

Friday 31 March, 2023



Next
newsletter
will be week 1
of
Term 2

St Ambrose Parish School

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



*We respectfully acknowledge
the traditional custodians
of the land on which
our school is built.*

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Term 1 & 2, 2023 Dates

Monday 3 April 2023	Good Friday Whole School Liturgy 2.45pm
Tuesday 4 April 2023	Sacred Heart College Year 5 Transition Day Junior Colour Run 2.30-3.05 pm (all welcome – shade sail area) Easter Raffle Draw (after Colour Run 3.10pm) 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 11.15am for 11.30am start
Sunday 7 May 2023	Confirmation Commitment Mass 11.00am
Monday 8 May 2023	Grade 4 ADANAC Camp
Tuesday 9 May 2023	Grade 4 ADANAC Camp
Wednesday 10 May 2023	Grade 4 ADANAC Camp
Thursday 11 May 2023	Confirmation preparation evening with Denise <u>Amel</u> 6.30pm - church
Tuesday 23 May 2023	Cobaw Winter Sports – Grade 5 & 6
Monday 12 June 2023	King's Birthday public holiday
Sunday 18 June 2023	Sacrament of Confirmation – 1.00pm & 3.00pm
Wednesday 21 June 2023	Whole School End of Term Mass – 11.00am
Friday 23 June 2023	End of Term – students dismissed at 2.30pm
Monday 10 July 2023	Start of Term 3

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

Many adventurous recounts have already been shared about the escapades our year six students enjoyed whilst on camp in Canberra. The photos reflect the diverse experience they have had. We are so happy that they had a memorable time and we commend them for their co-operative behaviour and for embracing all that was on offer over these five days. Thank you also to our wonderful teachers, Mrs. Mac, Mrs. White, Mr. Portelli, Joel, and Janene as well as to Scott Vernon for all they did to ensure our children had a positive time away.

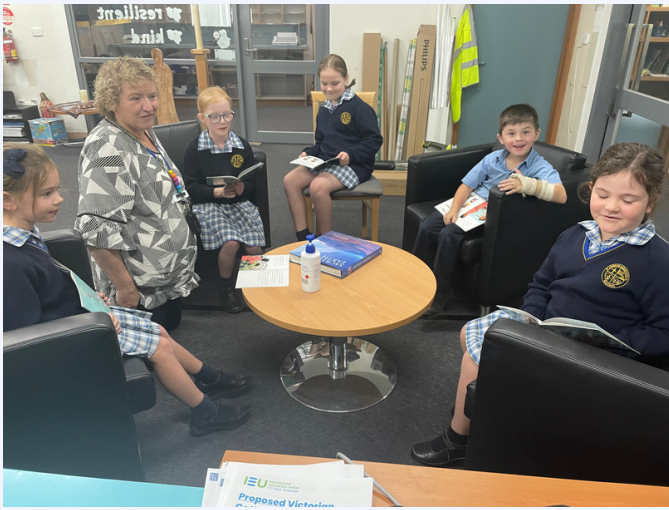
As the term draws to a close it is fitting to reflect on our achievements. Indeed, we feel blessed to have a dynamic team of dedicated staff whom all offer their gifts and talents towards creating a rich teaching and learning environment that also prioritises the health and wellbeing of our children.

Although we have had some rain, our children have experienced some beautiful autumn afternoons playing outdoors this week. We thank Meagan Stewart who has provided much relaxation and satisfaction for our young gardeners who planted garlic this week. When our new security cameras go in we will bring the hens back to our garden area.



Some highlights for this term have included:

- getting to know our new staff.
- developing a sense of belonging as a school community and establishing a respectful way of learning together.
- developing and seeing ourselves as learners.
- settling into our new classrooms and moving out of our administration areas to start stage two of our building project.
- enjoying our new play areas.
- celebrating Mass and liturgy together as a school and as classes.
- developing leadership skills particularly in year 6 and students taking on responsibility for projects.
- buddy learning and coming to know our new community members.
- garden club activities with Meagan.
- participation of Years 3-6 in the inter-school sporting events
- our school sports and cross-country colour run.
- re-establishing our School Advisory Council.
- our Easter raffle.
- making progress with our learning.
- welcoming our turtles!
- the Sacrament of Reconciliation and holy week liturgies.
- Staff participating in the Berry St. Training.
- continuing our Positive Behaviour for Learning work.
- using our AGILE Leadership Tools to set goals and to evaluate our progress with our school improvement framework.
- getting better at reading in our guided reading groups.



