do at this age is learn to ask, “How can I help? What kind of support do you need?” instead of “How can I fix this for you?”

Encourage positive risk-taking.

Primary school is the perfect time to try new things and becoming comfortable with taking positive risks is another critical skill in a child's development. Some ideas for risk-taking include:

- trying a new sport.
- joining a club or starting a new one.
- expanding their circle of friends.
- trying a music class or a new hobby.



There are so many ways your child can learn to take a positive risk. The important part as a parent is to always acknowledge and praise the effort and courage it takes to try something new.

Your child has had their step up morning and now know their class for 2021. We carefully consider the needs of each child to attain the best possible balance within the classes which takes into account student needs, social dynamic, gender, abilities and friendships.

We thank you for the trust you place in us in placing your children for their next year at school.



The coming year is an exciting and nervous time for not only our students, but also for our teachers. Be thoughtful about the messages you are sending your children about this new adventure. Let your child/ren know that it can be exciting, energising, challenging, and new. Next year will be another opportunity for wonderful transformation! Prepare for it, brace yourself for it, but most of all, enjoy it!





Grade 6 Graduation & Celebration Day



As you know we have our Year 6 graduation and celebration day planned for Monday December 14th. We planned this day in collaboration with our year 6 students so that it could work within the restrictions. As there has been an easing of restrictions we are now very happy that each Year 6 student can invite up to two guests to attend the presentation of their certificates at 2.30 pm in the church on Monday. Parents will need to sign the attendance sheet as they enter the church, wear a mask and comply to a 2 square metre distance between people. We are unable to change the day's program as we had to lock in times with Fr. Martin and our dignitaries as well as organise catering. We will still video it all for you. Please read the note sent via Operoo carefully for further details.

Year 6 Tops for 2021



Year 6 shirts have been ordered and will be available for payment and collection from the office on 1 February. We have also introduced a rugby top option for 2021. The students collaborated on the design which also display our PBL four expectations which they will lead in our school. The 2021 Year 6 class may wear the rugby top throughout the year on any day. They may wear their sports shirt on sports days in terms 1-3 and on any day in term 4. **Please order your Rugby Top (pictured) directly from Hip Pocket in Castlemaine or Melton.** You can call into the shop or phone them. The sooner all orders are in the quicker we will have the tops made.

Darren Gundy
Business Manager



HIP POCKET WORKWEAR & SAFETY CASTLEMAINE & MELTON

Now Servicing The City Of Melton

20 Johnstone Street, Castlemaine, Vic 3450

P: + 61 (0)3 5470 5600 MOB: + 61 417 789 688

E: darren@castlemainehippocket.com.au

W: www.hippocketworkwear.com.au



Handover Conversations

Our staff have spent considerable time collaborating and discussing our children's needs when allocating them to class groups. They have also been allocated time to engage in handover conversations with your children's 2021 teachers. We are following a thorough process to support your children's transition optimally which will set them up for success in 2021.

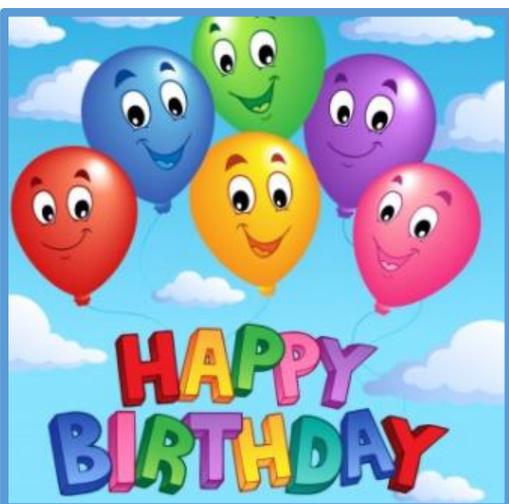
Numeracy & Literacy Testing

Please book your times via [Operoo](#) now.

2021 Term Dates

- Term 1 Wednesday 27 January (Staff Return)
 Thursday 28 & Friday 29 January student 1-1 Literacy Interviews
 Monday 1 Feb Classes Resume
 Last day of term 1 Thursday 1 April Easter Break –
 Friday 2 – Monday 5 April
- Term 2 Monday 19 April – Friday 25 June
- Term 3 Monday 12 July – Friday 17 September
- Term 4 Monday 4 October – Friday 17 December

The secret of being happy is accepting where you are in life and making the most out of every day.



Uniform Shop Closure Dates

CDFpay online ordering will be closed between 19 December 2020 and 23 January 2021 inclusive. Orders placed after 23 January will be delivered directly to your child's classroom on Monday 1 February 2021. If you require the uniform prior to students starting on Monday 1 February, please email stambroseuniform@gmail.com to advise. These uniforms will be made available for collection at the office on Friday 29 January 2021.

