

Term Four, Newsletter 28
Friday 24th November, 2023



St Ambrose Parish School

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



We acknowledge and respect the past and present Elders, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and custodians of this land the Dja Dja Wurrung people. Thank you for protecting and preserving our land Australia in the past, for sharing it now and educating us for the future.



Jesus, you are light
even in the darkest
places.
Help us to trust in
you when we are lost
or lonely.
Shine hope into our
hearts we pray.
Amen.

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Monday 27 Nov – Fri 1 December 2023	Walk for Mental Health
Tuesday 28 November 2023	Grade 5 visit Goodstart Centre Grade Prep & 1/2 excursion to Ripponlea
Wednesday 29 November 2023	Advent Paraliturg 2.45pm – whole school
Thursday 20 November 2023	Scooter Safety Program in Junior PE
Friday 1 November 2023	Bike Ed. In PE – Grades 3-6
Monday 4 December 2023	Braemar College Orientation Day
Tuesday 5 December 2023	Prep Orientation Session 3 - 9-11am Grade 1-6 Going Up Day – 9-11am Uniform fitting 11-12pm School Advisory Board meeting 5.30-7pm Parents & Friends meeting 7-8pm
Wednesday 6 December 2023	St Ambrose Day Celebration Incurion End of Term/St Ambrose Feast Day Mass – 9.30am Canteen – Special Menu
Thursday 7 December 2023	St Ambrose Feast Day Scooter Safety Program in Junior PE School Picnic & Christmas Carols – 5.30-7.30pm – raffle winners announced
Friday 8 December 2023	Bike Ed. In PE – Grades 3-6
Monday 11 December 2023	Grade 6 Graduation Liturgy 6.30-8pm
Tuesday 12 December 2023	Sacred Heart College, Gisborne Secondary College, Kyneton Secondary College & Maribyrnong College Orientation Day
Wednesday 13 December 2023	Canteen closed Advent Paraliturg 2.30pm
Thursday 14 December 2023	Grade 6 Graduation Day Out
Friday 15 December 2023	Last day of term Students dismissed 3.30pm
Monday 18 December 2023	Numeracy Testing (by appointment)
Tuesday 19 December 2023	Numeracy Testing (by appointment)

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

This week we congratulated our students who entered their work in the Kyneton show. All work was commended! Indeed it made an eye-catching exhibition and other pieces an engaging read for patrons to admire. You can see the details later in this edition which include a winning entrant in the writing competition!

I had the pleasure of meeting again this week with our PFA (Parents & Friends Association) A team of devoted parents are actively working to enable further opportunity for engagement and enjoyment for our students and community.

Last week our fete committee (sub-committee of the PFA) asked for your support to ensure that we can go ahead with our planned fete and make this event one for our children, families, and local community to come together and have some fun.

As part of our SAC initiative to involve families in our school and to ensure we can offer programs that maximise the use of our fantastic school facility, we are asking you to **volunteer in some way to support our school fete**. Note that this can be your 2 (or more) hour contribution for term one. If you scroll to the next page you will see the range of areas where you can be of service. Contact details are also included.

We sincerely thank you in advance for giving your support wherever you can (every contribution helps!)

We do need your help to make our fete happen.

Our fete committee is looking forward to hearing from you!

Parent as Helper Training

We invite all those needing to do their parent as helper training course (this needs to be done every three years) to attend our first opportunity to train for the 2024, 2025 &

2026 school years to join us on Step Up day (**Tuesday December 5th**) in the staff room at **9.10 am**.

The training course takes approximately one hour.

Building Update

The new carpet has almost finished being laid in the new library and 5-6 area. We will soon be moving back in to this space! The picture shows the colour scheme and furnishings ordered for what will be a beautiful learning area!



St Ambrose Diversity & Inclusion Committee (SADI)

Our St Ambrose Diversity and Inclusion Committee (SADI) have an introductory article coming up in this bulletin which is worth reading! You may like to join or seek support from this group. They welcome you to reach out at any stage.

Class Groupings for 2024 & Uniform Fitting

Our teachers are currently collaborating to finalise our class groupings for 2024. Your children will find out who their teacher for 2024 is on step-up day on December 5th. **Note that Hip Pocket will be onsite with uniform items that your children can try for sizing purposes.** You can see them in the admin area between 11.00 and 12.00 pm on this day. They will also offer a sizing time at the end of term 1, 2, and 3.