Friendships

Friendships are an important part of childhood, but social skills don't come easily to all children. Some children struggle to take turns, play make believe games, share, control their anger or let others have their say. Others may be hesitant to join in, feel socially awkward, hover at the margins of groups or are naturally more introverted- and that's okay because we are all different!

As parents we can't make friends for our child, but we can help them to develop and practice key social skills. This is where some coaching at home can help. Focus on positive behaviours you want to reinforce.

Catch your child during family playtime and praise them as this makes them more likely to repeat the desired behaviour.

("That was really kind how you took turns playing with the doll, you are being a good friend to your brother.")

Supervised play dates might provide you with ways to help your child practice socialising in a warm, supportive environment - you could talk about being a good host, what games they might like to play, checking if their friend is still enjoying the activity and negotiating what to do next. Joining a team or club are also a good way to make friends as they provide a shared area of interest and built-in structures to help minimise anxiety - you might like to role play what they could say when they arrive or how to introduce themselves.

As a parent you are modelling good social behaviour in all your interactions. You can use these natural opportunities to highlight kind and respectful ways to behave in the conversations you have with family, friends, online, to your wait staff, shop assistants and customer service representatives - Our children are always watching and learning from us! Our PBL expectations promote social behaviours that are conducive to making friends and being a good friend.

The following link reveals free resources on how to be a good friend.



Uniform & Hair Wear

As you know, our school has a uniform policy which you can read via the following link:



We ask that you ensure that your children are wearing their full school uniform which includes black footwear, plain navy socks, and navy hair wear.

Your children may wear their winter unifom from term two.

Berry St Training

The Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) is a practical approach to teaching and learning that enables teachers to increase engagement with students and successfully improve all students' self-regulation, growth, and academic achievement.

"As an educator and leader, Berry Street has helped me to understand the intricacies of students – what they need when they need it, and how they need it "

The BSEM will support our PBL and further equip us to cater to our student's learning needs and prepare them for and tune them into learning.

Some of us have already done the four-day training and we were fortunate to be able to send a further five of our staff this week to start this course.

This model offers a variety of methods and strategies for movement breaks and to engage students.



Staffing Changes in Term Two

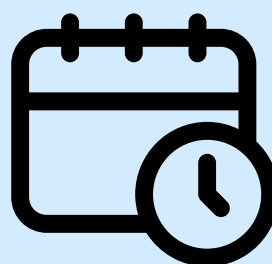
We thank Mrs. White for sharing her expertise and vibrance over the past five terms and we wish her very well in the next chapter of her life. Mrs.

Alison Condliffe will teach 5-6 CT from term two on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri. (outside of specialist time) Mrs. Haley Te Wiata will be their teacher on Wednesdays. Alison and Haley will work together and with the team to plan for the students and will be a welcome addition to our Year 5-6 team.



Thankyou

Our thanks to Jess, Sandy, and Rilla for doing a wonderful job packaging our raffle prizes. Thank you to you all for your generous donations. Winners will be announced next term.



**Term 1 finishes
at 3.30pm
on
Tuesday 4 April 2023**

ANZAC DAY SAVE THE DATE

We welcome your participation in the local ANZAC day March on April 25th. If you are participating in the march, please assemble on the slip road near the Chinese restaurant & Bradley's Curtains by 11.15am. The march commences at 11.30am. Please note that the march will pause at the clock tower to allow veterans to lay a wreath at the Vietnam memorial then the clock tower. It will then proceed to the RSL premises. On arrival, please take up a position in front of the RSL, but not in the carpark (which is reserved for the veteran body).

