



St Ambrose Parish School

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



Term 1, 2023 Dates

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Message from the Principal: Pg 2-3

School News: Pg 4-9

Student News: Pg 10-11

Sports Carnival: Pg 12-14

Mental Health &

Wellbeing: Pg 15

Faith & Family: Pg 16

Community News: Pg 17

Wednesday 8 March 2023	Prep Rest Day
Thursday 9 March 2023	Reconciliation Preparation Evening with Denise Arnel 6.30pm
Monday 13 March 2023	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wed 15 - Mon 27 March 2023	NAPLAN
Wednesday 15 March 2023	Grade 6/Prep Buddies Mass 9.30am
Friday 17 March 2023	Twilight Picnic 5.30 – 7.00 pm
Monday 20 March 2023	Whole School Photo Day
Tuesday 21 March 2023	Colour Run/Cross Country 11.30am - 3.30pm
Wednesday 22 March 2023	- Sacrament of Reconciliation 12.30pm - Ambrose Care Meeting in the Church 7.00pm - Crazy Sock Day
Friday 24 March 2023	National Ride2school Day
Mon 27 - Fri 31 March 2023	Grade 6 Canberra Camp
Wednesday 29 March 2023	End of Term Mass 9.30am
Tuesday 4 April 2023	- Sacred Heart College Year 5 Transition Day - End of Term One 3.30pm - Hot Cross Bun Drive Pick Up
Wednesday 5 April 2023	School closure – Literacy PD
Thursday 6 April 2023	School closure – Literacy PD
Friday 7 April 2023	Good Friday
Sunday 9 April 2023	Easter Sunday
Monday 10 April 2023	Easter Monday
Monday 24 April 2023	Term 2 Commences
Tuesday 25 April 2023	Anzac Day Public Holiday All Welcome - Join the march from Bradley's at 11.30am

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners and friends, I'm delighted to be able to share another end-of-week update with you all. Our school continues to be a place of much activity and learning through varied experiences. This week, our juniors moved into their new classrooms! We also enjoyed our school Sports Day. It was a great day where our students worked co-operatively, cheered each other on and gave all events a go. We congratulate them and thank our staff, especially Mrs. Cavric, for her fine organisation of the day. We also thank all of our families who helped out and attended. Congratulations to Carmel House who were awarded this year's highest scoring team!

Together we celebrated Ash Wednesday on February 22, which marked the beginning of Lent. We remembered when Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days and 40 nights to prepare for the ministry God assigned to him.



Mia & Angus proudly holding the winning shields for Carmel House!



We too can make some time during Lent to look within ourselves and make some changes, so that we can become better people.

Our vision and mission are grounded in the teachings of Christ; as a school of faith, hope and love.

As we face each challenge, and celebrate each achievement, let us do so together as a St. Ambrose community using the model of Jesus Christ and the words he gave us.

We pray for the young people in our parish who are preparing for their Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our candidates took part in their commitment Mass which was well supported by the parish, our teachers and community.

It has been uplifting getting to know and reconnecting with your children over the past weeks and to watch them work co-operatively in class, as well as play harmoniously in the playground.

It is also heart-warming to observe the cross-age interactions which are flourishing, particularly between our senior students and their junior school buddies. With routines and expectations established, we are in a position to fine tune teaching to enhance learning. We hope you gained valuable insights throughout the Parent/Teacher conversations and Classroom Information sessions. We value strengthening our partnership with you to do our job well. Thank you for your attendance.

From Monday, our office will be operating from the first classroom on the right-hand side after the former entry area, and Mrs. Geisler and I are working from the first classroom on the church side. You can see the map of where classes and offices are located from our last newsletter. You will notice that our newsletter has a new look. We have been working with Rising Creative to improve the presentation and make our weekly bulletin easier to navigate and more appealing. We will continue to refine the format over the coming weeks. We will then seek your feedback to determine if we can make further changes to support your communication needs.

We won't send home a full newsletter next week as I am on leave for a few days to attend to a personal matter. We will send home our next full newsletter on Friday 17 March.