[Uniform information](#)

St Ambrose Day Celebrations

We have kite-making and Green Hat (block construction) workshops planned to celebrate our patron saint's feast day. Students can also order a special St Ambrose Day lunch box from the canteen (detailed later in the newsletter) and all students will receive a lemonade icypole! More details to follow!

Living Rosary



On Monday we welcomed Br. Louis, Br. Giovanni, Sr. Michele, Sr. Natalie from the AHFI missionary, along with Fr. Arnold (Kilmore PP). Our children prayed the Rosary while taking part in putting together a giant rosary using helium balloons. This event marked our recognition of the month of the Rosary (October) We thank the AHFI as well as Edward Seychell for organising this sacred hour.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024
9AM-1PM

St Ambrose Parish School Fete

Thank you so much to those parents who have come forward to offer assistance and support for the 2024 School and Parish Fete.

The committee need your help and this is a wonderful and rewarding way to meet other parents and contribute towards our wonderful community. Don't forget to follow along on Facebook [@stambroseparishschoolfete](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparishschoolfete)

BBQ

Are you handy with the tongs? The Fete Committee are seeking a school parent who can take ownership of the BBQ at the Fete. This role would include gathering together your team of helpers and ensuring all of the gear is ready to go for a busy morning of cooking. The committee will offer plenty of support in the lead up to the day.

Please contact Amanda Lee 0420 415 761 or Sophie Lynch 0478 313 191 if you can take on this role.

SILENT AUCTION

We are seeking donations from within the School and Parish community. Do you have a service you can offer or are you willing to donate a prize?

We would be so grateful for any and all donations.

Please contact Sophie Lynch in person or on 0478 313 191

SECOND HAND BOOKS

Jodie Warner is generously co-ordinating the book stall. Have you got any good quality second hand books to donate to help make this stall a success? These can be left at the front office.

FACE- PAINTING

We are seeking a few more creative parents to help out. Do you have a hidden talent you'd like to share? If so, we'd really love to hear from you.

Sensational scones and summer fruits for the fete.

Summer is coming and we would love to hear from anyone that has a garden with bountiful summer fruits to come such as; apricots, raspberries strawberries or plums. Or anyone who has a lemon tree that fruits all year.

All in the name of Jam.

Do you make sensational scones like grandma used to make?

Or are you a jam whiz in the kitchen? We would love to hear from you.

A traditional school fete isn't complete without Devonshire tea!

Please call Anita La Forgia 0403967885 or Amy Cairns 0402 516 766

Now is the time to start taking cuttings and dividing plants so they are looking fantastic come March. We will really appreciate your contributions.

If you need pots or other supplies please get in touch with Helen Morrongiello on 0433 698 476.

St Ambrose Diversity & Inclusion Committee (SADI)

What is the SADI?

Earlier this year, working closely with our principal Bronwyn Phillips, a group of St Ambrose parents came together to formalise the Saint Ambrose Diversity and Inclusion Committee (DIINC).

A subcommittee of the St Ambrose School Advisory Council (SAC), the SADI draws on the expertise and lived experience of the pre-existing 'inclusion network for parents of Saint Ambrose' and the work of the SAC in 2022-2023

Our committee aims to benefit each person in our school community including all students, staff, St Ambrose families and our broader community. Acknowledging that a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion for each individual and group, in turn increases the overall wellbeing of the entire community.

We need your help

We're seeking guidance and leadership from school families and individuals who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. So, if this is you or your family we'd be honoured to hear from you. We are respectful of the enormous work such generous contributions can involve and will take your lead on the amount of time and knowledge you are able to share.

We are working alongside our principal Bronwyn, school leadership, teachers, staff and like-minded groups and individuals in our broader community, to further strengthen the ways in which Saint Ambrose school community members can connect, find information, deepen knowledge and work together in the areas of Inclusion and Diversity. This is a journey of learning which we are all on together.

Next year we'll be further formalising our committee structure and membership and we'd love for more parents and families to become involved and support this work.

