



St Ambrose Parish School

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



Acknowledgment
of Country
St Ambrose Parish
School respectfully
acknowledges the
traditional custodians of
our school site, the Dja
Dja Wurrung people. We
pay our respects to
Elders both past,
present and emerging
and give thanks for the
beautiful land we enjoy.



Term 1, 2023 Dates

Friday 17 March 2023	Twilight Picnic 5.30-7.00pm
Monday 20 March 2023	Whole School Photo Day
Monday 20-27 March 2023	NAPLAN
Tuesday 21 March 2023	Cross Country Colour Run 11.30-3.30pm Crazy Sock Day for World Down Syndrome Day
Wednesday 22 March 2023	Canteen Meeting 9.00am – Library Sacrament of Reconciliation 12.30pm Ambrose Care Meeting 7.00pm – Church Palm Sunday Whole School Liturgy 2.45pm
Thursday 23 March 2023	National Ride2school Day
Friday 24 March 2023	Grade 6 Canberra Camp
Mon 27 – Fri 31 March 2023	End of Term Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 29 March 2023	Good Friday Whole School Liturgy 2.45pm
Monday 3 April 2023	Sacred Heart College Year 5 Transition Day
Tuesday 4 April 2023	Hot Cross Bun Drive Pick Up – 3.00-3.45pm End of Term 1 – 3.30pm
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 to join the march from Bradley's Curtains at 11.30am

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Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,
We are now approaching the end of term one and with the major moving of classrooms behind us, the school has well and truly settled into a steady rhythm of learning as our students are adapting to their new areas, routines, and expectations. Our prep students have now commenced full-time learning so they will now be with us on Wednesdays.

Our students are the reason why our school exists. Watching them master a skill, or encounter new learnings is what brings us to work each day. I am very fortunate to see this happening across all year levels in our school.

I am the mother of three young adults who are a constant source of great joy. They keep me grounded and also remind me that parenting never stops and always has something new to teach us. Like you, I know what it's like to worry over their progress, but with time I have learned that even though I may want my children to experience happiness always, life isn't like that and we learn much from the bumps in the road as we go along.



When they encounter these challenges, communication with you in turn enables us to understand your children's needs better and work with you to guide them through...yes; resilience is the key!

I value working in a school community where in partnership we can openly engage in conversations about our beliefs and experiences and we encourage you to make contact with your child's teachers as you feel the need. With our focus firmly set on the values of the gospel and grounded in our vision, we are in a great position to enable our student's growth in a holistic way.

ST AMBROSE TWILIGHT PICNIC IS THIS EVENING MARCH 17TH! 5.30 PM - 7.00 PM!

This evening is designed to offer an informal and relaxed opportunity for you to mix and mingle, meet new families in our school community as well as catch up with old friends. Bring along a picnic rug and your own food and drinks. We are hoping for a fine evening so that we can enjoy our lovely oval and grounds where we will picnic. Note that our students can play in their regular play areas however it is the responsibility of their parents to supervise them.

We are having our PA system upgraded on this day therefore we may not be able to use it or play music for the picnic. We will still offer tours for any parents who haven't seen the new classrooms yet. You can meet me at the back of this new area if you would like to look through it. Our students have already been shown through so we will offer the tours for parents and friends.

We are looking forward to a terrific evening and we are hoping to see you there!

End of Summer

We have reached the end of summer but possibly not the end of warm weather. Please ensure that your child has their sun hat at school with them each day so that they can enjoy the outdoors with their friends.

Lost Property

With the changeable weather, we seem to have an abundance of lost property at school. If your child has misplaced an item of their school uniform (especially their jumper) please visit the Lost Property area next to the office to collect any missing items. If you are not sure where to go, our office staff will happily point you in the right direction.

Sibling Enrolments 2024

If you have a child to enrol in prep in 2024 at St. Ambrose please ensure that you lodge their enrolment application asap. This information will secure a place for your child in 2024 and assist us with forward planning.

School Photos on Monday

A reminder that our school photos will take place on Monday 20 March. Students are to come dressed in their full summer uniform however photos will be taken without jumpers or jackets on. Please return all photo envelopes to either the teacher or the office on Monday even if you are not placing an order.