Art Folios

Please empty art folios and return to your child's own classroom before the end of the year. This allows me to sort them into new class levels before 2021.

Thank You Kindly, Clare Shannon. Visual Arts Teacher.

10 December	Seth X
11 December	Elke F
12 December	Maeve D Laura G
16 December	Leo G Rusby C
17 December	Jack B Riley W
18 December	Hunter S Elsie A
19 December	Anabelle W
27 December	Maeve M Claudia C
28 December	Tyler K



Student Awards – Congratulations!!

- P/1M Sophie V for working consistently and diligently towards her handwriting goal.
- P/1M Madi Y for always trying her very best and for being a friend to all.
- P/1R Cooper L for his readiness to help others.
- P/1R Ruby S for taking on feedback to improve her handwriting.
- P/1R Jorel L for using lovely manners when he greets others.
- P/1TA Angus N for working hard to develop great work habits.
- P/1TA Evie M for writing a fabulous account of The Christmas Story.
- P/1TA Chris W for having a great attitude towards his learning and for being a wonderful classmate.
- P/1TA Harriet F for demonstrating great decoding skills in reading and being a terrific helper.
- 1/2E Mary G for working well in groups to solve Maths problems.
- 1/2E Ruby P for always having an excellent disposition to her learning!
- 1/2E Elijah E for always giving positive feedback to his peers.
- 1/2E Sid M for always demonstrating a fantastic disposition to his learning.
- 1/2E Mary G for working well in groups to solve Maths problems.
- 1/2O Paddy L for his commitment throughout the year to his learning. You have been so focused and driven. Well done!
- 1/2O Poppy Q for supporting those around her to complete tasks and remain focused. Well done Poppy!
- 3/4C Oscar L for showing confidence and contributing well in Maths.
- 3/4C Levi Z for showing dedication to your animation work.
- 3/4C Caellan B for being a highly motivated learner and great input to your animation.
- 3/4F Anouk R for being a good friend!
- 3/4F Oscar D for always offering to help others in the classroom.
- 3/4P Sophie O for supporting a younger student with their reading.
- 3/4P George S for sharing his Maths strategies with the class.
- 3/4P Seth X for being a kind and supportive classmate.
- 5/6M Heidi M for her positive disposition and dedication towards all of her learning.
- 5/6M Will F for his understanding of fractions and percentages.
- 5/6M Lola C for her active participation during Math Focus groups.
- 5/6M Aidan W for being a kind and caring classmate to all!
- 5/6M Ruben H for his contribution and reasoning during all Math sessions.
- 5/6M Matilda W for her disposition and Have 'A' Go attitude towards all of her learning.
- 5/6M Hayley Z for her have 'A' go attitude towards all camp activities. Especially Archery!
- 5/6R Claudia C for being a good friend to your peers and for your kindness to all.
- 5/6R Ben N for always being such a delight to work with.
- 5/6R Freddie S for being a good friend to your peers.
- 5/6R Sarah F for being a great role model for your peers.
- 5/6R Will M for always being a good friend to your peers.
- 5/6R Riley C for always bringing the sunshine to our classroom.
- 5/6R Arabella W for being an amazing Sports Captain this year!
- 5/6R Fiachra H for always taking part in our class discussions.
- 5/6R Danny S for always being cheerful and upbeat in the classroom.



Sports Star of the Week - Patrick F for an excellent attitude and great enthusiasm in PE lessons.



Year 6 Leadership 2021

Our grade 5 students delivered impressive speeches to our students from year 4 and 5 who then voted in a private ballot. All ballot papers are given to myself and Mrs Geisler to count. We look forward to announcing the 2021 leadership positions on our last day of school.

**DIFFICULTY IS
WHAT WAKES
UP THE GENIUS**



Nassim Nicolas taleb



In P.E classes this week our School sport captains Noah and Arabella, along with all our house captains - Fynn, William, Maeve, Rusby, Lowenna, Aulani, Kaidon & Ruben organised and ran a games session for the junior PE classes.

It was great to see our sport leaders initiating this session and doing a great job organising and running a series of fun activities!



Crazy Hair Day – Thank you!

We wanted to thank you all for supporting us for crazy hair day. You are all as crazy as we thought. We also wanted to thank Ms Philips for helping us make it happen.

Our hair comes off on tonight!

Thankyou all

Mason & Albert

<https://fundraising.cancervic.org.au/fundraisers/masonhardiman>

May the Peace of Christ
live in the hearts of all
people this Advent time.