Our work

We will work to be responsive to the needs of the students and school families and are mindful of the boundaries of resources and person hours. We work to provide inclusive and varied ways in which everyone can contribute. Thus far we have identified the following objectives, values, approach and areas of priority.

Our objectives

To work alongside students, school leadership, staff and school families:

- to foster a true sense of belonging for all students, staff and school families
- to provide equitable and accessible education for all students at Saint Ambrose
- to foster an environment that supports each individual to participate in their best learning journey
- Acknowledge and learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- To amplify the voices of priority groups within our school community including and not limited to Diversity of Culture, Gender, Social and Economic Status, Ability (e.g. Disability, Gifted Ability) and Neurodiversity.

Committee Values include being guided by catholic faith-based values, seeking first nations guidance and leadership and working together towards achieving equity and access in the areas of inclusion and diversity through increasing representation and visibility of members of our community with lived experience.

Priority areas for this term

Establish and strengthen a staff inclusion and diversity support team for students, staff and parents.

1. Seek collaboration with local First Nations Communities -through Aboriginal identified families in the wider Saint Ambrose community.
2. Further development -and enhancement of existing 'safe spaces' within the school and during all special events (onsite and offsite) including development of information and education around accessibility and use of 'safe spaces'.

Medium-term priority areas include

3. Establish a diversity and inclusion parents' support team for new and existing St Ambrose families who wish to learn more about support and resources available in the inclusion and diversity space
4. Development of a St Ambrose online resource hub with links to resources and information about supports, resources and processes available. e.g via the school, MACS, local community etc.

Longer term priority areas include

5. Supporting the provision of a collaborative education and workshop series to enrich understanding and increase skills for all students, staff and families in working to enhance inclusion and diversity within our school community
6. Working collaboratively with other like-minded groups within our community

Contacting us

If you'd like to speak with someone about diversity and inclusion please reach out to the following staff members who may be able to assist and can also put you in touch with our committee.

Your child's classroom teacher, Erin Brass, Jenny Boldiston, Debbie Geisler or Bronwyn Phillips or reach out opportunistically in person to the St Ambrose SADI committee members at school drop-offs and pick-ups.

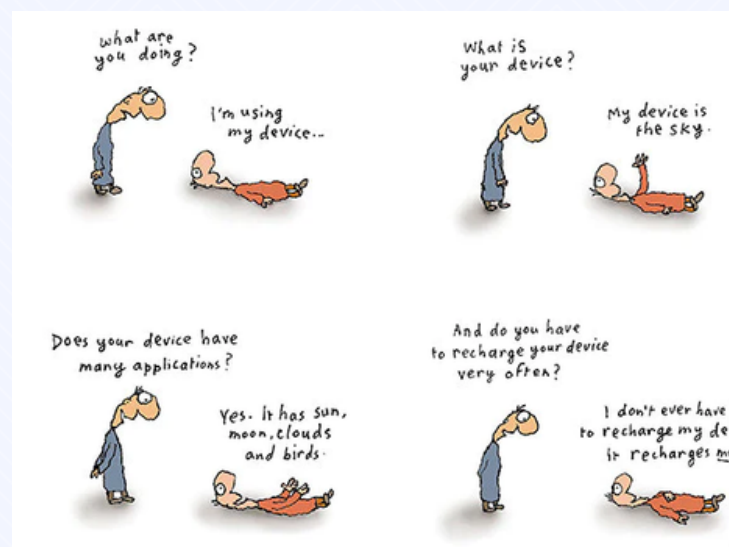
Manisha Fernando (chair), Nicole Scarborough (secretary), Rhea Doyle, Jane Oldland & Lavinia Zirnsak

Warmest Regards, Manisha and Nicole.

Many thanks also to Bronwyn Philips for her ongoing support to establish this group, to all those involved with the 'inclusion network for parents of Saint Ambrose', to Claire Rowland for her work in helping to establish the committee, and for her contributions over past years, and to the members of SAC past and present for their ongoing support in this important area of shared learning.



It was super to chat with our parents as their children shared their work this week.