1. The Service - commences at 11.45am. Main features:
2. Ken Bryce will be MC.
3. Guest speaker
4. School participation

We ask that students wear full school

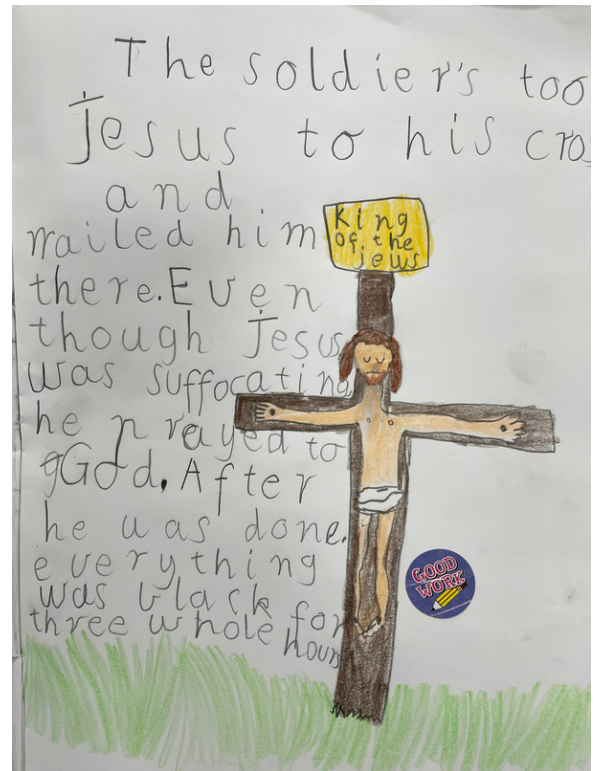


Remembrance Day

LEST WE FORGET

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them"

We are not all in the same boat. We are in the same storm. Some have yachts, some canoes, and some are drowning. Just be kind and help whoever you can.



May you all enjoy a relaxing and rejuvenating term break.
Happy Easter.

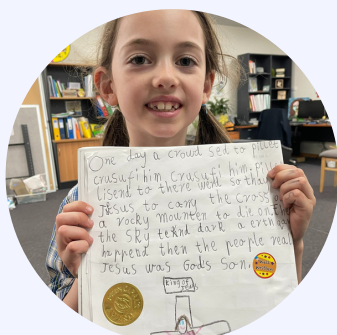


Bronwyn Phillips
Principal

THANKYOU CWA



The Country Women's Association is the largest regional and rural advocacy group in Australia. The CWA is alive and thriving in Woodend and they welcome new members. Pictured is Anita, Orlando and Mel presenting Ms Shannon with the \$100 voucher they have kindly donated to our library.



Student News



31 March	Micah W
1 April	Emily B
6 April	Catalina B
7 April	Hunter C
9 April	Holly M
10 April	Grace H
11 April	Elle S
12 April	Jorel L
	Max N
14 April	Aston M
	Jett M
	Madison M
15 April	Isla M
18 April	Asher J
22 April	Haley C
24 April	Jim G

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



SCHOOL EVENTS



HOT CROSS BUN DRIVE

DELIVERY 4TH OF APRIL

THANK YOU TO BOURKIES BAKEHOUSE



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ORDERS!

COLLECTION AT THE FRONT
OF THE SCHOOL BETWEEN
ADMIN AND HALL
3.00-3.45PM
4 APRIL 2023



St Ambrose Easter Raffle

Thank you for your generous donations
for our hampers.

The raffle will be drawn after
the junior Colour Run at 3.10pm
on Tuesday 4 April 2023
under the shade sails.

Good luck and Happy Easter!!



Victorian
**premiers'
reading
challenge**



**WILD
ABOUT
READING**

VICTORIA
State
Government

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and (insert school name) is excited to be participating. The PRC application offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
- a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 8 September 2023.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklist and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: <https://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge>

GRADE 6 CAMP

On Monday the 27th of March the grade 6's departed school at 7:30am and went to Canberra on an 8 hour bus ride. Along the way we stopped at Euroa, Holbrook, and Gundagai. After a long time we finally arrived at Ibis Styles resort!

On Tuesday (day two), we went to Government House where we learnt about the life of the Governor General David Hurley as well as his service and responsibilities to Australia. While there, we even got to touch the grass, which we were told was off-limits. In the reception room, Matthew, Vivi and Caellan were lucky enough to play on the grand piano which Hugh Jackman has also played on. Our next stop was the AIS (Australian Institute of Sport), where we enjoyed a sports experience. This included trying lots of different sports as well as testing our agility and reflexes. In the afternoon, we visited the Old Parliament House where we learnt about the Senate and were able to use interactive displays to learn about milestones in democracy. For example, when women were finally able to vote and the inclusion of our First Nations peoples in the census. Our final tour for the day was at the AEC (Australian Electoral Commission). We learnt about the election process and preferential voting. Our night concluded with a game of ten-pin bowling. Micah was the overall winner with a great score of 125.

