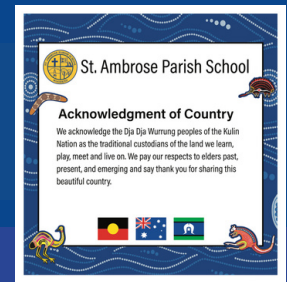


# St Ambrose Primary School

Centred by Faith - In Partnership with Community -  
We Provide Excellence in Learning

Respectful Responsible Resilient Kind



**Please note:**

**Monday November 4th is a PUPIL FREE DAY and Tuesday November 5th is a PUBLIC HOLIDAY.**

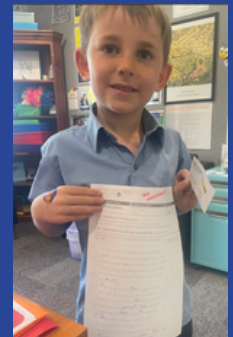
We look forward to seeing our students again on Wednesday November 6th.

Lord, thank You for inspiring me to create. Please grant me the strength and determination to persevere in my creative work. Help me to stay focused on my goals and grow in patience. Please guide me in my creative journey as I use my talents to show Your joy, beauty, and love to the world.



**YOU CAN BE CREATIVE IN  
ANYTHING — IN MATH, SCIENCE,  
ENGINEERING, PHILOSOPHY — AS  
MUCH AS YOU CAN IN MUSIC OR IN  
PAINTING OR IN DANCE.**

— SIR KEN ROBINSON



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Faith & Family: Pg 14  
Community News: Pg 15-16

Friday 1 November 2024	Grade Prep, 1/2 Mass 9.30am
Monday 4 November 2024	<b>School Closure Day – Report writing</b>
Tuesday 5 November 2024	<b>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</b>
Thursday 7 November 2024	Grade 5/6 Mass 9.30am
Wednesday 13 November 2024	Prep Orientation Session 1 - 9-10am Grade 6 transition day Assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 20 November 2024	Prep Orientation Session 2- 9-10am Advent Paraliturg week 1 – 2.45pm
Friday 22 November 2024	Junior school Zoo excursion
Wednesday 27 November 2024	Assembly 2.45pm Advent Paraliturg week 2 – 2.45pm
Monday 2 December 2024	Advent Paraliturg week 3 – 2.45pm
Tuesday 3 December 2024	Prep Orientation Session 3 – 9-11am Step up day – 9-11am Parent Helper Training 9am Advent Paraliturg week 4 – 2.45pm
Wednesday 4 December 2024	SAC meeting 9.15am
Thursday 5 December 2024	Family Christmas Carols and Picnic on the oval 5-7pm
Saturday 7 December 2024	Feast of St Ambrose
Monday 9 December 2024	Prep Nativity 2.45pm Grade 6 Graduation Liturgy/Ceremony 6pm
Wednesday 11 December 2024	End of Year Mass (9.30am) and St Ambrose STEM activities Assembly 2.45pm No Canteen
Thursday 12 December 2024	Year 6 excursion to Splash Waterpark Grade 3/4 Lady Northcote Camp
Friday 13 December 2024	Grade 3/4 Lady Northcote Camp
Monday 16 December 2024	Last day of school – students dismissed at 3.30pm <b>Numeracy Testing (by appointment via Operoo)</b>
Tuesday 17 December 2024	<b>Numeracy Testing (by appointment via Operoo)</b>
Wednesday 18 December 2024	School Holidays commence

**Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 15th November 2024.**



## Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners and friends,  
Each day, as I walk through the front doors, I feel a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to work with our positive and proactive St Ambrose school community.

I hope that you too can sense the enthusiasm as our students and staff work together to progress their learning all while supporting their wellbeing.

It is a time of year when I have more frequent visits from our students proudly sharing their progress with me.



Thanks to the dedication of our staff and your support there is much to celebrate throughout this term. We believe that strong family partnerships between families and the school make a significant difference in a child's education. Research demonstrates that when families and schools work closely and know one another, children's learning improves.

Therefore, we want to continue to enact our vision. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and we thank you for working in partnership with us again this year.

### 2025 Class Structures

P/1	3 Classes
Yr 2	1 Straight Class
3/4	3 Classes
5/6	3 Classes

Following collaboration as a staff and consideration of the needs of our students we have decided upon the above structure to optimally support our childrens growth. This structure allows us to offer class sizes in the mid to low 20's and to offer ESO support across the levels. We can now group the children then allocate staffing. This will all be done in time for step up day on December 3rd.