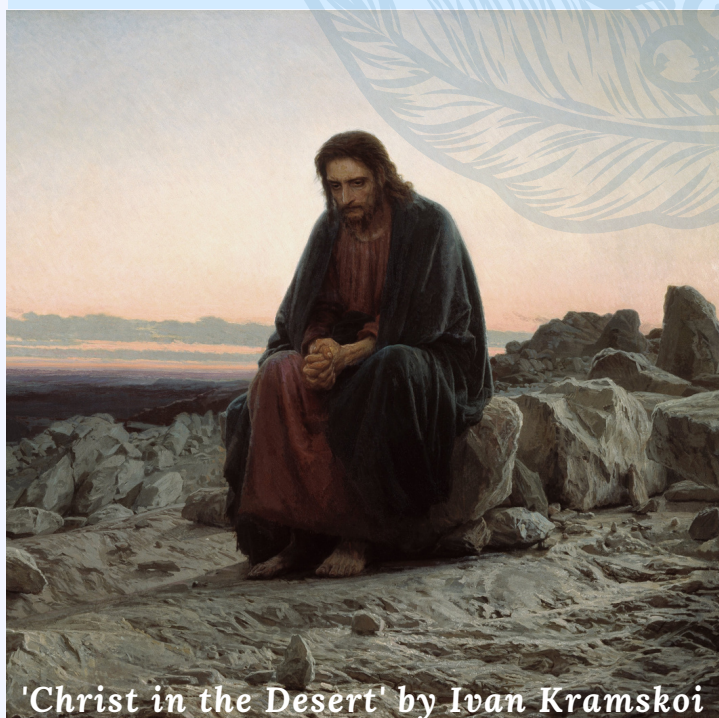
Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



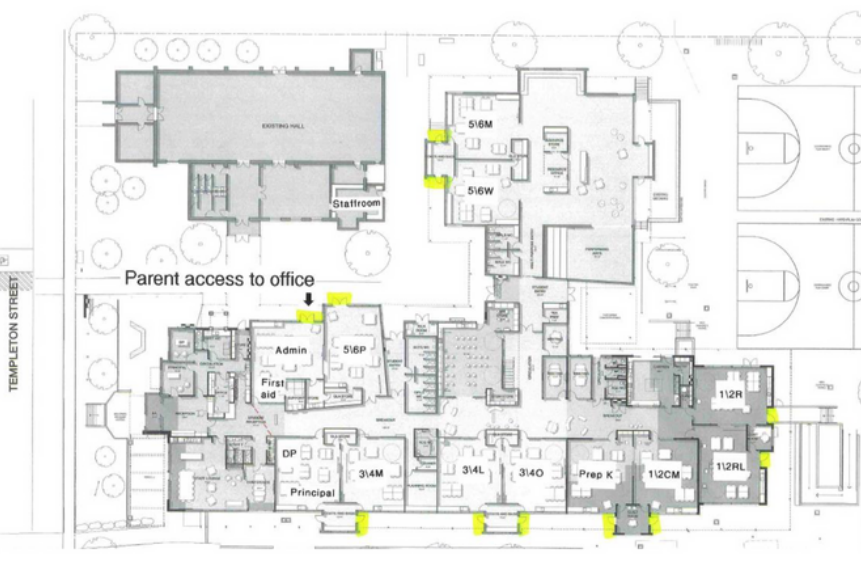
"When the Spirit of truth comes he will guide you into all truth." John 16:13

***Dear Jesus,
Give me strength and courage to change in me what needs to change and to become a more honourable person. Help me to see myself and my life through your unconditional love and acceptance of me so that your love and power can flow in and through me. Help me to remember that nothing can separate me from your love.***

Amen.



'Christ in the Desert' by Ivan Kramskoi



Map Indicating Your Child's Classroom

This floor plan indicates where your child's class will be located following our move from Thursday 23 February.

It also illustrates where you can access Justine and Karen, as well as where Mrs. Geisler and Ms Phillips will be. The highlighted areas mark where your children can enter the classroom via the external door.

Drop Off & Pick Up Points

Children can leave their bags outside their classroom doors when they arrive in the mornings from Monday onwards. Years 3-4O, 3-4L, 1-2R, 1-2RL and our Prep class can now enter the school in the mornings from Urquhart Street if they wish. The front of the school will remain fenced off until the second stage of the works are complete.