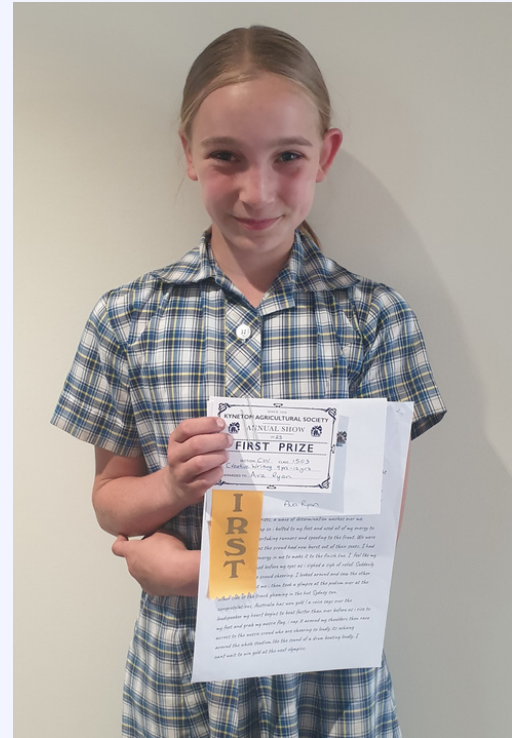
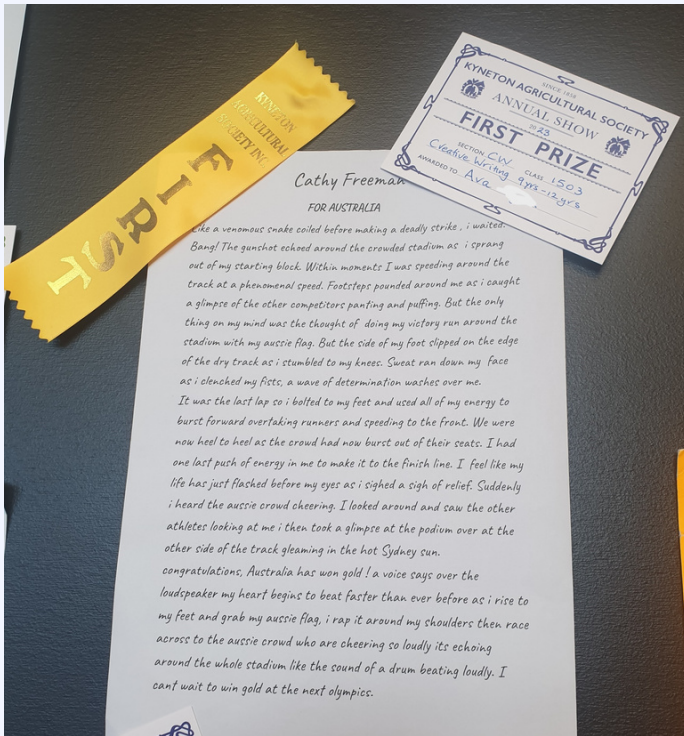
I hope you can recharge beneath the sun, moon, clouds, or somewhere with nature weekend everyone. with nature weekend everyone.



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



Kyneton Show - Student Achievements



Congratulations to Ava R on winning first prize in the creative writing - Age - 9-12 yrs category!



Well done St Ambrose students on the "Outstanding School Exhibit".

Carols Singing & Dance Club Facilitators



Asher, Phoebe & Madeline



Support Kai in the World's Greatest Shave



KAI ZIRNSAK
is
SHAVING

SCAN HERE
TO SPONSOR ME!



ABOUT MY FUNDRAISING!

Please help me raise much needed funds for people in need that may be going through a cancer diagnosis.