On Wednesday (day three), we went to the National Capital Exhibition and learnt about how Canberra was formed. We learnt how Canberra is a planned city and how important landmarks form a triangle. Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion were the talented architects of our nation's capital. We continued our day at a very secure Parliament House due to members sitting this week. We met with our local member, Honourable Rob Mitchell and participated in a mock parliament session. Emmy was our PM and Matthew was our Opposition Leader. Aidan S had the privilege of being the Speaker of the House. Afterwards, we observed readings in both the Senate and House of Representatives. Unfortunately, only 3 minutes after we left the House of Representatives, the clocks began to buzz with a green light flashing which meant all members, including the Prime Minister, were to rush into the room to vote upon the reading. Sadly we missed seeing the action.

After lunch, our tours continued at the Australian War Memorial where we went on a guided tour of WW1 and WW2. It was really sad to learn that so many people have died in so many different wars. We reflected in the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and explored the many names listed in the memorial walk.

Our afternoon ended with a lot of fun on the pod playground at the National Arboretum. Later that night, we went to Mt Ainslie Lookout. And that was the end of day 3!

On Thursday (day 4) our day began at Questacon which is a very large discovery science centre. We explored 4 levels of different science activities finishing on the last floor which had a vertical slide. Many of us were brave enough to go down including Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. White. We then enjoyed an Embassy drive where we saw lots of different High Commissions and Embassies. To our surprise, these buildings were architecturally designed to represent their country. The USA embassy took up a whole block and was built on imported American soil and bricks. We then went to the National Gallery of Australia where we were led by curators in exploring different art pieces and then completed our own art classes. One of the most interesting pieces was a life size man and fridge, made completely out of wax which is slowly melting down.

Our day ended with a visit to the Australian Mint. Our guide was very entertaining as he explained the history of our currency. We saw a large drum of unmarked \$1 coins being dumped onto the conveyor belt by a robot called "Titan", ready to be stamped. There were about 50 000 gold coins in the drum. We then were able to mint our very own \$1 coin. Our evening ended with a lot of laughs and competitiveness with our traditional camp trivia night.

On Friday (day 5) we woke early to have our breakfast and were on the bus by 7:15am. We arrived back at home mid-afternoon. Camp was a lot of fun. We learnt a lot and we're so grateful that our parents and teachers were able to give us this experience.

By Alexandra and Vivianna



GRADE 6 CAMP



GRADE 6 CAMP



GRADE 6 CAMP





Mental Health & Wellbeing at St Ambrose

Erin Brass

The BRAVE PROGRAM.

The BRAVE Program is an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. The programs are free, and provide ways for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are also programs for parents.

Created and developed by the University of Queensland in conjunction with Beyond Blue.

[Click here for The Brave Program](#)

Let's Begin

Select a session below

Session 1
What is Anxiety?

Session 2
Managing Your Child's Anxiety

Session 3
Anxious Body Signs and Relaxation

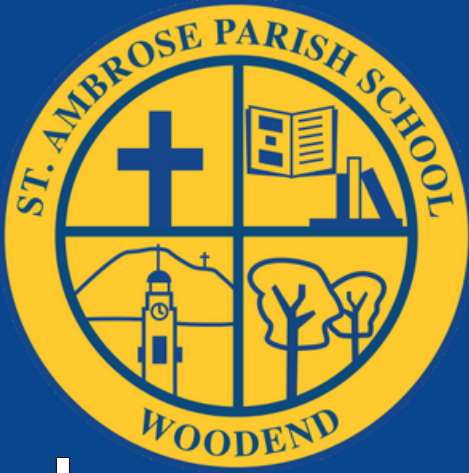
Session 4
Activate Helpful Thoughts

Session 5
Victory Over Fears

Session 6
Problem Solving and Planning for the Future

Session 7
Welcome Back!