2023 NAPLAN

Our year 3 & 5 students sat their Reading and Writing Naplan assessments this week. They will complete Language Conventions and Numeracy next week. We will also offer catch up tests for those children who have been absent up until March 27th.

An information letter was sent to families of year 3 & 5 students which had answers to many questions you might be thinking about.

We approach NAPLAN calmly and in a supportive manner with our students. Your children will benefit from plenty of rest and good nutrition.

Some children will take these days in their stride while others may feel tired and irritable. Understanding and encouragement from all of us will give them assurance. Contact your child's teachers if you have any wonderings.

See the timetable on the next page for next week.

St. Patrick's Day Prayer

May God give you,
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem, life sends
a faithful friend to share.
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal

You are *amazing*
 You are *important*
 You are *special*
 You are *unique*
 You are *kind*
 You are *precious*
 You are *loved*



This test does not assess all of what makes each of you exceptional and unique. The people that scores these tests don't know that some of you love to sing, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use a computer program. They have not seen the way that some of you can dance with grace or speak confidently to a large group. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them when they are sad. They do not know that you participate in sports, help your Mum or Dad or play with your little brother, sister or cousins. They do not know that you are caring, thoughtful and that every day you do your best. These attributes cannot be tested. The scores you get from this test will tell you how you did on that day, but they will not tell you everything. They can't tell you that you have improved on something that you once found difficult. They can't tell you that you brighten up your teacher's day. They can't tell you how amazingly special you are.



Proposed NAPLAN Testing Schedule

Monday 20 March	Writing	Grade 3 catch-up Writing Tests must be completed on this day.	
Wednesday 22 March	Conventions of Language	Grade 3 - 9.15am online	45 minutes
		Grade 5 - 12.00pm online	45 minutes
Thurssday 23 March	Numeracy	Grade 3 - 9.15am online	45 minutes
		Grade 5 - 12.00pm online	50 minutes

Catch up tests will be conducted as required.

Want to join the PFA?
 See last week's
 newsletter for details.



Building Update

Demolition has started on the administration area and work has also started on our new art and STEAM area. It is terrific to observe the progress.

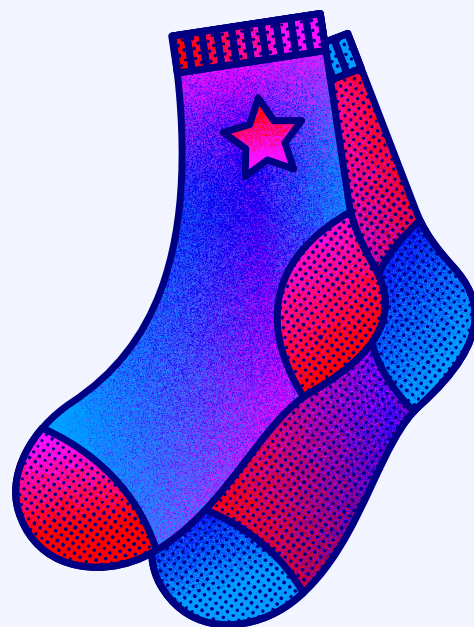


St Ambrose Welcome Two New Pet Turtles!

Our thanks to Mrs Woodman for donating two turtles! Mr Lawlor has set up the tank for them and our children are enjoying watching their antics. The children are going to take part to name our turtles.

Crazy Sock Day Tues 21 March 2023

Next week your children may wear crazy socks to school and bring along a gold coin donation to support Downs Syndrome Australia. Indeed the coloured socks will add a splash of extra colour to our colour run!



DISABLED PARKING AREA

We ask that you refrain from parking in the disabled parking space unless you have a permit to do so. There have been several occasions where people needing this space have not been able to use it because unauthorised cars are parked there. If you feel you qualify for a permit but don't have one, you can email accessibleparking@roads.vic.gov.au or speak to your local council.



