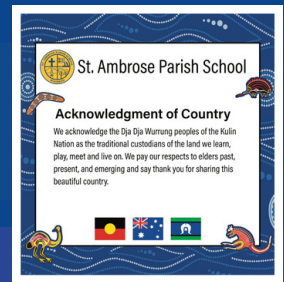


St Ambrose Primary School

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

Respectful Responsible Resilient Kind



First Sunday of Advent

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.



**We hope to see you at
our family picnic and
carols evening this
THURSDAY from 5.00-
7.00pm on the oval. You
can add a touch of
Christmas to your outfit!**

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Around the school: Pg 10-12
Student & School News: Pg 13-14
School Events: Pg 15-16
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Nforma Parent Portal: Pg 21-22
Community News: Pg 23-24

Our next & final newsletter for this year will be published on Friday 13th December 2024.

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners and friends,

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. The Church calendar begins with the Advent season, the four weeks leading up to Christmas.

The word 'Advent' means coming. Amongst the busyness of this time of year may we find time to reflect and nourish our spirit through relationship and in giving of ourselves for the greater good. At its heart, Advent is a time of preparation, waiting and hope for the coming of Jesus into our world and lives.

With less than three weeks of our term left, your children are immersed in finishing off projects and final assessments as well as preparing for our various end of year activities. It is always uplifting when I visit the classrooms where I see our children engaged in their learning. We can learn from and be inspired by their enthusiasm and openness to try new things and do their best when presented with a challenge.

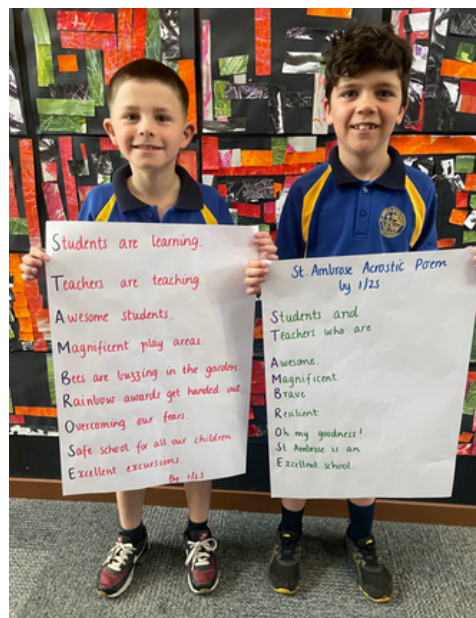
We ask that you all book your child's time slots for their literacy testing. You will receive an Operoo next week, following step up day to book your time. This opportunity gives us further information to inform our teaching literacy at the beginning of next year. You can also book your children's Numeracy timeslots which is in the beginning of 2025.

Please read our school calendar carefully and note events over the next couple of weeks.

We have started our Advent services before the official beginning of Advent so that our children can deepen their understanding of the meaning of Christmas before the school year finishes. You are always welcome to join us.



As a staff we are delighted that so many of our learners are keen to share their ideas and progress. Ryder and Teddy are pictured proudly showing their class acrostic poem.



Farewell Jennifer Boldiston



At the close of this year we will farewell Jennifer Boldiston. Jennifer has faithfully served our school community over the past 13 years and is now finishing her extensive career as an educator to make time for retirement.

Indeed we have been blessed to have had Jennifer with us and we sincerely thank her for her dedication and commitment to our children, their families and our staff. We will certainly miss her but wish her a happy and contented slower pace.

When one chapter closes a new one begins. Jennifer has paved the way for Chantell Albani to step seamlessly into the role. Chantell has already spent time at our school and she also worked with our leadership team on Tuesday as we reviewed this year to set our 2025 Annual Action Plan which we will share with you early next year.

2025 Prep Orientation



Thankyou to our 2025 prep parents who attended the transition to school information session. We hope you found this meeting helpful and informative. We look forward to any of our parents who need to do the parent as helpers training attending next week's session.

Farewell Jenny Nelson



It is time for us to say goodbye to Jenny Nelson one of our dedicated ESO staff members who works on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Jenny has completed additional study and is now moving towards working in Disability Support with adults and children in the local community. Congratulations Jenny. We will miss you but wish you every success in your new career. Thank you for all you have contributed to our school over the past 8 years.

Introducing Chelsey Jones



"Hello my name is Chelsey and I am so excited to be joining the St Ambrose Staff in 2025. Outside of school I like to spend time with my family, cheer on the mighty magpies and participate in local community events and sports. I look forward to meeting you all soon!"

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 9.15am.

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) and book in to the appropriate course.

International Day for People with a Disability

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is observed annually on December 3rd. The theme for this year is "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future." We will share our learning in our next newsletter.