## Road Safety

Given the recent tragedy at a Melbourne Primary School, I am prompted to remind us all to take great care on the roads and to ensure we are all driving safely.

Drop off and pick up times can get busy. Please remain diligent and support your children to walk safely to cars and to when ride and walk safely home. It is unsafe to back out of parked spaces into oncoming traffic. Please look carefully before backing out.

### Drop Off & Pick Up Times

We ask that you remain punctual at drop off and pick up times. Consistent late arrivals can become disruptive to classes that have already commenced. Children may enter their classrooms from 8.45 am so that they are ready to start their first class at 9.00 am. If you drop off after 9.00 am you need to come in to the front office to sign your child in.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### Parent Code of Conduct

Our parent code of conduct can be accessed in our policy suite on our website. A couple of parents asked me where they could locate it. This link will take you directly to the policy.

[PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT](#)

### Buddies Mass

This week we celebrated another milestone. Our Prep children celebrated their final buddy mass with their year six buddies by their side on Wednesday. We hope that they take with them many warm memories of their special friendship in years to come. We thank our Year Six students for their great support of their Prep friend.





# Bushfire Preparedness Through Education

As part of their Inquiry Unit - 'Bushfire Preparedness through Education' our 5/6 students have been through a comprehensive introduction to bushfire, encompassing fire ecology, Aboriginal cultural burning, bushfire in the landscape and bushfire risk. Students have been busy identifying locally relevant problems, forming teams, and developing solutions for projects that focus on pet safety, property preparation, emergency management planning, risk communication, and evacuation planning.

To support our students on Monday we had a visit from experts to view our students' work and to advise them and guide them on their next steps.

The experts came from a range of departments and Woodend CFA

CFA Fire Risk, Research and Community Preparedness: Neil Munro

Bushfire Risk Officer (DEECA): Jason Scheepers – *could help with fire science and risk*

CFA Community Engagement Coordinator: Perri Lalor – *good local knowledge as well as general community engagement.*

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Recovery Officer: Jane Diplock

Manager Student Support Services at Department of Education & Training: Allison Hughes

Tom Lowe : Video producer and digital communicator and Woodend CFA member  
Woodend CFA members: Ben and Kristy





## 2025 Annual Tuition Fee

As communicated in our last newsletter, the following details the changes in tuition fees for the 2025 academic year.

Any decision to adjust tuition fees is never made lightly, nor without careful and thorough consideration of our students' needs and our school's capacity to provide an education experience that supports every student to flourish. We are also cognisant of the financial pressures that many families have experienced this year.

St Ambrose School too, is facing increasing costs in multiple areas of school operations, including WorkCover premiums, Child Safety compliance, risk management, teacher resources and professional learning, and higher central system costs.

Our tuition fees at St. Ambrose School are also influenced by the Commonwealth Department of Education's calculation of our community's ability to financially contribute to the operating costs of our school, known as the Capacity to Contribute, or CTC, which is reviewed annually.

School funding is complex, so I have included with this letter a simple school funding "explainer" which I hope will support your understanding of how government funds Catholic (and other non-government) schools and how tuition fees support our school.

To ensure that we can continue to deliver a personalised, high-quality education that is responsive to the diverse interests and academic, social and emotional needs of our students, it is necessary to adjust our fees in 2025.

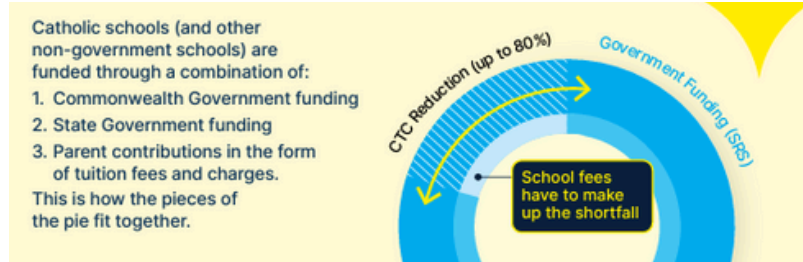
As a result, St. Ambrose School 's annual fee schedule for 2025 will be:

Fees		2025 Budget
(One payment per family)	<b>Family Fee</b>	\$2,500.00
(One payment per family)	<b>Capital Fee</b>	\$ 200.00
<b>Levies</b> (for each child)	<b>Curriculum</b>	\$ 665.00
(for each child)	<b>Swimming</b>	\$ 30.00

This is an increase of \$9.00 per week on 2024 fees for one student and less for each additional student as the family fee and capital fee is only paid once per year per family.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the fee increase, or wish to discuss your individual circumstances, please do not hesitate to contact me. We remain committed to keeping tuition fees as low and affordable as possible, and to working closely with our community to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Thank you for your understanding. We are grateful for your ongoing support and trust in our school.