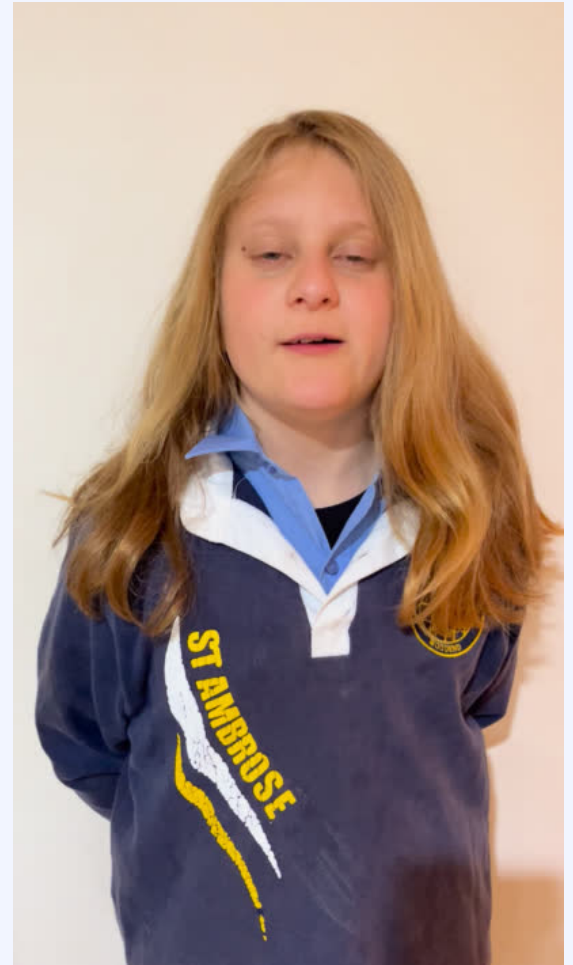
MY GOAL IS

\$1800



World's Greatest Shave

Leukaemia
Foundation



Hi, I'm Kai and I am shaving my hair off to raise money for cancer. My goal is to reach \$1800.

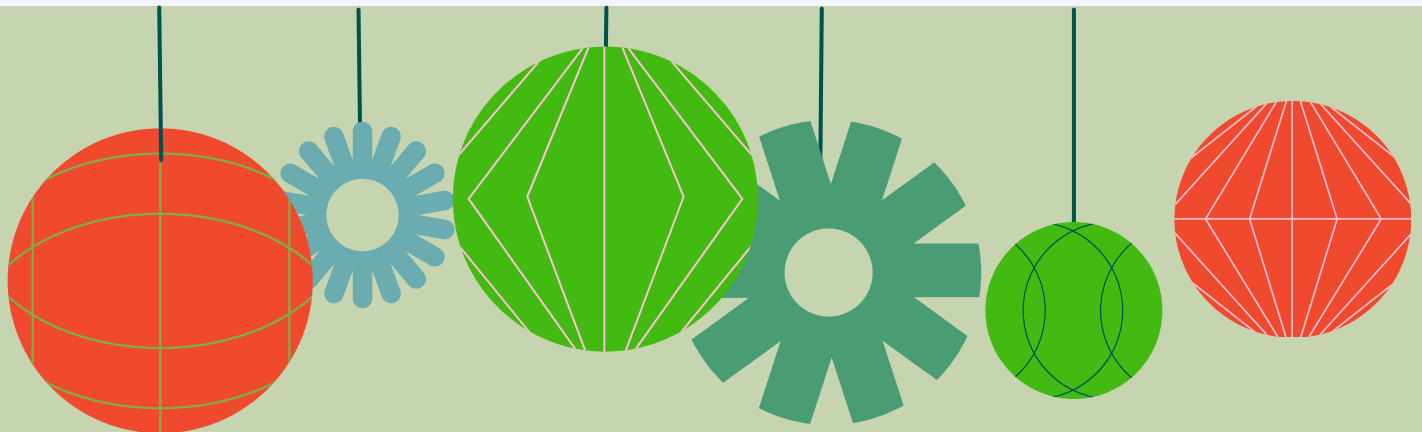
I have been growing my hair for 3 years.

My dad died from cancer when I was 7 so I know what it feels like. I hope that this can help someone in need who is suffering from cancer. My hair is also going to be made into a wig that I hope goes to someone who is suffering from cancer and might have needed to do chemotherapy.

Please help me fight for this cause, and please donate to save lives and prevent kids from having to go through the trauma of parents dying from cancer.

Thank you. Kai Zirnsak

SCHOOL EVENTS



Christmas Raffle Online

<https://myschoolconnect.com.au/st-ambrose-ps-raffles>



Share the link with your family and friends!

Your chance to win one
(or more) of 20 hampers!!

Toys, food, drink,
decorations, vouchers &
more!!