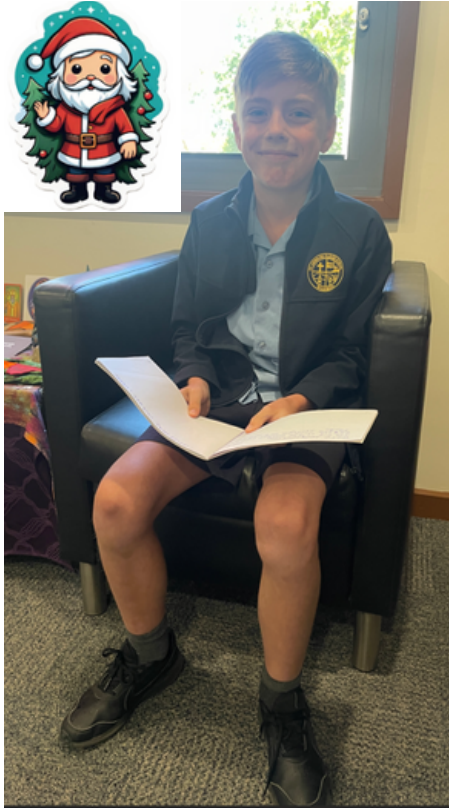
Mango Fundraiser THANKYOU

This year we made \$400.00 thanks to your generosity. We will use this money to add to our numeracy and literacy games. This helps keep our resources, fresh, up-to-date and inviting.



Students Active in Leadership at St Ambrose

6th Dec Christmas Dress Up Casual Clothes for RCH



St Ambrose SRC
Casual Christmas Clothes Day
Friday the 6th of December

If you don't have any Christmas add ons
you could wear
Christmas colours or Christmas socks.

Bring a gold coin donation for
The Royal Children's Hospital.

From Archer on behalf of the SRC.



STAM Day



This weel school captain Elijah met with our school leadership team to up date them on the origins of STAM day. He will speak with our SAC next week. We are looking forward to this day...stay tuned!

"When I was in Grade 4, I noticed there were lots of sporting days and activities, but nothing for people who like art, music and technology.

I chatted to the school captains and together with the support of the specialist teachers and leadership team, we created STAM Day for grades 3-6. The day included Social & Emotional Wellbeing, Technology, Art and Music - which is how the name STAM Day came about.

Fast forward two years and as School Captain I promised to bring STAM Day to the whole school.

So this year we decided to have STAM Day on St Ambrose day to make it a real celebration.

It's also great as STAM Day uses the same letters as ST Ambrose !!!

This year, things are a bit different. In their year levels, students will get to vote on Social and Emotional Wellbeing, Art and Music. Each year level will be able to do 1- 2 of these, depending on how many classes there are. Everyone will get the option to do technology.

Also, each student will get a small engineering project to work on during the day.

The specialist teachers will help provide some activity ideas and the activities will run for 2 hours.

My hope is that STAM Day becomes an ongoing tradition at St Ambrose."

Year 5-6 Fire Readiness Expo



Our students will share their work with local members of parliament, emergency service workers and our community next Friday between 9.15 and 11.00 am in the parish hall. You are welcome to visit their expo. Their research will help inform family bush fire preparedness plans which we urge you all to have.

I attended a bushfire preparedness meeting on Thursday. Our school is rated 3 on the School Bushfire Risk BARR category. See the table below.

Category 1, 2, 3 & 4 Sites:

- Will be closed
- No bus routes operating in or transiting through impacted weather district
- No staff to be on site, including contractors
- All co-located facilities are made aware of arrangements and are also not on site.
- Camps may be cancelled if scheduled.



THE FIRE DANGER RATING LEVELS ARE:

MODERATE	Plan and prepare. Most fires can be controlled.
HIGH	Be ready to act. Fires can be dangerous.
EXTREME	Take action now to protect your life and property. Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.
CATASTROPHIC	For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas. If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost.
NO RATING	On days where there is minimal risk, the white bar meaning 'No Rating' will be used.

Artist: Emma Bamblett (Wemba Wemba, Gunditjmarra, Ngadjonji and Taungurung)

Fire Danger Ratings and Triggers for Action

School triggers for pre-emptive action based on fire danger ratings

- On a Catastrophic **Fire Weather District** forecast rating schools and education entities on the BARR and Category 4 close.
- On an Extreme **Local Government Area** forecast rating schools and education entities categorised 0-2 on the BARR relocate or close.
- On a High **Local Government Area** forecast rating schools and education entities categorised as 0 on the BARR relocate or close.

		Fire Danger Rating (AFDRS)			
		Moderate Fire Danger Rating	High Fire Danger Rating (Local Government Area)	Extreme Fire Danger Rating (Local Government Area)	Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (Fire Weather District)
School Fire Risk BARR Category	0	Operational	Alternate arrangements (relocate/close)	Alternate arrangements (relocate/close)	Close
	1	Operational	Operational	Alternate arrangements (relocate/close)	Close
	2	Operational	Operational	Alternate arrangements (relocate/close)	Close
	3	Operational	Operational	Operational	Close
	4	Operational	Operational	Operational	Close

Ukulele Club



Mrs. Byrne has been busy working with our Ukulele group who are preparing some Christmas songs and more to entertain Bupa residents and our community at our family picnic and carols evening on Thursday.

After School Play

It is great to see families enjoying the back play area after school. Note that children are not supervised by staff after school. Supervision at the front of the school finishes at 3.45pm. If you are utilising the play area after school it is your responsibility to supervise your children. Staff are in meetings and doing preparation at this time and the cleaners are in doing their job. Toilets are off limits as they are being cleaned and external doors are locked. We have had children running around the school unsupervised, playing with the front door keypad and coming in to the building. We want you to enjoy the grounds however we ask that you are present and supervising your children.

ONWZ Deputy Principals' Visit



The outer north western deputy principal network met at our school last week after enjoying a tour of our new learning spaces. They would like to thank our students for being so helpful and polite. It is fantastic to be able to host other school representatives and share our expertise together.