Holy Week Activities

You can read about our Holy Week activities on the Faith and family page. This is a most significant period in the catholic Church. The events of Holy Week recount the so-called 'passion narratives' in the New Testament Gospels that relate to the suffering (passio in Latin), death and burial of Jesus Christ. Thus, Holy Week marks the end of the season of lent and the week leading up to Easter.



Cross Country Colour Run Tues 21 March 2023

Mrs Cavric has organised this popular event and the children have been training. They may come dressed in crazy coloured clothing which is comfortable to run in on this day. An old white t-shirt is recommended if they would like the coloured powder to show up well after the colour run! See the instructions in the Operoo.



A big thank you to the Woodend CWA for their \$100 donation to our School Library.

SCHOOL EVENTS



ST. AMBROSE PARISH SCHOOL
**WELCOME
PICNIC**

ST AMBROSE SCHOOL OVAL
Your paragraph text

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

**BYO PICNIC & RUG
NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED**

See you tonight



**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



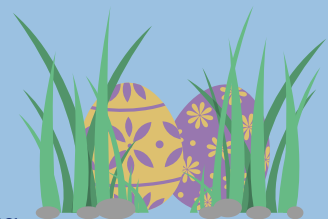
St Ambrose Easter Raffle Fundraiser

Thank you for your fantastic donations which will be used to create hampers for our Easter Raffle.

If you would like to donate, we are looking for anything Easter themed that you would like to win yourself in a hamper!

Please have your children drop their donation in the Easter Raffle box in their classroom.

Tickets may be returned to the office by Monday 3 April 2023.
The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term - Tuesday 4 April 2023.



SCHOOL EVENTS



WORLD **DOWN SYNDROME** DAY

'With Us Not For Us!'

*Please join Owen, Sophie
and our social justice
leaders Emmy and Hamish
in celebrating
World Down Syndrome Day
on Tuesday, 21st of March.*



Tuesday, MARCH 21

*We are encouraging students to wear different
socks, brightly coloured socks, long socks,
printed socks, mismatched socks, or any kind of
fun socks in honour of our friends, raising
awareness and celebrating diversity.*