### Baseline funding (the SRS)

There is an agreed annual amount that government funds every school to meet its students' educational needs. This is called the **Schooling Resource Standard (SRS)**. Under this national agreement, the Australian and state governments together fund schools in line with the SRS.

The final SRS Base for 2024 was \$13,570 for each primary student, and \$17,053 for each secondary student.

In addition to this base amount, there are up to six loadings that can provide additional funding for student priority cohorts and disadvantaged schools.

To ensure that funding keeps up with changes in wages and other costs, the SRS base amount and loadings are indexed each year.

### The Capacity to Contribute (CTC)

For Catholic schools, the SRS base amount is then **reduced** by the school community's CTC. This can be as much as an 80% reduction.

The Capacity to Contribute (CTC) for each school is determined by the taxable income of the families attending the school, as reported annually to the ATO.

Schools are currently expected to recover the CTC shortfall in SRS funding through school fees.

Importantly, none of this government funding can be used for buildings and infrastructure in Catholic schools. Our buildings and infrastructure are funded by capital grants from the Commonwealth and/or Victorian governments, and by parent contributions through fees, school cash reserves and capital levies.

Further information is available on the School Resourcing Standard through the Australian Department of Education.



## Shorts Under Dresses

Our children are enjoying the lovely weather throughout recess and lunch breaks. It is super to see them utilising all areas of our playground. We recommend that students who are wearing the summer dresses wear short leggings or shorts (black, white or navy) under their dresses so that they feel comfortable whilst playing on the monkey bars and climbing frames.



## No Lunch Procedure

In the event of a student not bringing lunch to school we follow the steps below:

1. We check the bag again with the student.
2. We inform the teacher.
3. We ring the parent/carer and ask if they can bring in some lunch.



## School Canteen

We are thankful to all of you who have been assisting in the canteen. We do need you to keep the canteen running. We always welcome additional helpers on canteen days. The year six recommendations have certainly added some further flavour to the menu!

## Term 4 Student Free Days

### Term 4 Dates

Make sure that you take note of our calendar and that you are aware of relevant activities and dates.

Note the pupil free days this term:

November 4th (Report Writing)

November 5th (Melbourne Cup Day)

Classes finish on December 13th

December 16th & 17th are testing days.

## 2025 Planning and Class Placement

We are currently considering class structures for 2025 and will soon be looking at class placement for the coming year. If you have any information that needs to be passed on regarding your child's class placement for 2025 (information that we are not already aware of) please email your child's current teacher or myself.

This information needs to be communicated **no later than November 4th.**

We thank you for the trust you place in us to consider the bigger picture and place our students in the best way possible.

## Parents as Helpers Training

We are grateful that we have you assisting with our various school programs and activities. Our students really enjoy your input. We have a parent as helper training course scheduled before the end of the year on our Step Up Day which is on

**Tuesday December 3rd at 9.30am.**

We encourage any of you who are yet to do the training or need to do the refresher course to email Debbie Geisler ([debbie.geisler@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au](mailto:debbie.geisler@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au)) and book in to the appropriate course.



## Parents as Helpers Log through Operoo Self Service Form

A reminder to record your hours via the Operoo self service form "Parent School Support Program" in the Operoo Form Library.

This means we can log your hours against our Parent School Support Initiative.



## Ambrose Care



Our parish Ambrose Care team have been very busy cooking up a storm! We are most appreciative of the team who offer up their time as well as their culinary expertise to make sure that we have meals available for those in need.

## School Improvement



At St Ambrose School, we place a strong emphasis on supporting our students in becoming critical thinkers and lifelong learners. We have focussed on enabling their voice and agency and allowing opportunity to work in teams



## 2025 Prep Transition/Orientation



Our current Preps, pictured above, will soon be supporting our new Preps to settle into St Ambrose! The time has certainly passed quickly! Our first Prep orientation morning is coming up on November 13th. We look forward to welcoming our new families and students to our great school.

## School Policies

Note that all of our MACS school policies are kept updated and are available within the policy suite on our website. You can access these online whenever you feel the need to.

Visit our website via the link under the "Next Newsletter" title and click on the policy button.

Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.



## Next Newsletter

For more news and photos visit our [website](#) and look at latest news including our AFL Roadshow, Garden Club or Hockey by clicking on our facebook button.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday, 15th November 2024.