Yours sincerely

Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



Bookings for Christmas Mass Services

Dear Parishioners,

Just a quick email to let you all know early what we are planning for Christmas. I will not publish on the Parish website until Friday.

I do not have all the regulations yet from the changes made by our Premier yesterday. I will have more information by Friday with the next newsletter.

However, at this point with the changing of space requirement to 2sq. m per person, and our very unpredictable weather, we have decided to have all 3 Christmas Masses inside the church.

Using all the space in the church we can have 124 people at each service.

Services...

Wednesday 23rd December - Parish
Reconciliation 7.30pm

Thursday 24th December
Christmas Eve Mass 6.30pm
Christmas Eve Mass 10pm

Friday 25th December
Christmas morning Mass 9am

Friday 1st January
New Years Day Mass 11am

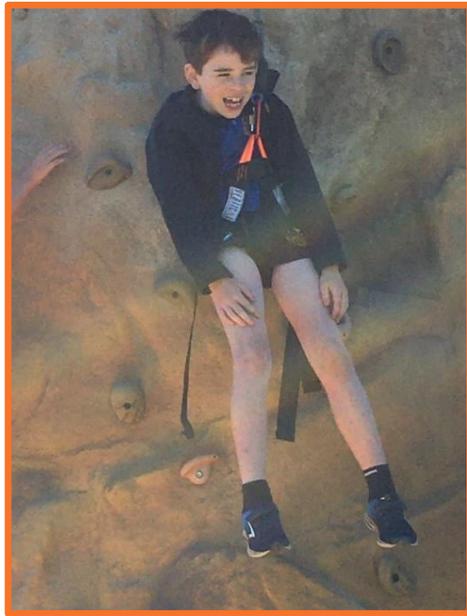
Bookings will be required.
Please text/call me on 0488274520 to book in for any of these Christmas services now.
Thanks, Bernadette



St Ambrose Feast Day Celebrations









We proclaim a crucified Christ
K. 19122

9 December 2020

Parents of children in Catholic Schools
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

Dear Parents,

As the days rush by towards Christmas, may I write in thanks for the tremendous love and care you have given your families in such a hard year.

Many of us are joyful at the simple prospect of 2020 being over!

For parents in Catholic schools, I am grateful for the collaboration between our incredible teachers and principals and yourselves, in guiding your children through long days and weeks of learning from home, with all the ups and downs of the lockdown situations.

For a number, some heartbreak and loss has been mingled with other challenges, as well as distance from loved ones. My own prayer has been for you and your families, and I am trusting that in the time ahead the Holy Spirit will bring fresh joy and encouragement, and some well-deserved rest.

As the year comes to a close, may I also bring to your attention a significant change that has been taking place in the background this year, in which principals and parish priests have been acutely involved: the creation of a new company, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS), to govern Catholic schools in Melbourne as of 1 January 2021.

For you, as parents, you will notice no real change in your Catholic schools. It will be largely 'business as usual' as the year begins and students find their way into a new grade and new challenges. However, the day-to-day business of Catholic schools will not alter as such.

In fact, the Constitution for MACS makes it crystal clear that the parish and the school, especially through leaders such as the parish priest, principal, and the School Advisory Council, will have a responsibility to collaborate and continue to build up Catholic schools as the faith-filled, generous learning communities that they are.

If you would like to learn more, please consult the material at the following website, which has been available throughout the year as this work has developed:

<https://governance.melbourne>

For my part, the change from Catholic Education Melbourne to MACS has been the fruit of much hard work, in which the legacy of Catholic education is being upheld with gratitude for the past and much hope for the future.

Let us work together in the time ahead to continue to provide the best, the very safest, and the most generous learning environments we can for students and their families.

Catholic schools are a fruit of the Gospel and I give thanks to the Lord Jesus and his faithful disciples in Melbourne for building such schools, filled with so many gifts and diversity.

May we celebrate the birth of the Lord this coming Christmas, filled with gratitude, blessed with some time away from it all, and sharing that manifold joy with one another for which Catholic faith has always been so famous.

With appreciation, and blessings on you and your family.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensal
Archbishop of Melbourne

WEEKLY GOSPEL REFLECTION – Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 13 Dec 2020

Year B

This Sunday again focuses on John the Baptist and the question continues – who are you? This is the question being asked in the early communities. Who was John? The questioners put to him the names of key Jewish figures who were expected to come in the final days – the Christ, Elijah and the Prophet. 'The Christ' is a Greek translation of the Hebrew title, 'the Messiah'. Some thought John fitted one of these hoped-for figures. But John turns down these roles, and instead speaks of himself as 'the voice' and he is described as a witness.