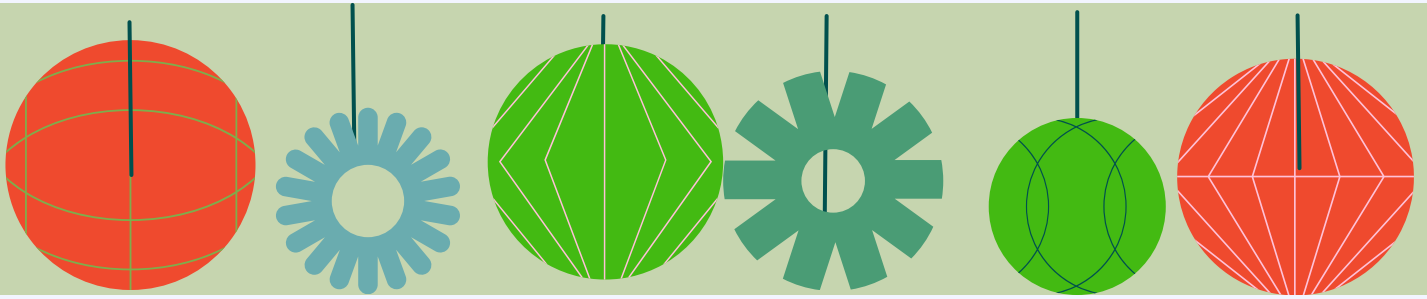


The winners will be announced at our school picnic
and Christmas Carols on 7 December 2023.

Please contact Sandy Howe if you have any questions -
sandy.howe@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL EVENTS



Donations for Christmas Raffle

<https://myschoolconnect.com.au/st-ambrose-ps-raffles>

Thank you
for your
classroom
donations.

PREP K - TOYS
AND CHILDREN'S
GIFTS.

Spread the
Christmas
Cheer!!

1/2CM -
CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS.

1/2WL -
RED/GREEN
CHRISTMAS
TRIMMINGS.

1/2RO -
GOLD/SILVER
CHRISTMAS
TRIMMINGS.

3/4L -
CHRISTMAS FARE
FOOD.

3/4M -
CHRISTMAS FARE
FOOD.

3/4O -
CHRISTMAS FARE
FOOD.

5/6M -
CHRISTMAS
DRINKS.

5/6P -
VOUCHERS.

5/6T -
CHRISTMAS
DRINKS
/VOUCHERS.

SCHOOL EVENTS



ST AMBROSE FEAST DAY CANTEEN MENU

SMALL
FEAST BOX

- 1 Party pie
- 1 Party sausage roll
- 1 Mini roast chicken roll
- 1 Chocolate marble cookie

\$5.50



- 2 Party pie
- 2 Party sausage roll
- 1 Mini roast chicken roll
- 1 Chocolate marble cookie

\$6.50

LARGE
FEAST BOX

DRINKS

- Apple blackcurrant fruit drink \$ 1.50
- Pine orange fruit drink \$1.50



All sushi options available
as regular menu

SUPER
SUSHI

ALL ORDERS PLACED BY CUT OFF- THURS, 30TH NOVEMBER, 4PM



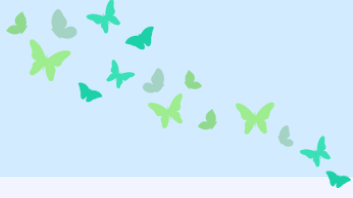


1/2RO CLASSROOM FEATURE

As part of our inquiry unit, the students have been exploring how things change. What better way to observe change than in the kitchen! To help us with our cooking and creating, the grade 5/6 students have been helping us with our learning.

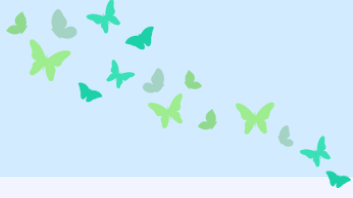
Here are some photos of us making cupcakes, fruit skewers and pizzas. Thank you to our wonderful parent helper Kate Warne! Without your support, we would not have been able to enjoy such a fabulous learning experience.