Student Reports & Nforma

Student semester two reports will be able to be accessed on December 18th from 3.30 pm. We have included instructions for parents on how to download the app and login to nforma via your phone or ipad, which you may prefer. If not we have also included instructions on how to use the URL.

If you use the app either on a Apple phone or android phone, you can have a look at past reports. If you are able to do this then you will be set up to access the December reports when they go out.

If you do not have a phone at all or even an iPad or tablet, read the second guide for the web version.

If you are having problems downloading the app, please email micheal.portelli@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Please make time to read through the information later in this newsletter so that you are set up and ready to log in.

2025 Year Six Tops Look Great!



Junior School Auslan Excursion



Our junior school had many tales to tell following their visit to the Werribee Zoo. Many thanks to Mrs. Old for organising this day and to our staff and parents who supported this excursion.

Building Resilience & Growth Mindset

Primary school is the perfect time to try new things, and becoming comfortable with taking positive risks is another critical skill in a child's development. We need to support our children when they are trying something new, different or facing a challenge to accept change as a normal part of life and that taking some risks or facing something they are unsure about is an opportunity to grow.

There are so many ways your child can learn to take a positive risk. The important part as a parent is to always acknowledge and praise the effort and courage it takes to try something new. Trying a new sport, joining a club or starting a new one, expanding their circle of friends, trying a music class or a new hobby are a few examples as is joining a new class group or having a different teacher.

Looking towards the coming year can be an exciting as well as a nervous time for our students. We also understand that as parents we worry that our children may have trouble adjusting to a new class or teacher. Be thoughtful about the messages you are sending your children about this new adventure. Let your child/ren know that change and new beginnings can be exciting and energising but also at times challenging, and unsettling. Our children take their lead from our energy as parents. The attitude we project will be the attitude they absorb. Next year will be another opportunity for transformation! Prepare for it, brace yourself for it, and most of all maintain a positive mindset and work with us to support your children to transition smoothly.

2025 Teaching & Admin Staff. (ESO Staffing TBA)

Class	Name	Days
P/1 S	Ms. Alexis Seddon	Monday - Friday
P/1 T	Mrs. Debbie Taylor	Monday - Friday
P/1 O	Mrs. Kate Old	Monday - Friday
2 K-R	Mrs. Alison Raco	Mon-Tues
	Ms. Rebecca Keenan	Wed-Fri
3-4 C-W	Mrs. Kate Callinan &	Mon-Thurs
	Mrs. Kelly Woodman	Fridays
3-4 M	Mrs. Jodi Menzies	Monday-Friday
3-4 O	Mr. Patrick Old	Monday - Friday
5-6 M	Mrs. Brenda McDonald	Monday - Friday
5-6 P	Mr. Micheal Portelli	Monday - Friday
5-6 W	Ms Alissa Willan	Monday - Friday
Visual Arts	Ms. Clare Shannon	Thursday & Friday
Auslan	TBA	
Health & PE	Mrs. Kristy Cavric	Thursday & Friday
Music Performing Arts	Mrs. Nicole Byrne	Thursday & Friday
Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader	Ms Erin Brass	Monday-Thursday
Finance Officer	Mrs. Karen Basa	Monday -Wednesday
Administration Officer	Mrs. Justine Mitchener	Monday - Friday
ICT Leader	Mr. Micheal Portelli	
Religious Education Leader	Mrs. Jocelyn Devlin	Wed or Thursday
Learning Diversity & Numeracy Leader	Ms. Chantell Albani	Monday - Thursday
Deputy Principal/ Wellbeing for Teaching & Learning Leader	Mrs. Debbie Geisler	Monday - Friday
Principal	Ms. Bronwyn Phillips	Monday - Friday
Parish Priest	Rev Fr. John Healy	Welcome any time!

Note that in 2025 Middle & Senior School (Years 3-6) will have their specialist classes (Physical Education, Art and Music/Performing Arts) on Thursdays and the Junior School (Prep-Year 2) will have Physical Education, Art and Music/Performing Arts on Fridays. Auslan will be on an alternate day to allow time for literacy and numeracy classes every day.

Music

Lawson is pictured in his recent drumming lesson with musician Tim. The progress made by our students is most impressive. The satisfaction and pride they show in their achievements is great to see not to mention all the good playing an instrument does for one's wellbeing.



Science Club

Augie led this week's experiment which attracted great interest!



Next Newsletter

For more news and photos visit our [website](#) and look at latest news including our owl sketches and zoo visit by clicking on our facebook button.

Our next and final newsletter for this year will be published on Friday, 13th December 2024.



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



GRADE PREP K HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR YEAR!

AUDREY

I loved making new friends at the start of Prep!



JACK

I enjoyed when we went to Woodend Library. We saw a lady and man do a show and the wizard had a bunny.



AMY

My favourite thing this year was playing in the playground!



LACHIE E.

I enjoyed the fun writing activities we have done this year.

STUART

I liked writing a story about a lost teddy because it was fun to write about a teddy bear. I enjoyed finding out about Mary and Joseph in Religion too!

GRACE

I loved when Mr Antz was here to teach us about recycling. He was a bit silly and funny!

EMILIA

The best part of Prep this year was learning to write!