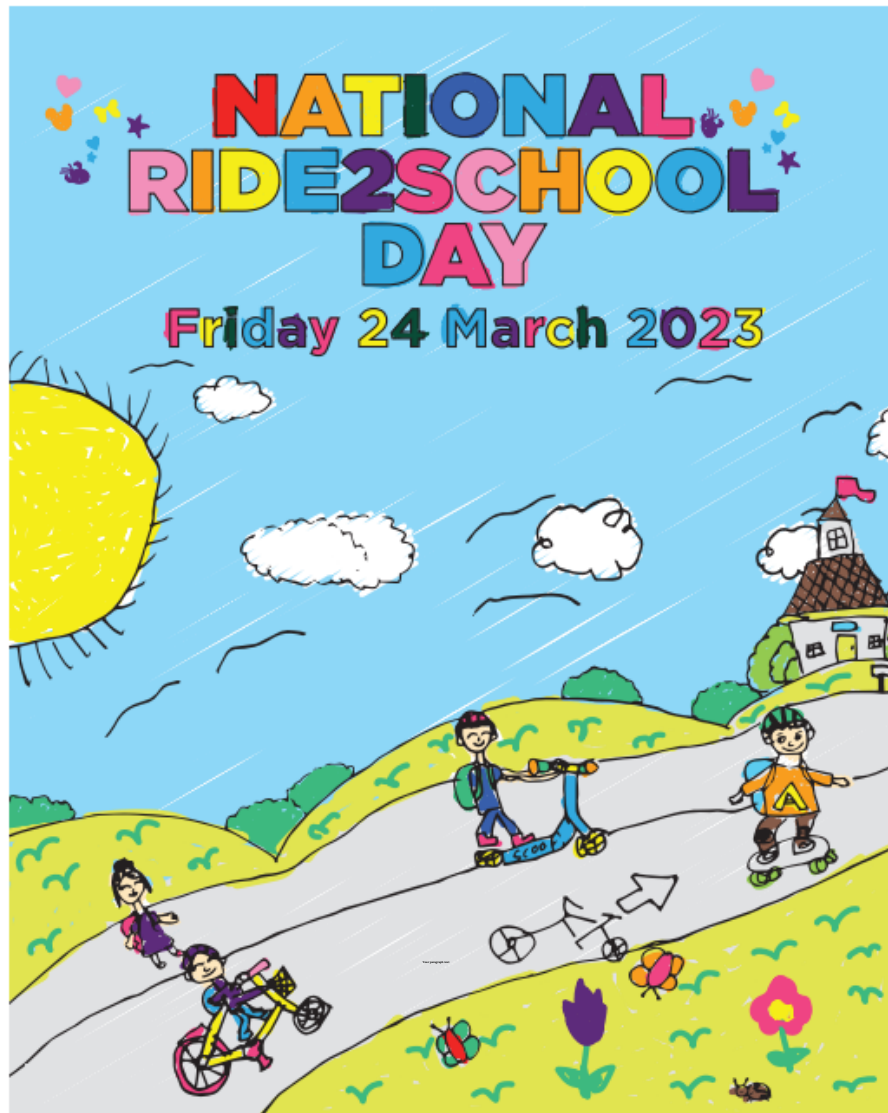


Please donate a gold coin and help support



world down syndrome day

SCHOOL EVENTS



ride2school.com.au

St Ambrose Parish School is excited to be celebrating National Ride2School Day on Friday 24 March 2023.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go.

It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!

#ride2school #ride2schoolday

If you haven't had your bike out for a while, it's a good idea to just check it over, pump up the tyres and oil the chain. You could take it to the local bike shop too.

Parents/carers can have a practice ride with your kid(s) beforehand.

If you live too far from school to ride all the way, why not take the bike in the car (if possible) and park a bit further away and ride from there.

Remember, children under 12 are allowed to ride on the footpaths with someone older accompanying them. Just ride slowly around pedestrians.

Let's hope for a dry day!

Student News

Achievement & Initiative

Almost finished!

James, Kevin & Caellan donated their time to redo the Awesome Autumn Mural in the Library.



Jack and Ryder proudly displaying their creative designs for rainbow 100 bee ticket certificate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

12 March - George L & Dominic O

13 March - Rose A & Hamish M

14 March - Harry O & Lizzy R

17 March - Tyler T

18 March - Max K

20 March - Felix D

22 March - Ben L

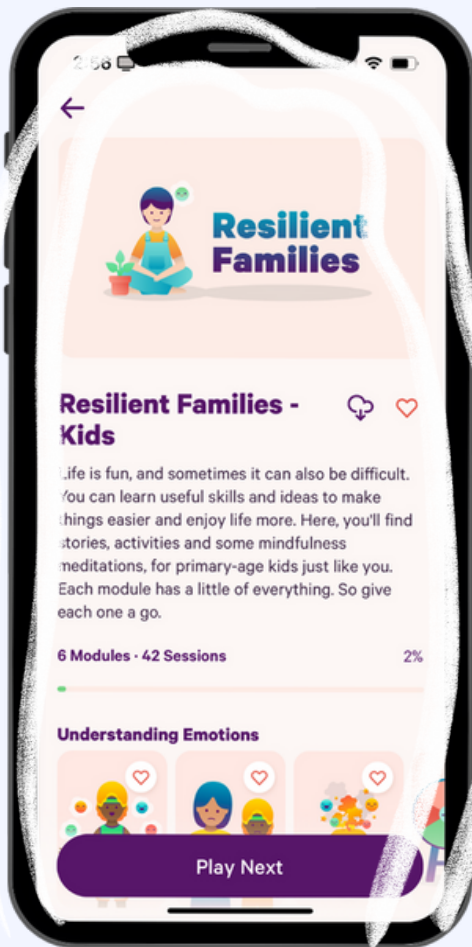
AROUND THE SCHOOL





Smiling Mind Resilient Families Program

Click the title above to go to the homepage.



The Resilient Families Program supports the mental health and well-being of children and their families. Smiling Mind's psychologists developed the program through extensive consultation with children and their parents. It's led by evidence and created to fit into everyday family life. Featuring a variety of modules—each packed with bite-sized activities—the Resilient Families Program is designed to bring families together through the development of a common language. It seeks to help kids develop key social and emotional skills and equips parents and carers with the tools to support them to build their mental fitness.