Please note that children can arrive from 8:30am onwards. They are not supervised before 8:30am.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Easter Raffle

Sandy Howe is organising our inaugural Easter Raffle fundraiser. More details further down in the newsletter (under School Events).





PARENTS' & FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

We are blessed with a diverse and talented St. Ambrose community and welcome your input and support. It is super to have so many parent helpers willing to assist in the classroom and with our school sporting events.

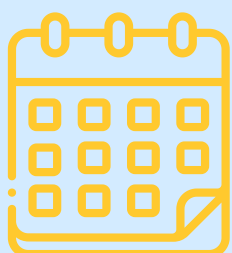
We are very pleased that we have enough parents who have attended the SAC training session and want to be a member of our School Advisory Council. Members will be announced in our next newsletter. If you would like to give support in another way, you may like to consider becoming a member of our Parents' & Friends' Association.

As a member of this association you can support fundraising and social activities. We haven't had a PFA for some years and now that Covid restrictions are behind us, it is time to get active again! We will also explore continuing our School Carnival and talk about how this could look. It would be great to get an idea of who can support this as well as what your thoughts are.

Please consider becoming part of this association which can be a great way to become involved with the school and have some fun. The PFA offers an opportunity for parents and friends to gather, become involved in school life and to provide support for the school in areas such as: social functions, maintenance of grounds, buildings and equipment.

How we run our PFA will depend on the level of interest and the needs of our school and community. If you are interested in supporting social events, working bees and fundraising events for our school, please consider joining our PFA.

Those interested can respond to the Operoo, which will be sent out next week. We will then contact all those interested to plan the next steps.



Up To Date Student Information

Please ensure that your records are up to date on Operoo. We are required to share these with the Australian Government as per the Operoo sent out last Monday. Thank you for attending to this request.

Canteen

Thank you for your responses to assist with our School Canteen, which we aim to re-open from Term 2. **We invite all those interested to assist with Canteen to attend a meeting at 9am in the School Library on Wednesday 22 March.**

We will discuss how the Canteen will run moving forward and on what day(s) it will open, which will be determined by those who can assist.



Nude Food

As part of our learning to live sustainably we are promoting a 'nude food' school environment and are encouraging students to reduce packaging in their lunches. We thank you for your support with this. In the interests of future generations, we are committed to supporting our children to live in a way that is cost effective and keeps our planet healthy.



TNT Liquid Sugar

We have a number of students bringing 'TNT Liquid Sugar' treats to school and having them for their morning snack. We discourage this as these treats are like eating lollies at a time when the children need a nutritious snack to nourish their bodies and brain. We ask that students keep these for out of school occasions.

School Fee Payment

HAVE YOU MADE A SCHOOL FEE PAYMENT WITH THE DETAILS 'Jordan Kurt Matt'?



We are not sure who has made this payment or which family to receipt this payment. Please contact the school office if this is for your school fees.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE PROGRAM



The Conveyance Allowance Program is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria varies depending on the type of school attended and where it is located. Students attending a government or non-government school must:

- Attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible.
- Be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne's metropolitan conveyance boundary.
- Reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended.
- Be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

If you believe you are eligible, please collect a form from the school office. If you completed a form in a previous year, you do NOT need to fill in another one. Any questions, please speak to Karen at the school office.

"True belonging is the spiritual practice of believing in and belonging to yourself so deeply that you can share your most authentic self with the world and find sacredness in both being a part of something and standing alone in the wilderness. True belonging doesn't require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are."

-Brené Brown
Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the
Courage to Stand Alone



AMBROSE CARE

Ambrose Care is a group of parishioners and St Ambrose school community parents and carers who wish to support others in our local community in their time of need.

In the past this has been achieved through:

- Providing home cooked meals.
- Batch cooking with others to keep a food bank stocked.
- Helping cater at funerals either through the provision of food or volunteering of time.
- Giving of gifts/vouchers distributed by the parish at Christmas time.
- Home visits.

Due to the interruptions of everyday life due to Covid, Ambrose Care has been operating at a very minimal level. As we all know, now more than ever, families and individuals are in need of support. This may be due to financial, health issues or other family pressures. Ambrose Care raises funds and volunteers time for those who require a helping hand.

A meeting is scheduled for Ambrose Care on Wednesday 22 March at 7pm in the St Ambrose Church. All are warmly welcome! This meeting is about brain-storming and discussing the best way to achieve this support for our community and the logistics of how it can be done. New ideas are always welcome!