**Bronwyn Phillips**  
Principal





## FANTASTIC FRACTIONS

### 1/2CM

#### Our Learning this Week!

This week 1/2CM have been exploring all about fractions! We have learned that fractions are equal parts of a whole and we have been developing our understanding of halves, quarters and eighths. We have really enjoyed cutting shapes into fractions, making fractions robots and discovering how to find fractions of collections of objects.







# AROUND THE SCHOOL

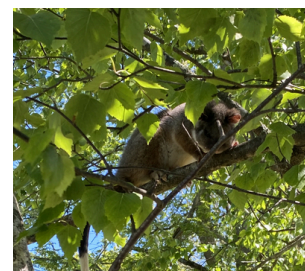


Margot weaving in the garden transferring her visual arts skills.



Ukuele Club

## A Persuasive Argument



I spy with my little eye something beginning with "P"!



## Preps wishing Ms Phillips a Happy Birthday!







## Student Awards

Prep K - Grace Y for trying her best always.  
Prep K - Nick L for a positive attitude to his learning.  
Prep T - Pip F for her dedication and positive attitude towards improving her reading.  
Prep T - Rupert F for being a responsible learner and consistently working hard.  
1/2CM - Anaisia M for the fantastic way she has settled into our classroom.  
1/2CM - Tess J for the amazing thought and effort she put into her narrative!  
1/2CM - Kate D for always doing her best work. Well done!  
1/2S - Everly B for re-reading and editing her writing independently. Well done.  
1/2S - Margot G for her hard work and thoughtful ideas when writing a persuasive text. Well done.  
1/2S - Elliott N for his thoughtful contributions in reading groups. Well done.  
1/2O - Mollie H for improving her formation of her handwriting.  
1/2O - Lucy S for being kind and playing with new friends out in the yard.  
1/2O - Oscar D for showing resilience in his writing and working hard on his full stop placement.  
3/4M - Patrick F for his focus during daily review.  
3/4R - James B for using interesting vocabulary in his writing!  
3/4R - Olivia C for her hard work and sharing her understanding in maths!  
3/4TW - James B for doing what needs to be done without being asked.  
3/4TW - Arthur H for working respectfully all the time.  
5/6M - Sidney M for always showing respect to the people around him. He always gives his full attention to the person speaking.  
5/6M - Harriet F for working hard to complete her "Fire Readiness Project" on Fuel Loads.  
5/6P - Sophie V for being a kind and considerate classmate.  
5/6P - Archie S for his positive attitude to learning.

### 2024 Mathematics Talent Quest Encouragement Awards - Harry M & Joel W

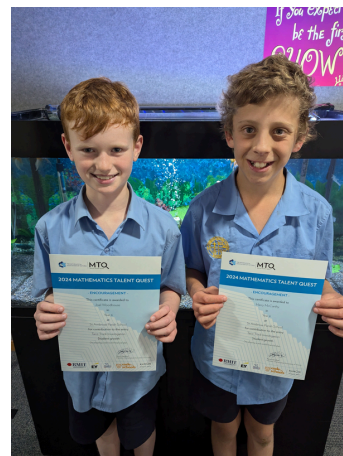
PBL Bronze Awards (20 Bee Gotcha Tickets)  
Elijah E, Tyler T

PBL Silver Awards (40 Bee Gotcha Tickets)  
Pip F, Renzo L, Rose B, Annie D, Olive S, Rex R

PBL Gold Awards (60 Bee Gotcha Tickets)  
Jack B, Ivy H, Skylar C, Jordan M, Gwen G,  
Harry O, Jack J, Sebastian G, Emrys G, Molly M

PBL Rainbow Awards (100 Bee Gotcha Tickets)  
Henry B, Ryder M, Charlotte W, Ryan K

PBL Diamond Award (150 Bee Gotcha Tickets)  
Hamish M, Orlando L



1 November - Thomas S  
2 November - Josh R, Valerie W  
4 November - Violet D, Cosette D, Charlie P  
5 November - Oliver D, Niamh F  
7 November - Holly C  
9 November - Matilda C, Archie L  
10 November - Tom L  
11 November - Orlando B  
12 November - Iona T







## Student Initiatives



Poppy, Lily & Grace are preparing a playwriting/drama club.



Maggie, Everly and Ivy are planning Christmas carol dance club.



Pictured are Bassy, Seb, Rex, David and Jorel who are preparing to expand their, "Clean up St Ambrose Club"

## Flag Football sessions in middle/senior PE

Today we had coach Russ from Flag Football Australia teach the Grade 3-6 students this fun new game. Flag football is a new Olympic sport in 2028! Students learnt how to throw, catch & touchdown!