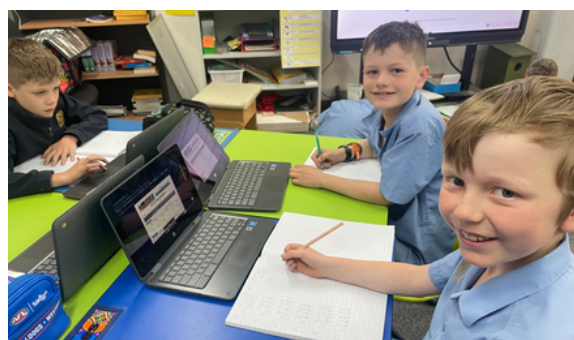
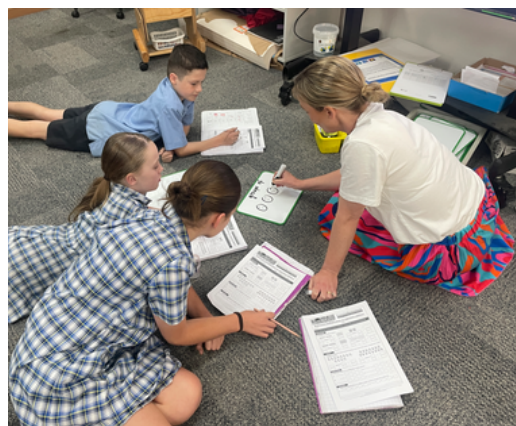


AVA

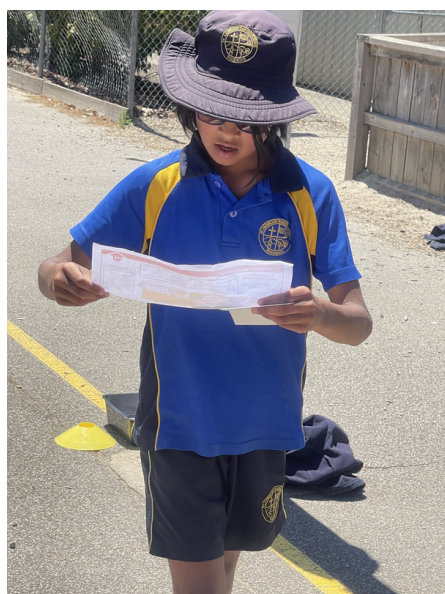
My favourite thing this year was doing sport.



AROUND THE SCHOOL



Orienteering in Senior P.E.





AROUND THE SCHOOL

Taekwondo coach in Junior P.E.



Last Friday we had Cathryn from Macedon Ranges Taekwondo school give us an introduction to this sport.

Grades Prep to 2 all got to experience some blocks, punches and kicks. It was great to experience a different sport and might be something your children are interested in pursuing.

Visual Arts

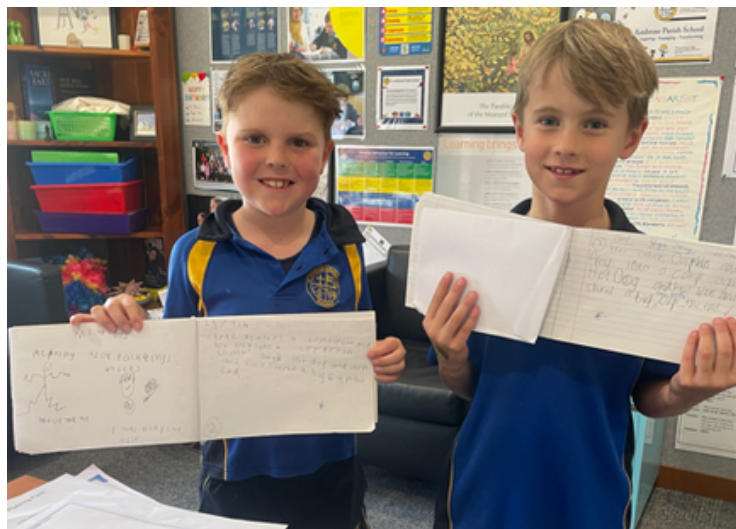




AROUND THE SCHOOL

Junior School Excursion to Werribee Zoo





Henry and Toby are pictured left proudly showing their writing pieces.



29 November Casey M
1 December Elliott N
3 December Audrey C, Isabelle M
6 December Lawson N
7 December Stuart P
10 December Annie D
11 December Elke F
12 December Maeve D

FAMILY CAROLS & PICNIC

Thursday 5 December 2024 - 5-7pm

Join us for Christmas Carols, led by the Ukulele Club and a family picnic on the school oval.

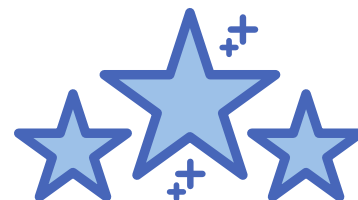
BYO picnic blanket, food and drinks.
Please note this is an alcohol free event.