It becomes obvious in the Gospel that John cleared a path for the coming of the Messiah, and from that time on, the lives of believers have been the pathway through which the Messiah has entered the world.



EARLY CHRISTIAN RADIO

Gospel

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.



Ready, Set Pray is a 10-part series for families that will continue until Christmas. From the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, it is a great gathering place for families to celebrate the liturgy at home when they cannot attend Mass.

<https://tinyurl.com/yq9g578b>

COMMUNITY NEWS

Play soccer at Gisborne in 2021

Would you like to know about soccer available for your child's age group in 2021? Express interest at the web address below

<http://play2021.gisbornesc.com>

Junior boys - grading

Wednesday 16th December
 5.00 pm- U16 (2005)
 6.00 pm- U17 (2004)
 7.00 pm- U18 (2003)
 Sunday 20th December
 9.00 am- U13 (2008)
 10.00 am- U14 (2007)
 11.00 am- U15 (2006)
 February
 Additional dates tbc

MiniRoos boys tryout (U8s-U12s)

Monday 14th December
 5.00 pm - U10 (2011)
 6.00 pm - U11 (2010)
 7.00 pm - U12 (2009)
 February
 Additional dates tbc

NOTE: If you're in the U10,11,12 but can't make the times above does NOT mean you miss out. More dates for the club to recruit and kids/parents to try GSC will follow in Feb-2021

Junior girls (U13-U18)

February 2021

MiniRoos girls (U8s-U12s)

February 2021

All children will be graded in their age group based on the year they were born. Detailed information will be provided to all parents once we receive your registration. Not making pre-xmas sessions does not mean you miss out!



*Celebrating
 21 years
 of dance in the
 Macedon Ranges*

2021 WOODEND
MONDAYS & SATURDAYS
NORMA RICHARDSON HALL

www.stepsperformingarts.com.au
0405 846 668

**STEPS
 PERFORMING
 ARTS**



Auskick Coordinator for Woodend

The town of Woodend needs you!!

With a year to forget in 2020 we are seeking an enthusiastic person to coordinate Auskick 2021.

There are many young people itching to learn the skills of our great game and willing parents to help.

December 2020/January 2021 Holiday Program

Monday 21st 🏠 There is no I in TEAM	Tuesday 22nd 🏠  Woodwork & Art	Wednesday 23rd 🏠  KIDS CHOICE	Thursday 24th 🏠  CHRISTMAS FUN	Childcare Rebates ✓ Qualified Educators ✓ Full First Aid Trained ✓
Monday 4th 🏠 NEW YEARS PARTY 	Tuesday 5th 🏠 Water Fun Day 	Wednesday 6th 🏠 POWER OF STEAM Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths 	Thursday 7th 🏠 SPORTS 	Friday 8th 🏠 OUTWIT-OUTPLAY SURVIVOR OUTLAST 
Monday 11th 🏠 	Tuesday 12th 🏠 Career Day 	Wednesday 13th 🏠 Wacky Wednesday 	Thursday 14th 🏠 G'DAY USA 	Friday 15th 🏠 FINDING NEVERLAND 
Monday 18th 🏠 HAWAIIAN LUAU 	Tuesday 19th 🏠 Sustainable Day 	Wednesday 20th 🏠 Scrap Booking & Minute 2 Win It Extravaganza MINUTE 2 WIN IT 	Thursday 21st 🏠 GOLD RUSH 	Friday 22nd 🏠 ANIMAL EXTRAVAGANZA 
Monday 25th 🏠 Australia Day 	Tuesday 26th 🏠 CLOSED  	Wednesday 27th 🏠 Chillax Day Relax 	Thursday 28th 🏠 BACK TO SCHOOL 	CHILDREN'S CHECK LIST HAT ✓ WATER BOTTLE ✓ A BIG LUNCH ✓ Incursions Only 🏠

Bug-A-Lugs 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

GISBORNE SOCCER CLUB will be commencing its Grading Sessions in December for Miniroos (U8 to U12) and Juniors (U13 to U18). Subsequent sessions will occur in February.

All players will need to be available for the trials in December or February to make the teams in 2021.

Please register your child using the google form here. <http://play2021.gisbornesc.com>

Grading sessions will be held at Dixon Field, Robertson Street, Gisborne. The planned times for these sessions are:

- Sunday 13th December morning for Miniroos (U8 to U12) who were born 2009 to 2014.
- Week Starting 14th December for Juniors (U13 to U18) who were born 2003 to 2008

You will be given specific times when you register your child.

Here is a video to show you something about Gisborne Soccer Club <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3caxTws-BQ&feature=youtu.be>. Please like, share and subscribe!