## Regional Athletics



On the 14th of October some students attended Cobaw Regional Athletics at Bendigo. The day was very fun but also really competitive. There were people competing in lots of events which ranged from sprints, field events and middle distance races. The next stage was the state competition at Lakeside Stadium in Melbourne.

The qualifications to be able to go to state were top two. The students who have made the state competition are Isaac Creer competing in the 800 metres and Kitty Burgess, Tora Curcio, Harriet Boudrie and Alice Lacy competing in the 4x100 metre relay.

I would like to thank Ms Cavric for organising the day and I would also like to thank all the parents who came to help that day.

By Alani.



Good luck to Kitty, Alice, Tora & Harriet competing in the state girls 4 x 100m relay event at Albert Park this Wednesday. Go girls!!

## Cobaw Basketball



On Monday the 21st October, some of the year 6 boys went to Castlemaine to play Divisional Basketball.

The first game was between Kyneton Primary and Campbells Creek. Kyneton won 56-2. Kyneton had been invited to play in the Division Basketball as a couple of teams had pulled out and as they came second to us at District level.

We had only beaten Kyneton by one point, so we knew the game against them was going to be intense and we were hoping the game against Campbells Creek was going to be a walk in the park. We beat Campbells Creek 29-11. So now, whoever won between us and Kyneton would move onto the next stage.

After the first half we were down 22-16. Mel, our coach (Lewis' mum) gave us some good advice and in the second half we closed the margin, within a couple of buckets we were all tied up 30-30. With only seconds left on the clock, a Kyneton player dribbled down the court then chucked a two handed ball up from three and miraculously it went in, beating us on the buzzer.

Kyneton now goes onto the next stage.

We had a fun day and we would like to thank Mrs Macca for coming along with us, taking our stats and supporting us from the sidelines. We would also like to thank Mel Lethbridge for coaching us at both stages.

By Tom C 5/6M and Austin S 5/6P

## Ava R - Under 12 State Soccer

SSV (School Sports Victoria) WA

Last week I travelled to Western Australia to represent Victoria in the U12 State Soccer Competition.

Our team had 6 training sessions before heading over. We all stayed at the same hotel, allowing us time to bond and make good friendships. Each day we played 2 matches except on Wednesday, where we were treated to a dolphin watching cruise. The tournament was an amazing experience playing against many amazing teams all 7 of the states participated, including 2 teams from NSW.

My role in our team was as a Centre Mid and my job was to be a playmaker and if possible kick goals. I scored 2 goals, one being a penalty and the other where I nutmegged the keeper (this is where the ball travels through the keeper's legs). It was one of my highlights for the week.

Another highlight was the team warm up and pre match motivation chats. We had a team DJ who was in charge of all the music.....so much fun!

We came away from the tournament with a bronze medal. I look forward to seeing my teammates at domestic games and tournaments.

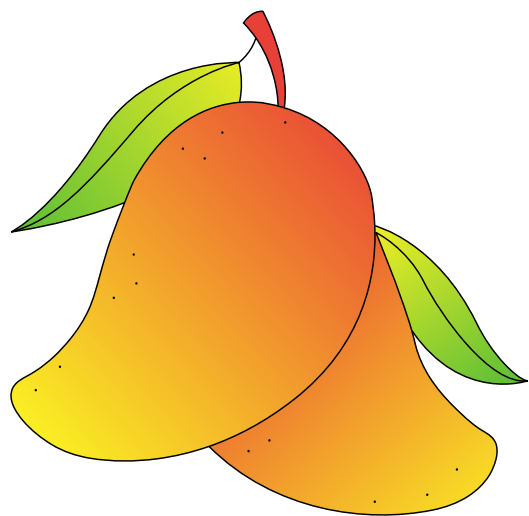
By Ava 5/6M







# SCHOOL NEWS



Thank you  
for your support  
with our  
Mango Fundraiser.  
You will be notified when  
the mangoes are ready for  
collection in early  
December.



## Ambrose Care Christmas Appeal

*Giving a gift this Christmas*

Ambrose Care will, again, be supporting families in need this Christmas.

We will be providing those families with a gift card for each of their children to spend on gifts. For any families in need of support for food, some food vouchers will also be gifted.

If you are able to help, you can purchase a voucher from your preferred local business and drop it into the office or you can give a cash or bank transfer donation directly to Ambrose Care. Ambrose Care will purchase the cards on your behalf.

Cash can be dropped at the office or can be transferred to the following account:

Name: Ambrose Care  
BSB: 063-806  
A/C: 10210993  
Re: Christmas appeal

So we can distribute to families before the end of the school term, could we please have all donations in before Monday 9th December.