Any questions, please reach out to Karen Basa: 0428 830 401
office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

or Sr Virginia Mahony: 0418 278 709 giniamahony@gmail.com

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**Wednesday 22 March
7pm
@ the St Ambrose
church**



SCHOOL EVENTS



ST. AMBROSE PARISH SCHOOL
**WELCOME
PICNIC**

ST AMBROSE SCHOOL OVAL

**FRIDAY 17 MARCH 2023
5:30 - 7PM**

**BYO PICNIC & RUG
NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



**WEAR SOMETHING
GREEN TO
CELEBRATE
ST PATRICK'S DAY!**



HOT CROSS BUN DRIVE
DELIVERY 4TH OF APRIL
THANK YOU TO BOURKIES BAKEHOUSE



Choc Chip - Fruitless - Traditional

**ORDER BY 26TH MARCH:
[HTTPS://MYSCHOOLCONNECT.COM.AU/
STAMBROSEFUNDRAISER](https://myschoolconnect.com.au/stambrosefundraiser)**

Funds raised will contribute to the new basketball courts



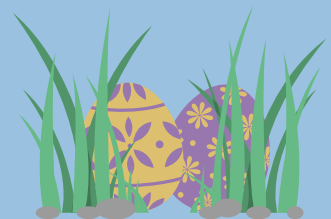
St Ambrose Easter Raffle Fundraiser

We are looking for donations from each family to create hampers for our Easter Raffle for the following items:

- Chocolate/Easter chocolates
- Soft toys
- Books
- Kitchenware with an Easter theme
- Vouchers

or anything you would like to win in a hamper. Please have your children drop their donation in the Easter Raffle box in their classroom.

Parents/carers please look out for raffle ticket books coming home in school bags.



Student News

Achievement & Initiative

Asha and Georgia are compiling a playlist to freshen up our music that we listen to when getting ready to come into our classrooms.



Kevin creating his Autumn Library wall.

Emmy Y competing at division tennis at Bendigo representing the Cobaw District. Emmy came 3rd in the comp -amazing effort!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

3 March - Harriet B

6 March - Hugh F & Emily S





Student Awards



Prep K Charlotte W for wonderful contributions to class discussion and sharing her ideas and thinking.

Prep K Baz R for always doing his best in all learning tasks and being so helpful to others.

1/2CM Lawson N for keeping his work and handwriting so neat!

1/2CM Ivy H for always trying her best every day!

1/2R Maggie C for making such a great start at St Ambrose.

1/2R Annie D for being a kind classmate!

1/2RL Mosako S for working extra hard during handwriting.

1/2RL Peaches K for always sharing her ideas in class.

3/4L Kitty B for approaching all her learning in a positive manner.

3/4L Ed R for showing great enthusiasm for his learning.

3/4M Madeline D for care and attention to her writing structure.

3/4M Walter G for his excellent persuasive writing.

3/4O Harriet B for her resilient response when faced with a challenge.

3/4O Orlando L for showing resilience and courage in reading at mass.

5/6M Hunter C for being responsible for his own learning. All homework tasks and diary signed by the due date. Well done!

5/6M Angus W for always being prepared to share his ideas and knowledge with the class.

5/6P Bruno B for his positive and mature approach to all aspects of his learning.

5/6P Isla W for exhibiting a consistently responsible approach to all areas of her learning.

5/6W Sidney M for great focus in class and full participation in his learning.

5/6W Liv S for taking feedback and making changes to improve her outcomes.

Sports Star of the Week - Sofia X for excellent hurdles height and technique!

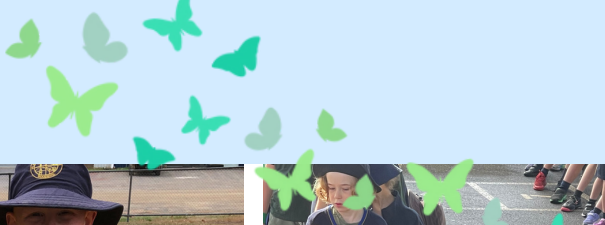
SPORTS CARNIVAL



SPORTS CARNIVAL



SPORTS CARNIVAL





"Please Go To Sleep"

I am sure these 4 words have been uttered in your house at some point or are perhaps being uttered nightly at the moment. It's no wonder the picture book for adults with the same title, (except for the added expletive) went off by storm a few years ago. Sleep is a pillar of your's and your children's wellbeing, however it can be a common battle in many households.