Student Awards

- Prep K - Redmond O for being a responsible helper in the classroom, listening carefully and following instructions. Well done Redmond!
- Prep K - Ben H for working in a focused way to complete classroom work this week. Well done Ben, keep it up!
- Prep T - Oliver D for his positive attitude and trying his best.
- Prep T - Matteo T for persistence and dedication to improve his writing.
- 1/2CM - Charlie P for being resilient in reading sessions.
- 1/2CM - Charlie P for being a fair and encouraging team player on the yard!
- 1/2CM - Harry O for his wonderful independence in writing!
- 1/2CM - Casey M for trying hard to check and correct his writing himself. Great!
- 1/2S - Lucas T for working hard to re-read and edit his writing. Well done!
- 1/2S - Toby C for working hard to use rhyming words and adjectives in his poetry. Well done!
- 1/2S - Lizzy D for her hard work and effort in all areas of her learning. Well done!
- 1/2O - Ben Y for always being willing to help others in the room.
- 1/2O - Leah W for always being a positive and resilient leader.
- 1/2O - Sailor C for working hard on improving her poetry.
- 3/4R - Jessica F for always doing her best!
- 3/4R - Rose AG for fantastic reading in her group task!
- 3/4TW - Cooper L for his readiness to learn and focus during work time. You are demonstrating the PBL values of Respect and Responsibility. Well done!
- 3/4TW - Harriet B for the effort you put into your Realistic Narrative writing piece. You demonstrated that you took on feedback to improve your sentences and made them very descriptive.
- 5/6M - Mary G for being responsible by completing set tasks at home to ensure the work is done.
- 5/6M - Tom C for showing great leadership in the classroom.
- 5/6P - Nick G for always being kind and considerate in class.
- 5/6P - Joe M for his work on the Fire Readiness project.
- 5/6P - Charlotte N for her work on transformations in Maths.
- 5/6P - Austin S for always being polite and well-mannered.
- 5/6P - Angus T for his contributions to classroom discussions.



Sports Star of the Week - Jack B for completing the orienteering course with precision.

Sports Star of the Week - Grace H for a positive attitude and a wonderful effort at everything in P.E!

PBL Silver Awards (40 Bee Gotcha Tickets)

Jackson G-S, George L, Bosco L, Jock R, Julian G, Atticus L, Neave K, Oliver D, Archie L, Matteo T, Leboko S, Valerie W, Audrey C, Ava T, Jack H, Thomas S, Redmond O

PBL Gold Awards (60 Bee Gotcha Tickets)

Holly M, Jessica F, Kitty B, Pip F, Rupert F, Anna M, Madeline Q,

PBL Rainbow Awards (100 Bee Gotcha Tickets)

Lucas T, Dominic O, Joshua R, Mack R, Oscar D, Oli J

PBL Diamond Award (150 Bee Gotcha Tickets)

Felix D





St Ambrose Feast Day
Canteen
Menu

Feast Box Regular - \$10
Recess
Your choice of Popcorn or Fruit
with a Chocolate Chip Muffin
Lunch
Box including
2 X Party Pies
1 X Mini Chicken Tender Wrap
1 X Mini Margherita Pizza

For Vegetarian and Allergy Friendly Box options see Flexischools for more info!

Please place orders by
Wednesday 4th of December

Super Sushi is also available to order.



Your child will receive a lemonade Zooper Dooper as part of the St Ambrose Feast Day celebrations.

Please contact the office if you would prefer your child did not receive one.



PLEASE BRING
YOUR **ART FOLIO**
BACK TO SCHOOL
BEFORE THE END
OF YEAR AND
LEAVE IT IN YOUR
CLASSROOM.

MS. SHANNON WILL
COLLECT IT FROM
YOUR CLASSROOM

RECYCLE & REUSE

Art Folios will be sent home soon.
Year 6's may keep their folios.

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.



Reframe Embarrassment

5 PHRASES YOUR CHILD CAN USE WHEN THEY FEEL EMBARRASSED:

DID YOUR CHILD TRIP OVER AND EVERYONE LAUGHED?

You **can't** shield them from embarrassment...
...but you **can** teach them phrases so they deal with it in a resilient way.

1

"THAT WAS A SILLY
MISTAKE!"

I don't take my
mistakes too seriously. I
make a lot of them and
I **grow** each time!

2

"I'LL DO BETTER NEXT
TIME!"

I will get better
with **practice**.
It's just a matter
of time.

3

"LOOK'S LIKE I'M
HAVING AN OFF DAY!"

Some days are easier
than others. The hard
days are a **chance to**
learn and grow.

4

"GOOD THING NO ONE
IS PERFECT!"

Everyone makes
mistakes and gets
embarrassed
sometimes.

5

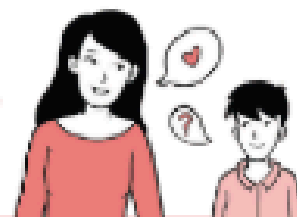
"THAT WAS ROUGH.
I'M OKAY THOUGH!"

Feeling embarrassed
is uncomfortable.
This feeling won't
last forever.

AND ALWAYS VALIDATE THEIR FEELINGS OF EMBARRASSMENT:



I noticed you felt embarrassed
when you tripped. You made that
goofy face and laughed it off.
How are you feeling now?



If your child learns to tolerate the feeling of being embarrassed...
...they'll be much better at coping with mistakes and failures.

JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

Almighty God, and most
merciful Father,
You have given us a new
command that
we should love one another;
give us also grace that we may
fulfill it.

Make us gentle and kind,
bearing with
one another.

May we each look to the good of
the other in word and deed.

We offer our friendships for
Your holy use,
by the blessing of Your Spirit.

~Brooke Foss Westcott (1825-1901), Adapted

Ponder:

Is Jesus Christ my one and
only king?

How does my life reflect that?

Gospel Reflection: John 18:33b-37

It seems that only when our lives are turned upside down do we begin to realise what is truly important to us. Only when what we deemed important is no longer there, do we understand that so many things are actually rather unimportant. So what is important?