**Coming  
Soon!**



## Canteen News

### **Flexischools New feature - place multiple food orders at once**

We're so excited to share that parents will soon be able to place and check out multiple food orders at once! This new feature will allow parents to add as many food orders as they'd like before checking out - for multiple children, dates and/or services.

This update will become available to parents automatically over the coming weeks.





### Emerging Minds Families

#### FACT SHEET

## Routines: Creating family routines to support children's mental health

Routines are the way we generally do things in a day or a week – like leaving for school at the same time each weekday, going to swimming lessons on Thursday afternoons, or reading two stories together every night before bed. Some families call them rituals or rhythms.

Family routines support children's mental health but they're also good for everyone's wellbeing. They help each member of the family to get things done, reduce stress levels, and find time to connect and have fun together.

**Routines and predictability help children feel safe, secure and connected.**

Young children especially cope best when they know the order and way in which you do daily activities such as dinner, bath time, stories and bedtime.

When children are older, including them in planning daily or weekly routines and creating family rituals increases their 'buy in' and builds family connections.

If you're introducing new routines with older children, you might get some resistance. This is normal and doesn't mean you should give up. Keep trying and remind your child why having routines helps everyone in the family.



In this video (2 minutes, 41 seconds) parents and practitioners talk about the importance and benefits of family routines and rituals.

[WATCH THE VIDEO TO LEARN MORE](#)

#### Stick to routines as much as possible – but be flexible

There might be times when you need to change or simplify a routine – for example, if you all got home late it might be a quick wash for your toddler instead of a bath; or on nights your child has sports training they might eat dinner in the car on the way home. Children cope better with changes to routines if you can tell them in advance (which we know is not always possible) and explain what will be different.

As much as you can, try to keep the order or 'rhythm' of your child's days as predictable as possible. For example, even if their bedtime is later, you'll still read one book or chapter together before bed to help your child wind down.

You might ask people in your support network for help. Is there a family member or friend who can come over and read with your older child so you can bathe your baby, or take your children to sports training when you're not able to?

Also remember that it's normal to skip, forget or have to change routines sometimes – and don't feel bad or give up on them when you do. Routines don't have to be perfect or set in stone. Keep them flexible and do what works for your family.

#### What if creating or maintaining family routines feels impossible?

Keeping routines as consistent as possible, especially when things are tough, is one way parents and other adults can help a child feel a sense of safety and predictability, which supports them to cope.

But it's also important not to feel guilty if it feels impossible to set up or stick to family routines right now.

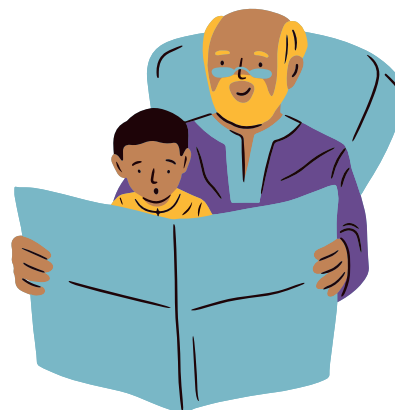
When you're under stress, unwell or dealing with unavoidable changes like moving house, it can be extra difficult to create or stick to routines. Sudden or external events like a disaster or the death of a family member can also upset family relationships, routines and dynamics and take a toll on your own mental health and wellbeing.

If you can, try introducing just one routine at a time. A good way to start is always 're-connecting' with your child after you've been apart. It might be a hug when they wake up, a snack and chat about your days after school or work, or a cuddle on the couch when they get home from a friend's house or sports practice. Those routine moments help your child feel safe, secure and connected to you.

It's also important to know that children can cope with different routines in different places. For example, when parents separate it's common for there to be different rules and routines in different houses. Focus on what you can control – trying to keep routines predictable in your own home – and remind your child that 'this is how we do it here'. Remember, children learn to manage different routines at their childcare/school, and other caregivers' (e.g. grandparents') houses, so with time they will adjust to the changes between your households.

When family circumstances change (e.g. if money becomes tight) it can be hard to keep up your child's routines. But children's regular activities – and the friends they have there – are a valuable source of support, so it's important to do what you can to maintain them.

Routines help children (and adults) to cope and feel more secure during difficult or stressful times. If you can maintain at least some of your family routines it can help you and your child connect and feel some sense of control and predictability. Uncertainty is one of the biggest causes of anxiety, so keeping up your routines is also a great way to support both your and your child's mental health.



[WATCH THE VIDEO TO LEARN MORE](#)

#### Routines can be fun

Routines help children feel secure because they know what to expect and when. But routines aren't just about scheduling your days or weeks. Things you do routinely on special occasions or at particular times can also be fun.