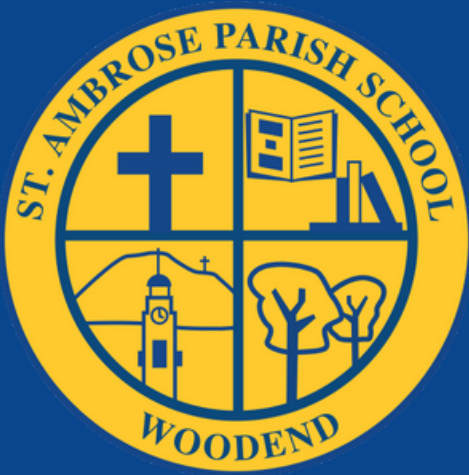
The team at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute have created an incredible online resource for all families, no matter the age of your children.

Sleep with Kip is full of evidence-based picture story books to support your children with great sleeping habits, free podcasts loaded with information for parents, as well as loads of researched articles. Sleep with Kip also has a quick Sleep Quiz to help guide you in the direction of the most appropriate resources to suit you and your family.

If this is of interest to you, according to the website, for the month of February they are offering 15% off their books. Click the link below to view the website.



<https://sleepwithkip.com>



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

All Welcome

Grades 1/2 Mass

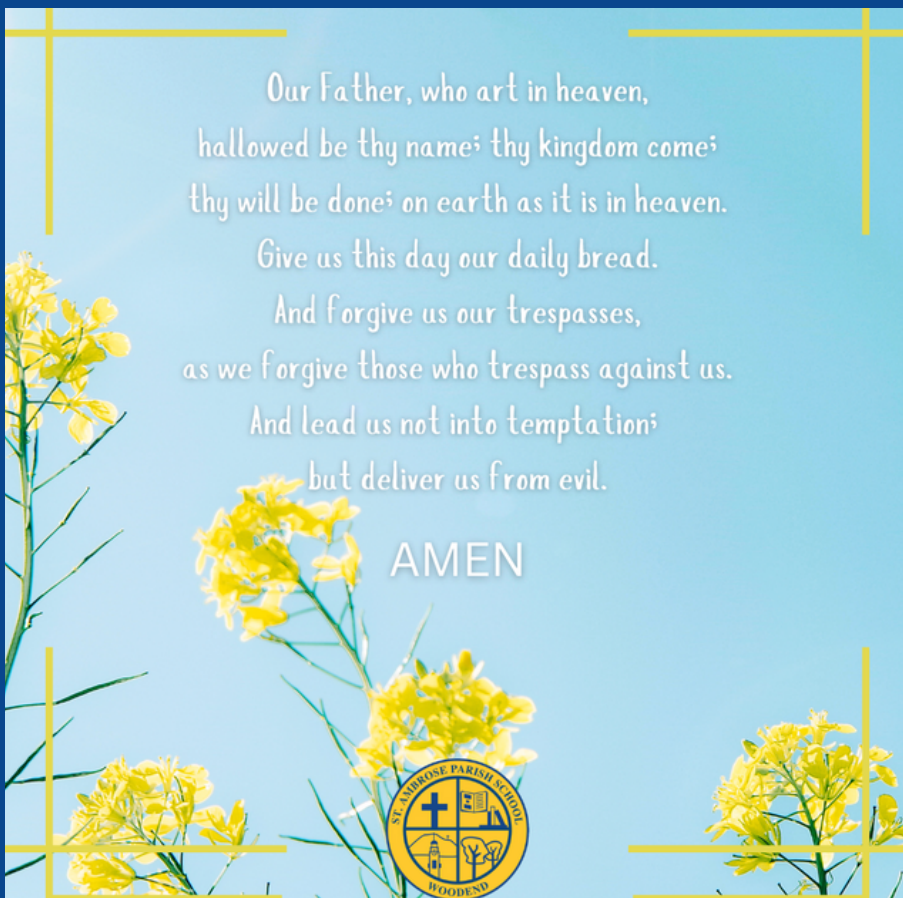
Wednesday 8 March

9:30am

St Ambrose Church



To view this week's Gospel,
please click [here](#).