First and foremost, God is important. He is so important that we wouldn't exist without Him, and our lives would be void of meaning. Secondly, people are important. Spending time with loved ones and showing them that they matter to us and are not forgotten is important. Thirdly, what we do for/with God and for/with people is important. God has given us a set of Commandments to follow, and Christ as a solid example to imitate. He has also given us people to interact with and share with. What is it that we share? How do we interact?

It all comes down to the importance we place on living for God alone. Is Christ truly my king? If He is my king, then that implies that a whole lot of other people (and things) are not my king. There can only be one king.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that His kingdom is not of this world. It never was. And it shouldn't be for us either. Worldly things will come and go, but the love of God remains forever. May the Holy Spirit remind us today, as we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, that He is the one and only true king.

Copyright 2024 Tami Urcia (Catholic Mom)

Last Sunday was the last one in our liturgical year. Next Sunday is the first Sunday in our new liturgical year, Year C. It is the first Sunday of Advent.

NEW SATURDAY EVENING MASS TIMES

When the parish of Woodend and Lancefield/Romsey came under the administer of one priest a change was made to Masses in both communities. The Parish of Lancefield/Romsey went from three weekend Masses to one weekend Mass. A request was made to have a second weekend Mass for Lancefield. The only option was an additional Saturday Evening Mass. Recently both communities were asked to put forward their preferred option for Mass times. After collating the responses put forward the following are the new times



Mass Times

5pm Woodend 6.30pm Lancefield.

I know this may not suit everyone. Change can sometimes be difficult. I ask that we embrace these new Mass times as the best way to serve both communities. At the moment we have two priests, the reality is that sometime in the new year we will have only one priest. This change has been made in preparation for when one priest will minister in both Parishes. **These new mass times will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30th.**

Religious Calendar of Events in Term 4:

Date	Details	Time
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.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS **Faith & Family**



Dear Families, my name is Sharon, a member of the St Ambrose Parish Lay Team, and a grandmother of two current St Ambrose students (my children went to St Ambrose during the 90's and 2000's).

Our beautiful old Hall is in need of repairs to the roof and we need your help so the whole St Ambrose Community, the Church and School can continue to have the use of such a great and useful building.

You can help in three ways:

- attend our Christmas Cake stall on December 1st, straight after the 11am Mass
- donate cash via the St Ambrose Online Donation Portal, marked as Roof Donation, or
- provide a cake or slice on the day of our stall.

Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

[DONATE HERE](#)

Online Donation Portal, one off Giving Section. Ear mark Roof Repairs.

I can be contacted on my mobile
040 449 8807 or 54271177

Fr John at the Presbtyery, 54272690

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.

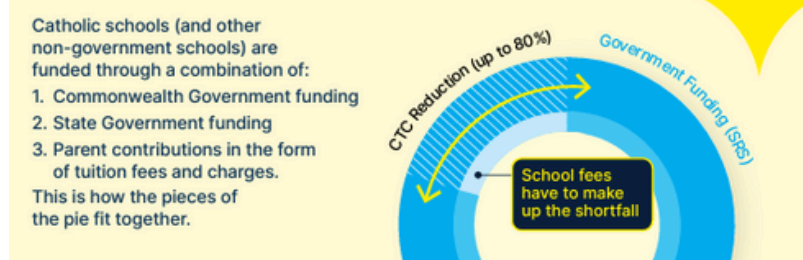
As a result, St. Ambrose School 's annual fee schedule for 2025 will be:

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

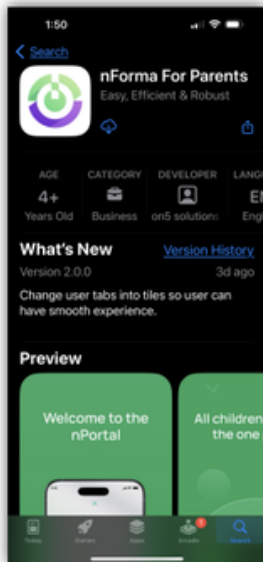
nForma NPORTAL

YOUR GUIDE TO THE NEW ONFORMA PARENT PORTAL TO ACCESS SCHOOL REPORTS

Getting started

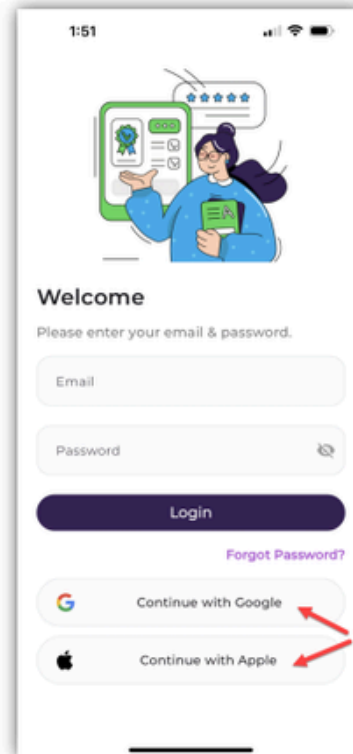
Download the app

1. Go to the Google Play Store or Apple App store on your phone.
2. Search "nForma for parents" and download

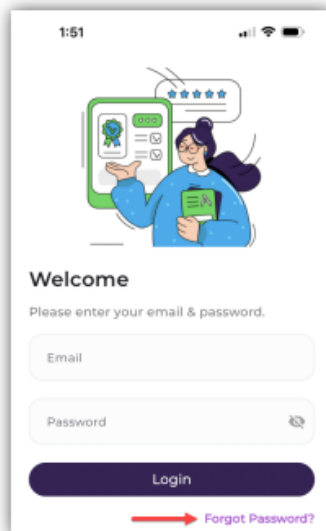


3. Double click to open the app

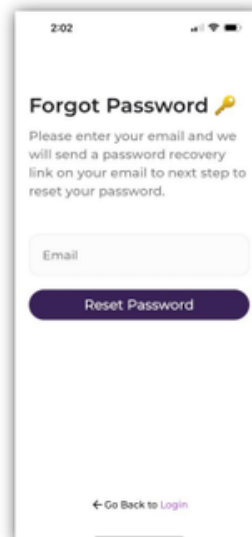
4. If your Google or Apple email account is registered at the school, simply click on "Continue with Google or Apple"



5. If you do not have a Google or Apple email account, simply click "Forgot Password"



6. Enter the email address registered with the school and click "Reset Password".



7. Check your email for the reset password link.
8. If you do not receive an email after several minutes, request the temp password from your school admin office. They will be able to email you the temp password, should your email account be blocked from the nPortal system. You will need to input the temporary reset password through the web browser and not the app. The URL is as below:

[HTTPS://PORTAL.NFORMA.COM.AU/LOGIN](https://portal.nforma.com.au/login)

9. Once you have logged in through the web browser and confirmed your new password, you can log into the app with your new password, not the temporary one.

If you have any questions, refer to our FAQs page:

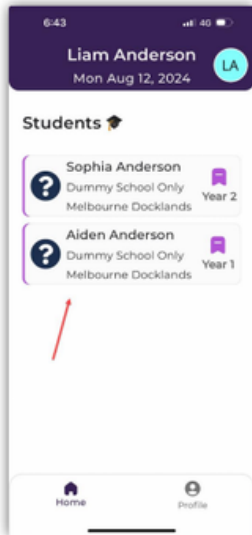
[HTTPS://NFORMA.COM.AU/PARENT-FAQS/](https://nforma.com.au/parent-faqs/)

Password: nforma123

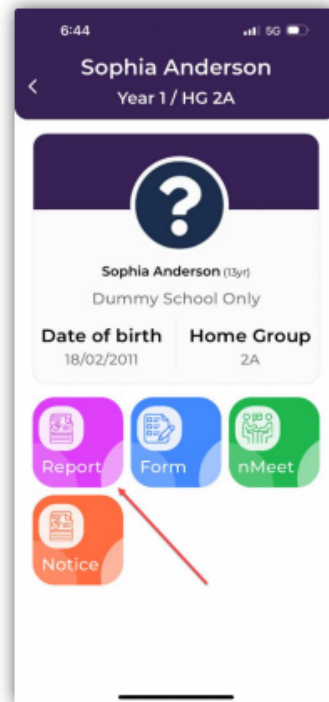
Reports

Saving time and effort

In your child's profile, you will see a variety of data, such as profile information and assessment reports.



1. Select the student



2. Click on report and download

Accessing Reports via the desktop version

Getting started

Logging in

When logging in, you will see multiple options on how to login. You can login either with a google account or another preferred email address. The most important thing to note is that it must be the email registered with the school.

For example, if you have two emails, one Google and one Hotmail, and the Hotmail is linked to the school, logging in through the google option with your Gmail account, will not work.

TO LOG INTO THE NFORMA PORTAL, USE THIS LINK - [HTTPS://PORTAL.NFORMA.COM.AU/LOGIN](https://portal.nforma.com.au/login)

To setup your password for the first time, you will need to click on the "Forgot Password" link. From there, enter the email address registered to the school. Once done, you should receive an email with a password reset. Once you have updated your password, you can then login.

If you have any questions, refer to our FAQs page:

[HTTPS://NFORMA.COM.AU/PARENT-FAQS/](https://nforma.com.au/parent-faqs/)

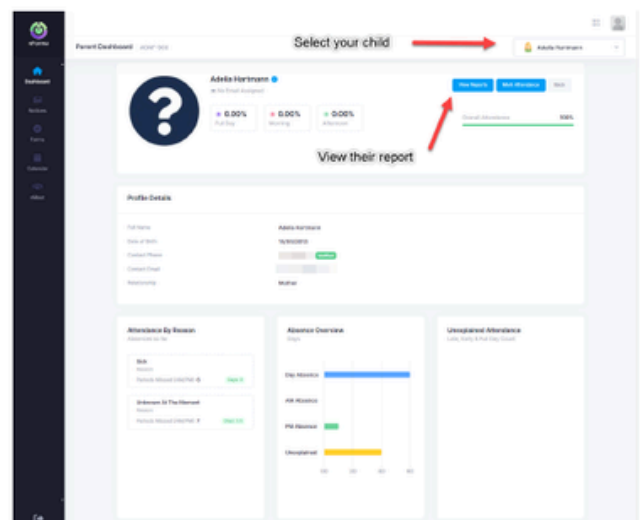
Password: nforma123

Reports

Saving time and effort

In your child's profile, you will see a variety of data, such as profile information and assessment reports.

To view your child's semester reports, simply choose the selected child's profile. There will be a blue "View Reports" button at the top of the page, click that. You will then be presented with all the available reports for your child. Click on "download", they will now download to your device where you can view them.