Family traditions or rituals – like movie night on Fridays, or always having ice cream cake when it's someone's birthday – are fun, and also important ways to build connections within your family.

#### Thinking about family routines

Take a moment to think about routines and rituals that your family currently has or might like to start.

- What activities do you and your child like doing together?
- What do you find is the best day/time to do things with them?
- What routines or family rituals do you already have?
- If something has upset your child's routines or meant they've had to stop an activity they enjoy, how has that affected them?
- Is there someone or something that could help keep up or re-establish your child's routines and activities?
- Are there any new routines or family traditions that you would like to try to introduce?

#### More information on family routines

Take a moment to think about routines and rituals that your family currently has or might like to start.

- If your family has experienced a disaster or traumatic event, watch our video about [re-establishing routines and rules](#) to support children's mental health, wellbeing and recovery.
- Read more about [how and why family routines work](#) on the Raising Children Network website.
- The Raising Children Network also has information about [routines and children with disability, autism or other additional needs](#).





# JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS Faith & Family

Thank You, Lord,  
for the people who have  
told me about  
You and  
Your wonderful works.  
Open my heart to receive  
Your mercy  
and my eyes to see  
Your goodness.

Wonderings:  
What could we receive with a  
renewed vision?  
What are the needs that drive us to  
cry out to Jesus?

Gospel Reflection: Mark 10:46-52

The scriptures of the 30th Sunday point us to the reality that being spiritually blind can seem worse than physical blindness for believers. With the eyes of faith, we can view the interior of our lives and the direction our lives are headed.

"Lord, I want to see!" cries Bartimaeus, a powerful declaration of his desire for both physical and spiritual sight. His plea is not just for his own vision, but for the clarity of those around him who profess faith yet still harbor doubt. Bartimaeus, in his vulnerability, seizes this moment to commit himself to the transformative power of faith, the very force that can liberate us from both physical and spiritual blindness.

Through the eyes of faith, we can see more than we could ever imagine. "Have mercy on me" is the prayer of faith. With my eyes opened, I both see and hear the Lord calling me to a more abundant life. This transformative power of faith gives us hope, as we realize that with family and friends, leaning on our faith, and seeing others as Christ sees them are the things that matter the most. "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me."

We are always welcome to call out to Jesus, knowing that no matter what we face, he is as near as our next prayer. Bartimaeus, through the eyes of faith, gained more than just his sight. He gained a deeper faith.

Taken from: Spiritans (The Congregation of the Holy Spirit, Province of the United States)



All Saints' Day & All Souls' Day:  
1st November (today) is All Saints Day, a feast day observing the lives of the many saints and martyrs during Christian history, both known and unknown. The following day, 2nd November, marks a day of prayer for, and remembrance of, the "faithfully departed": relatives, friends and strangers who are no longer living.

## Religious Calendar of Events in Term 4:

Date	Details	Time
20th November (Wednesday)	Advent Prayer Service Week 1 (Jocelyn)	2:45 pm
27th November (Wednesday)	Advent Prayer Service Week 2 (Grades 5/6)	2:45 pm
2nd December (Monday)	Advent Prayer Service Week 3 (Grades 3/4)	2:45 pm
3rd December (Tuesday)	Advent Prayer Service Week 4 (Grades 1/2)	2:45 pm
9th December (Monday)	Nativity Play (Preps) Gr. 6 Graduation	2:45 pm 6.00 pm
11th December (Wednesday)	St. Ambrose / End of Year Mass	9:30 am

Please note: All are welcome to our Masses.  
If you would like to join us in any of these celebrations, you are most welcome.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



**OPEN DAY  
WOODEND CFA  
SUNDAY 10 NOV 2024**

**10AM to 2PM**

**Are you prepared for summer?**  
Community Expo with the CFA, SES & more

Learn how to prepare for summer  
Ask your questions about Safety & Fire Plans  
Take a tour of the Firewise Garden  
Children's Games & Activities to enjoy  
Live Fire Fighting Demonstrations ... with real fire!  
FREE Sausage Sizzle  
And so much more!