AROUND THE SCHOOL





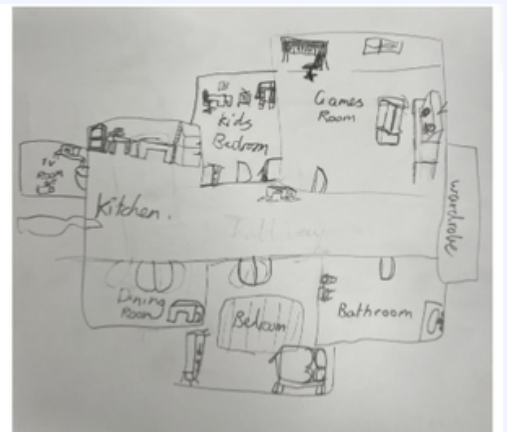
AROUND THE SCHOOL

The Living Rosary



Almost a full year into our Auslan journey at St Ambrose, and the students are showing fabulous skills already. If you would like to see some of the amazing work our junior and senior students are doing in Auslan, scan the QR codes below.

Some of our students from 1/2 CM sign their version of the book 'That's not my Dinosaur...'





Transition Preparation Day with St Mary's Lancefield



Thursday last week, our Grade 6's spent the day at St Mary's Lancefield for a Preparation for Transition Day with their fellow Graduates.

The two cohorts spent the day participating in a variety of activities designed to prepare them for their transition into Secondary School whilst also providing them opportunities to form new connections with others that are attending their future schools.

Lots of fun challenges were presented to the students across the day, that gave them opportunities to not only bond over commonalities but also to solve problems as a cohort. The students also had the chance to identify their common hopes and worries for next year and to, together, begin brainstorming ways to ease some of their shared worries.



In the afternoon, the students had time with a staff member and student representatives from their future schools to ask them any questions they had and were encouraged to address any of the worries they had posed earlier in the day.

It was exciting that this year Lancefield Primary were also able to join us for the afternoon session. Because of this, We are looking at ways we can expand the day in 2024 to include more of our local schools. The more opportunities for the students to meet their new classmates the greater the chances of feeling more confident and connected moving into Secondary school.





ROMSEY PS CYBER SAFETY PARENT INFORMATION EVENING



Wednesday 29th NOVEMBER @ 7pm sharp 90 minute session
Multi Purpose Building (tea/coffee and light supper provided)
Romsey Primary School Station Street
OPEN TO ALL PARENTS IN THE MACEDON RANGES
NO ENTRY FEE



SUSAN MCLEAN

Susan McLean is Australia's foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people. She was the first Victorian Police Officer appointed to a position involving Cybersafety and young people. Susan took her first report of cyberbullying in 1994 and since then she has conducted extensive research and has completed advanced training & tertiary studies in both the USA and UK and is a sought-after presenter and advisor to Schools, elite sporting bodies such as the AFL, GP's, and both State and Federal Governments.

An educational & entertaining session for Parents and carers, Susan's unparalleled knowledge leaves audiences shocked at the reality of the online world. It is a wake up call to even the most switched on parent and is delivered with Susan's famous 'no nonsense' approach. The session will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of.

Cyberspace 101. The reality of the online world. It's not a matter of if - rather than when.

What are kids doing online. Learn the latests apps and platforms your kids are either on, want to be on or are being told about at school. TikTok, Omegle, House Party & more.



Online Grooming. What is it and when/how does it occur? What are the warning signs & what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.

Cyberbullying. What it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent and what to do if it occurs. Also the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges.



Exposure to damaging content. Including online pornography & sites that encourage suicide, self harm & eating disorders.

Top Tips- how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online with rules, parental controls and restriction passcodes.



Email the school at Romsey.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call on 5429 5099 to secure your spot.

THE SESSION WILL CONCLUDE WITH TIME FOR QUESTIONS



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

Dear Lord,

Grant us the wisdom,
to recognise and use
the talents and opportunities you've
given to us.

May we be faithful stewards,
investing in your kingdom
with generosity and courage.

Help us to overcome fear
and embrace the responsibility
to use our gifts for your greater glory.
Amen



Wonderings:

We have a responsibility to use and multiply the gifts and opportunities given by God. Having faith in small matters leads to greater responsibilities. Ultimately, it challenges us to live purposefully and invest our abilities for God's glory.

You have been gifted with a myriad of talents.

Reflect upon the gifts God has given you. Are you using your gifts for the greater glory of God?