COMMUNITY NEWS

Christmas CRAFT WORKSHOPS



**WEDNESDAY
4TH DECEMBER**

**PRESCHOOLERS
(2 - 5 YEARS)
2PM - 3PM**

**PREP TO GRADE 6
4PM - 5PM**

Cost: \$5 per participant

BOOKINGS NOW VIA OUR WEBSITE
OR IN PERSON AT THE
WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



2024-25 Holiday Program

AGE 8-13YR
Limited Spots available!

SCAN ME TO REGISTER



week one
16th - 17th December

	AM	PM
Monday	Sports Day	Gingerbread house Decorating
Tuesday	Fishing with Jack	Camping Games
Wednesday	Giant moves & Mini challenges	Polymer Clay Xmas Gnomes
Thursday	Carnival - DRY	Carnival - WET

email hello@linkingthenextstepsvic.com.au
FOR AN NDIS INVOICE

WWW.LINKINGTHENEXTSTEPVIC.COM.AU

For more information ON OUR OTHER ACTIVITIES & to register, please visit our website or scan the QR code above.



Camping activities

GISBORNE DANCE ACADEMY DANCE WITH US IN 2025!



Grow Dream Achieve

BRAND NEW FACILITY OPENING 2025 MORE INFO COMING SOON

Register via the QR code to be the first to receive further information about 2025 classes! Information includes public enrolment, grand opening details, updated timetable, exclusive offers and more...

2025 INFORMATION RELEASED EARLY DECEMBER



Save on Education Costs and Build Lifelong, Life Changing Savings Habits

Join us for an information session Every Wednesday 1pm - 1.15pm

To join please register via link below or scan QR Code

[Saver Plus Zoom Information Session Registration Link](#)

For further information email - enquiries@bsl.org.au



To be eligible you need to meet these requirements:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be studying yourself, have a child in school or starting school next year
- Get regular income (can be you or your partner)*
- Agree to join free online financial education workshops

Saver Plus supports people to develop life-long savings habits. It's delivered by the Brotherhood of St Laurence, The Smith Family and Berry Street. It's funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services. Learn more at www.saverplus.org.au

saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355





COMMUNITY NEWS

Bug-A-Lugs Summer Program

Monday 16 th December CLOSED	Tuesday 17 th December CLOSED	Wednesday 18 th Kite Creation	Thursday 19 th December Kids Choice	Friday 20 th December Botanical Gardens
Monday 23 rd December Christmas Craft	Tuesday 24 th December Christmas Cooking	Wednesday 25 th December CLOSED	Thursday 26 th December CLOSED	Friday 27 th December CLOSED
Monday 6 th January Celebrate 2025!	Tuesday 7 th January Pokémon Vs Lego Masters	Wednesday 8 th January Water Fun Day	Thursday 9 th January Kyneton Museum	Friday 10 th January Attention, Mad Scientists!
Monday 13 th January Learn the secrets of magic	Tuesday 14 th January Around the World in 5 Hours	Wednesday 15 th January Sports Day!	Thursday 16 th January Flying Bookworm Productions	Friday 17 th January Five Senses
Monday 20 th January Make Something Monday	Tuesday 21 st January Teddy Bear Workshop	Wednesday 22 nd January Summer Fun	Thursday 23 rd January Life Saving Victoria	Friday 24 th January Mini Money Makers
Monday 27 th January CLOSED	Tuesday 28 th January Stomp DC Dancing	Wednesday 29 th January National Puzzle Day	Thursday 30 th January Back to School Bash	

Bug-A-Lugs is located at 3 Hoyle Court, Kyneton 3444 Phone: 5422 2767

Full program information and bookings are available on our website @ www.bug-a-lugs.com.au

WOODEND PLAYGROUP
WONDER • PLAY • GROW

XMAS RAFFLE

Win a prize bundle
worth \$550!

Containing vouchers and goods from
some amazing local businesses

snap fitness 24/7 **slow studios**

Purchasing a ticket is a great way to support the community. You will be helping to develop young minds and foster lasting friendships while also supporting our local businesses - it's a win-win!

Purchase your tickets here

Opportunities to practice your orienteering skills

GO EXPLORE

Twilight Orienteering

An adventure activity the whole family can enjoy.
All ages and fitness welcome

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS \$5 per participant

NOV 13 th	MACEDON	Ash Wednesday Park
NOV 20 th	SUNBURY	Galaxy Lands
NOV 27 th	WOODEND	Information centre
DEC 4 th	ROMSEY	Lions reserve
DEC 11 th	GISBORNE	Jackson creek reserve

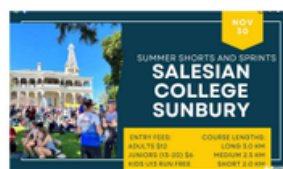
Registrations	6.00pm - 6.30pm
Starts	6.30pm - 7pm
Courses close	8pm

Up to 1 hour to complete your adventure
Coaching, maps & electronic timing included.



SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER 1.30pm

SALESIAN COLLEGE



All ages and abilities are welcome
Coaching provided

Registration open 1:30pm

Entry fees: \$12 for adults
\$6 for 13-20 year olds
Free Kids Under 13

www.vicorienteering.asn.au/summer2024

To find out more visit: www.centralhighlands.weebly.com