Session 8
Revisiting the BRAVE Program



Holy Week Liturgies

Good Friday Liturgy -
Monday 3rd April – 2.45pm

Easter Liturgy -
Monday 24th April – 2.45pm

Liturgies are in the St Ambrose Church
and all are welcome.

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

Holy Thursday Liturgy

JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS Faith & Family

The Love of Jesus

This is love.
Not that you spoke words of comfort,
walked with the unclean and unloved,
shared wisdom, bread and wine,
brought healing into lives
and challenged the status quo.

This is love.
That you spoke the word of God,
walked a painful road to the Cross,
shared living water, bread of life,
brought Salvation to the world
and died for the sake of all.

This is love.
It is a seed
sown in the ground,
which germinates,
blossoms,
and spreads its sweet perfume.

On Thursday we gathered in the church to listen to the scripture story of Jesus' last meal with his friends. They had gathered to celebrate the Passover which is a major feast for Jewish people. It remembers how God saved the people by helping them to escape from slavery in Egypt. Jesus washed the feet of his friends as an act of service and he shared a meal with them. He told them at the end of this meal that when they gathered to eat the bread and drink the wine in his memory, he would be present with them, just as he was for us at Mass.

Take a moment to listen to the still small voice of God within the bustle of the day which has begun. Find a quiet place where you can enjoy precious moments of peace in God's presence. Sit quietly and listen to the sounds of the world around you, both outside and in the place where you are. Breathe slowly and rest in God's presence.....



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



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family



Congratulations to the following candidates who received their Sacrament of Reconciliation last week:

Edwin L
Hugo L
Eire B
Harriet B
Amari B
Catalina B
Alice C
Patrick F
Varli F
Jim G
Leon G
Billie H
Orlando L Forgia
Hamish M
Scarlett M
Joseph O
Hunter R
Joshua R
Ruby Z W
A.J S
Haley C
Olivia C
Jessica F
Isabelle M

God bless you on your first reconciliation.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Easter School Holiday Workshop 'ACTING FOR FUN'

... with professional actor and experienced teacher, **ANGELA KENNEDY**

(Credits include : MAMMA MIA!, ANNIE, STRICTLY BALLROOM THE MUSICAL, COME FROM AWAY, SONS AND DAUGHTERS, HOME AND AWAY, ALL SAINTS, PACKED TO THE RAFTERS, DR BLAKE)
Cert IV in Training and Assessment and Current Working With Children Check

Come join me for a full day of fun
'Being an Actor'
in an inspiring and safe environment.

Thursday 20th April	Friday 21st April
Primary School students Age 9-12 yrs	High School students Age 13+ yrs
10am-4pm	10am-4pm

COST: \$85

Please bring your own lunch, snacks and water bottle.

FRESH FRUIT PROVIDED

VENUE: St Mary's Church Hall 85 Main St, Romsey.

ANGELA 0419 617 736

performersbusiness@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/youthcocreate/>

Regular Saturday afternoons starting 29th April (Please enquire)



Open Evening

**Discover, Create
Learn**

Thursday 27 April, 4:00pm - 8:00pm
Book online: shckyneton.catholic.edu.au

Hands on activities, information sessions and displays
- lots to see and do.



SACRED HEART COLLEGE KYNETON

A Member of Mercy Education Limited - ABN 69 154 531 870

www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au
T: 5421 1200 E: d.lawrence@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au

Be a Girl Guide

Did you know there is a Girl Guide Unit in Woodend?
Guiding helps girls to gain new skills, make a difference
in the community and explore a world of possibilities.

Girls aged 5 - 16 are invited to come to our Unit meetings.

Where? Woodend Guide and Scout Hall, 14 Forest Street,
Woodend (behind the log cabin!)

When? Monday 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Curious?

T: Felicity - 0407 835 936 or Michelle - 0409 568 873

E: reception@guidesvic.org.au

www.guidesvic.org.au



**GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
VICTORIA**





Egg-cellent EASTER EVENT

Come and join us at the
Woodend Neighbourhood House
for some Easter Fun

**Easter Egg Hunt • Biscuit Decorating • Crafts
Colouring Competition**

**THURSDAY 6 APRIL
3PM - 4.30PM**

\$5 per child
parent/carer supervision required

Bookings Essential:
5427 1845 or woodendnh.org.au