BOOK HERE

Music  
Games  
Food & Cakes  
Entertainment

WOODEND PRIMARY  
SCHOOL PRESENTS OUR


**CARLSRUHE  
FAIR**

Animals  
Plants  
Rides

57 Nicholson St.  
Carlsruhe

10am - 4pm

**Saturday 23rd  
November**




The Mount Players  
presents

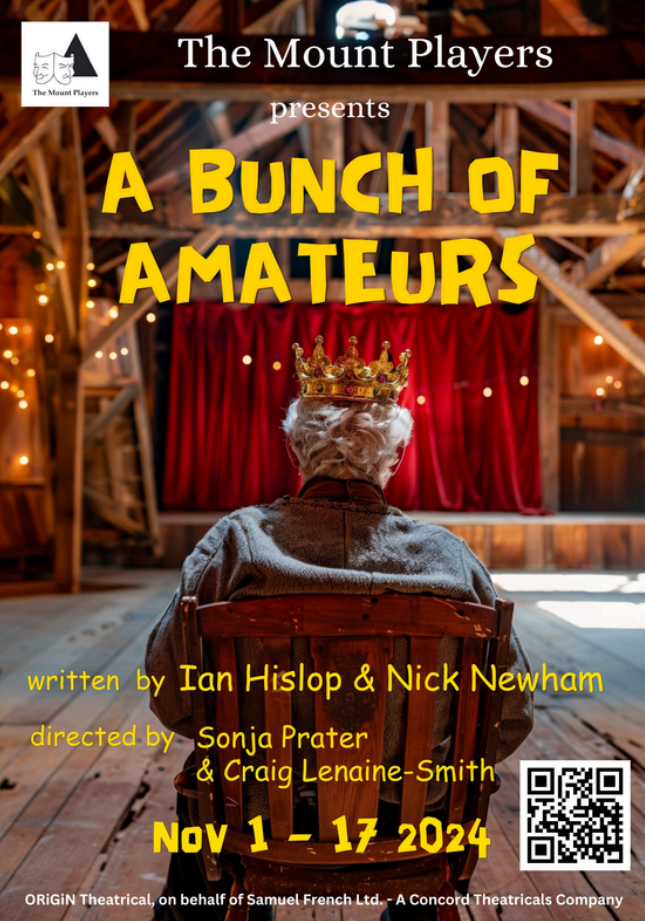
**A BUNCH OF  
AMATEURS**

written by Ian Hislop & Nick Newham  
directed by Sonja Prater  
& Craig Lenaine-Smith

**Nov 1 - 17 2024**



ORIGIn Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. - A Concord Theatricals Company







# COMMUNITY NEWS

MACEDON RANGERS SOCCER CLUB

## PLAY SOCCER IN 2025

**SENIORS** **JUNIORS**



EOIS



EOIS

Based in Romsey, the Macedon Rangers Soccer Club champions a family-friendly environment centred around supporting our volunteers, players and parents.

Come and Try Sessions are scheduled for November 2024 - follow us on Facebook or scan the QR code below to visit our website for more info.

WEBSITE



#HEARTOFTHERANGERS

MACEDON RANGERS SOCCER CLUB

## JUNIOR COME AND TRY SESSIONS



### Romsey Oval 2

**Under 12s (born 2013) to Under 14s (born 2011)**  
Sunday 10, 17 and 24 November | 10-11am

**Under 8s (born 2017) to Under 11s (born 2014)**  
Wednesday 13, 20 and 27 November | 6-7pm



#HEARTOFTHERANGERS

## GO EXPLORE Orienteering

An adventure activity  
the whole family can enjoy.

All ages and fitness welcome

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

**NOV 13th** **MACEDON** Ash Wednesday Park, Smith St  
**NOV 20th** **SUNBURY** GalaxyLands, Betula Terrace  
**NOV 27th** **WOODEND** Information Centre, Margery Cres  
**DEC 4th** **ROMSEY** Lions reserve, Main St  
**DEC 11th** **GISBORNE** Jackson Creek Reserve, Brantome St

Rego 6.00 pm - 6.30pm

Start 6.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Finish 8.00 pm **\$5 per participant**

Up to 1 hour to complete your adventure

**Coaching, coloured maps &  
electronic timing included.**



[www.centralhighlands.weebly.com](http://www.centralhighlands.weebly.com)



## Open Garden SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

OPEN EACH WEEKEND  
**OCTOBER 26 - DECEMBER 8**  
10am - 4pm  
**ENTRY \$9** (Children under 18 free)  
Featuring Sculptors from VIC, NSW and SA

**MICA GRANGE**

MORNING/AFTERNOON TEA, LIGHT LUNCH,  
SCULPTURE, GARDEN ART, PLANTS, PRESERVES

Group Bookings available during the week

Visit: [micagrangecom.au](http://micagrangecom.au)  
M: 0499 897 242 M: 0409 322 413  
Email: [micagrangegarden@gmail.com](mailto:micagrangegarden@gmail.com)

**373 Faraday Sutton Grange Road  
Sutton Grange 3448**