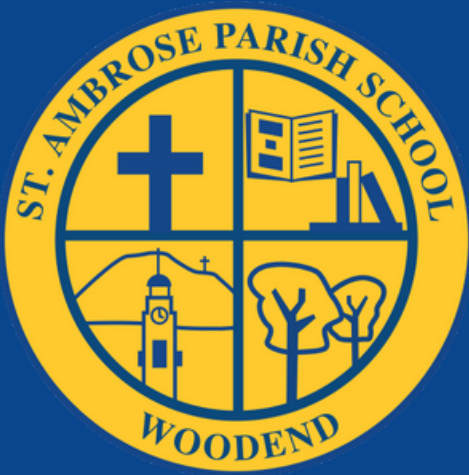
Supporting kids to build resilience and well-being through learning, practicing, and developing emotional regulation, coping strategies, and social skills. The program fosters Children's social connections and provides parents with the tools to help build a resilient family.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family



To view this week's Gospel,
please click here.



LENTEN PRAYER

This Lent, may your truth reveal us to ourselves and set us free in you. God of the nations, lead and direct so that truth and truthfulness may direct our leaders, inform our nation, and govern our business and our everyday lives, so that we may live in justice and peace together. Give us and all who thirst for you that living water of your Spirit:

water of refreshment,
water of healing,
water of cleansing,
water of life.
Amen

**God meets us where we are.
Where does God meet you
today?**

**What part of your life is thirsting
for God's love?**



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

Important Dates

- Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wednesday 22 March - 12.30pm
- Palm Sunday Liturgy
Thursday 23 March – 2.45pm
- End of Term 1 Whole School Mass
Wednesday 29 March – 9.30am
- Holy Thursday Liturgy
Thursday 30 March – 2.45pm
- Good Friday Liturgy
Monday 3 April – 2.45pm
- Easter & Resurrection of Jesus
Monday 24 April – 2.45pm

All events take place at St Ambrose Church
& everyone is welcome.

COMMUNITY NEWS



School Holiday Program April 2023

WORK ON CORE SKILLS
IN A POSITIVE AND
AFFIRMING WAY:

- Teamwork
- Cooperation
- Problem Solving
- Turn Taking
- Fine and Gross Motor Skills
- Making connections with peers



PROGRAMS ON OFFER

PRESCHOOL AND PREP

- General Skills (Dinosaur)
- Early Language - Play Pals

GRADE 1 AND GRADE 2

- General Skills (Dinosaur)
- General Skills (Minecraft)
- Let's Get Physical (Gross Motor Skills)
- Let's Cook!

GRADE 3 TO GRADE 6

- General Skills (Minecraft)
- Let's Cook!
- Let's Get Dramatic! - Drama Games

TEENS

- Let's Get Dramatic! - Drama Games

NEW

Let's Get Dramatic!

- Drama Games
- Grade 3+ and Teens

Play Pals

- Early Language support
- Preschool and Prep

Tiny tackers DANCE

BALLET TAP JAZZ

"3 styles in 1 hour"

9.15-10.20am	4 yrs
10.20-10.50am	2 yrs
11.00-12.00am	3 yrs

Monday

- WOODEND

Tuesday

- GISBORNE



Contact: Buffalo Sports Stadium
Phone: 5427 3411
Email: studio2tinytackers@mssc.vic.gov.au



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

Aquatic & Leisure Centres

ALL AGES


FRI MAR 31 | WOODEND BOWLING CLUB
\$17 ALL AGES | BYO FOOD | DRINKS AT THE BAR




JASPER BYRON
HANNAH COOPER
+ support from ELYSIUM,
HER DISDAINED HEART & SNOW ROACHES

BOOK IN AT

MRYIM.AU



Event by

Macgregor's Farm
78 Old Lancefield Rd, Woodend North
cnr Barkers Road

When: Saturday, 1st April 2023
10 am – 3 pm

If you are interested in participating on the sales side
call our Secretary: on 0418 638 791 to book your spot.