PARISH NEWSLETTER
CHILDREN'S LITURGY

GOSPEL REFLECTION: MATTHEW 25: 14-30: PARABLE
OF THE TALENTS -

"FOR WHOEVER HAS WILL BE GIVEN MORE, AND THEY WILL HAVE AN ABUNDANCE. WHOEVER DOES NOT HAVE, EVEN WHAT THEY HAVE WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM."

Term 4 Important RE Dates:

Wednesday 29th November -
3rd Advent Liturgy - 'Joy' - 2.45pm

Wednesday 6th December -
End of Term 4/St Ambrose Feast Day Mass - 9.30am.

Monday 11th December -
Grade 6 Graduation Liturgy - 6.30pm

Wednesday 13th December -
4th Advent Liturgy - 'Love' & Nativity Play- 2.30pm.

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



COMMUNITY NEWS

VIEWFIELD

FREE EVENT!

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

BYO PICNIC and celebrate with friends and family

- 10 ACRES OF GARDEN
- KIDS TREASURE HUNT
- ARTIST STALLS
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE
- CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE
- SANTA ON A FIRE TRUCK!

SUNDAY 10TH DEC 3PM-7PM

651 Mt Macedon Road

KYNETON COMMUNITY HOUSE PRESENTS

KYNETON TWILIGHT FESTIVAL & MARKET

2ND DECEMBER, 3-7PM

KYNETON MECHANICS INSTITUTE RESERVE

ARTISAN STALLS. REGIONAL FOOD & WINE. CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES. MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

WWW.KYNETONCOMMUNITYHOUSE.ORG.AU

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.
care empower contribute

Join Us!

CWA CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRAIL 2023

Brought to you by the CWA Woodend Eves

Do you love touring the Christmas lights?
The CWA Woodend Christmas Lights Trail will help your family find spots where Christmas-loving locals in Woodend, Tylden, Carlsruhe and Newham have got into the spirit with a Christmas display.

Help us make the Trail bigger and better
If you've decorated your house or if you see a house with Christmas Lights in the area, let us know so we can add it to the Trail. Big and small. Old and new. All displays welcome.

Get out there
Pack the kids, the snacks and check out our online Christmas Lights Trail to plan your route. The map will keep getting updated until just before Christmas so keep an eye out for new additions.

EVENT DETAILS

- 1 You can nominate anyone** with a Christmas Lights display to be added to the Trail.
- 2 Plan your tour** of the lights using our online map.
- 3 Pack the kids, the snacks and get out there.**
- 4 Share your experience** with us on socials
 - [cwa.woodend.eves](https://www.facebook.com/cwa.woodend.eves)
 - [cwa_woodend_eves](https://www.instagram.com/cwa_woodend_eves)

Want to add an address? Explore the Trail? [Scan here](#)

Alternatively:
<http://xmaslightsgreat-site.net>
cwa.woodendxmaslights@gmail.com
 0410 554 095

www.cwaofvic.org.au

We respect First Nations Elders past, present and future and acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of First Nations peoples of the lands on which our members meet, and commit to building a brighter future together.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - \$25 TICKET

Raising funds for Kyneton Health
Love your local health services this Christmas!

OUR AMAZING PRIZES:

- 1ST: LIMITED EDITION BLACK TM6 THERMOMIX!
- 2ND: \$500 FUEL VOUCHER
- 3RD: \$250 GROCERY VOUCHER

Winners will be drawn on Wednesday 13th December
Visit www.chrh.org.au/donate for further information

DONATE NOW

CAN YOU GIVE A GIFT TO YOUR COMMUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS?
www.chrh.org.au/donate

Kyneton Health | Central Highlands Rural Health

Best Care: Every person, every time!



COMMUNITY NEWS

BIG SUMMER READ

**JOIN, BORROW.
READ, WIN!**

at Goldfields Libraries
this summer

CREATIVE COLOURING CHALLENGE
0-8 years: art pack
9-12 years: art pack

MAJOR PRIZES
0-8 years: \$100 book voucher
\$50 Smiggle voucher x2
9-12 years: \$100 book voucher
\$50 Smiggle voucher x2
13-18 years: \$100 book voucher
\$100 EB Games voucher

BRANCH PRIZES
\$20 book voucher