“God will never abandon us, but we must trust that God’s timing and ways may not always align with ours. May this Lenten time remind us that Jesus’ journey to Calvary was a difficult one but always accompanied by the Father, the same loving God who walks with us today.” – Maria Ford



For all Faith & Family related matters, please email:
nicole.sherlockbyrne@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Important Sacrament of Reconciliation Dates

- Thursday 9 March
Reconciliation Preparation
Evening with Denise Arnel
6.30 -7.30pm
St Ambrose Church
- Wednesday 22 March
Sacrament of Reconciliation
12.30pm
St Ambrose Church

COMMUNITY NEWS



Macedon Carers Support Group

Do you provide unpaid care to a family member, friend or partner with disability, mental illness, chronic health issues, dementia or who is frail due to age?

Would you like some time out for yourself?

Would you like to be part of a peer led social support group with others experiencing similar situations?

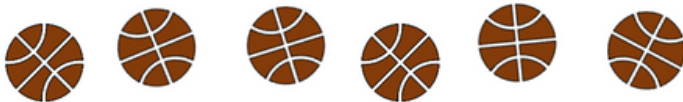
Come along to our initial Meet & Greet. Together we will enjoy a free afternoon tea, share information and resources, and support each other

Thursday 9 March 1.30 - 2.30pm
Holgate Brewhouse - 79 High St, Woodend

Limited spaces. Bookings essential. RSVP: 28 February

Bendigo Health Carer Support Services
carersupportservices@bendigohealth.org.au
5454 7719

Bendigo Health Carer Support Services delivers carer services in partnership with Merri Health, funded by the Australian Government and the Victorian Government.



Do your kids love basketball?

New and existing players welcome!

Registrations are now open for the Winter Junior Domestic Season

Games played Saturdays in the Sunbury competition

Age groups for the Winter season are:

- Under 12: Born 2013 & 2012
- Under 14: Born 2011 & 2010
- Under 16: Born 2009 & 2008
- Under 19: Born 2007, 2006 & 2005

To register click on the link below by the 11 March:

<https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/629ede>

For more information contact:

coordinator@woodendhawksbasketball.org.au

You're invited!

BUPA AGED CARE WOODEND OPEN DAY

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Come along to meet our new team and tour our home. Meet our lovely residents and join in a day of fun.

- Vintage Car show | Music | Art Show | Cooking demonstration
- Enjoy café coffee | A free BBQ lunch | & much, much more.

When: 25th March 2023 11am to 3pm

Where: 2 Sullivans Rd, Woodend VIC 3442

RSVP: Please call **5427 9700**
or email adminwoodend@bupa.com.au
to let us know you'd like to attend.



Bupa Aged Care cares for the health & wellbeing of all our residents. All visitors are required to do a RAT test and wear a face mask.

YEAR 7 2025 APPLICATIONS

Salesian College Sunbury



TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN GRADE 5

Here at Salesian College Sunbury we are proud of our relationship with our neighbouring schools and communities. We work together to provide a quality Catholic education to the young people of Sunbury and surrounds. We celebrate life and faith, prepare students to contribute positively, and provide opportunities to achieve excellence.

We would love to see you as part of our Salesian family.

Did you know that now is the time to apply for a place at Salesian College Sunbury in Year 7 2025? Applications are being accepted and close on Friday 18 August 2023.

Visit our website, or click here to apply. The online application form can be started, saved, and completed at any time. I invite you to visit our College website for all other information.

Our website also features a [virtual tour](#) where you can explore what makes us so unique and 'A Home that Welcomes'.

First round interviews for Year 7 2025 places will be conducted in early September 2023 and offers will go out October 20 2023, with acceptances due by November 10 2023. An interview booking link will be supplied to all applicants soon after the closing date.

If you require further information, please contact our College Registrar (details below).

Mark Brockhus
Principal - Salesian College Sunbury

BOOK A TOUR



MEET & GREET



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, ONE COMMUNITY

salesiansunbury.vic.edu.au | 03 9744 0000 | registrar@salesiansunbury.vic.edu.au