



# St Ambrose Primary School



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



Respectful



Responsible



Resilient



Kind



We give thanks to our elders past, present and emerging and truly appreciated the beautiful surrounds our school is built upon. With gratitude; The St Ambrose Community.



"Bring to your families and your nations the message of joy of hope and peace that each year is powerfully renewed this Easter. May the Risen Lord, who defeated sin and death, support us all especially the weakest and those most in need."

Thank you Pope Francis. RIP



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## Term 2 2025 Dates

Tuesday 6 May 2025	Hanging Rock Cross Country
Wednesday 7 May 2025	Mother's Day Refreshments 2-2.45pm Mother's Day Prayer Service 2.45-3.30pm
Thursday 8 May 2025	Confirmation Meeting for Grade 6 students and parents 6.30pm
Friday 9 May 2025	Cobaw Soccer Grade 6 PFA parent night out – <b>St Ambrose Autumn Social 6pm (see PFA News pg 9)</b>
Sunday 11 May 2025	Mother's Day
Tuesday 13 May 2025	Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45-5pm
Wednesday 14 May 2025	SAC meeting 9.15am Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 15 May 2025	Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45-5pm
Friday 16 May 2025	National Walk Safely to School Day Division Cross Country Castlemaine
Saturday 17 May 2025	Confirmation Commitment Mass 5pm
Sunday 18 May 2025	Confirmation Commitment Mass 11am
Monday 19 May 2025	School Open Day 9.30-11am
Tuesday 20 May 2025	Cobaw Winter Sports Gr 5/6 Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45-5pm
Wednesday 21 May 2025	Gr 5/6 100 story building incursion
Wednesday 28 May 2025	Social Justice & Cultural Leaders visit to BUPA Aged Care Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 29 May 2025	Pupil free day
Friday 30 May 2025	Pupil free day
Wednesday 4 June 2025	Buddies Mass (Prep/1 & Gr 5/6) 9.30am
Thursday 5 June 2025	Prep/1 Woodend Vet Clinic incursion
Sunday 8 June 2025	Pentecost Sunday
Monday 9 June 2025	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Wednesday 11 June 2025	Reconciliation for Confirmation candidates 11.45am Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 12 June 2025	Confirmation Practice 10am
Sunday 15 June 2025	Sacrament of Confirmation 1pm
Wednesday 25 June 2025	Assembly 2.50pm
Wednesday 2 July 2025	End of Term Mass 9.30am
Friday 4 July 2025	End of Term 2 – students dismissed at 3.30pm
Saturday 5 July 2025 – Sunday 20 July 2025	Term 2 school holidays
Monday 21 July 2025	School closure day – VCEA Accreditation



## New jumpers for sale

We have size 10, 12 and 14 school jumpers (as pictured) for sale at the office if you are needing to stock up for winter.

\$20 each.....what a bargain!

**BEST PRICE**

**FLASH SALE**





## Message from the Principal

Dear parents, families and friends,

Yes, term two is well underway!

I hope you all had a joyful and restful Easter, filled with meaningful time shared with family and friends. In the fast pace of our daily lives, these moments of connection are truly invaluable –a reminder of what matters most.

Recently, we received the saddening news of Pope Francis's passing. As the spiritual leader of the global Catholic Church, he guided over 1.3 billion Catholics with humility, compassion, and a steadfast dedication to the poor and marginalized. Throughout his 12-year papacy, he chose to walk alongside the people rather than above them, embodying the very essence of servant leadership. What resonated most with me about Pope Francis was his profound humility; he often described himself as a "reluctant leader." Yet it was this very humility that defined his leadership. His life and teachings remind us that true leadership is rooted in service, not status. He urged us to let our actions speak louder than our words and to live our faith in ways that are visible and meaningful.

Pope Francis was a strong voice for social justice and an advocate of Liberation Theology, believing the Church's greatest strength lies in its people. Perhaps his most enduring legacy will be a Church that is more compassionate, inclusive, and action-oriented.

At St Ambrose, we honour his legacy and strive to continue his mission of love, compassion, and service. We extend our heartfelt condolences to all who mourn his passing.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

As we begin this new term, there is much to look forward to. Please remember to read our fortnightly newsletter to stay informed about upcoming events and opportunities within our school community –it helps you to stay connected and engaged. You are also most welcome to attend our fortnightly assemblies held on Wednesdays at 2.50 pm in the library.

Wishing everyone a fulfilling and positive second term. May we continue to grow together in unity, strength, and compassion as we learn and journey forward.



## Mothers Day Afternoon Tea Wednesday May 7th 2.00pm



We are looking forward to welcoming our mothers and those like mothers to us at our afternoon tea on Wednesday at 2.00pm in the library. This will be followed by a prayer service in honour of our mothers and those like mothers to us and activities in family groups across the classrooms.

## School Closure Days

Thank you to all families for supporting our Pupil free day on Monday. We understand that school closure days can provide a degree of challenge for families, and we appreciate your support. Over our two day closure in May we will be learning more about neuro-science and how children learn best from Dr David Collins, Clinical Psychologist. We will also cover compliance as well as work with Pauline Cicutta from MACS on RE curriculum. We will certainly make productive use of our time!

In response to the critical need to address VCEA (CECV) Accreditation Policy compliance across MACS, the Executive Leadership Team has organised to hold a dedicated Accreditation closure day on **Monday 21 July 2025**. This day was not on the list we sent out at the end of last year as it has only been initiated this year. As we are in the north west zone we need to attend and like all outer north western schools, we will be closed on this day to enable our staff to take part. My apologies for the late notice. Please add this date to your calendars.

It is the first Monday of term 3.

## SAC Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 9.15am

Our next School Advisory Council meeting will be held at 9.15am on May 14<sup>th</sup> in the staff room.



## St Ambrose School Colour Run & Sliming Fundraiser

Much fun was had at our St Ambrose colour and slime run! Our fantastic community came together to support our children to enjoy this colourful day.

Our overall fundraising tally was \$15,019.35! An amazing effort from the 112 students who raised money via a fundraising page and other families who donated via Father John's sliming link.

After costs and the fundraising company fees, the school enjoys a \$9,011 profit! We will meet with the SRC about what we could use this towards that benefits the children, their environment and their learning and enjoyment at school.

THANKYOU Mrs. Cavric, staff and families. Congratulations to our amazing students on their good sportsmanship and for looking out for each other. The students who raised the most had the opportunity to slime their teacher, Fr John or the principal!



### Auslan is Back



We are happy to announce that we have resumed our Auslan program. Clare Shannon who has been working alongside an Auslan teacher over the past two years in another school and who is undertaking study in Auslan will teach this subject for the remainder of this year.

Our students will continue their Resilience Project lessons with their class teachers. Year P-2 will have their Auslan lesson on Tuesdays and years 3-6 on Wednesdays.

It has been great to observe our students happily re-engaged with our Auslan program.

## Book in your Parent-Teacher Meetings

Our teachers value time to meet with you to discuss your child's progress. It is in partnership with you that we are enabled to achieve excellence in learning.

Next week you will receive notification to book in your parent teacher meetings. Make contact with your child's class teacher if you have been unable to book a time slot via Operoo. We ask that you be punctual as we need to honour each interview time. If you require more than the time allocated, you could make another appointment with your child's teacher.

Semester one reports will be available online at the end of term 2.

We thank you in advance for making the time to meet with your child's teachers.

## 2026 Enrolments

Enrolments for children of existing and new families who start Foundation/Prep in 2026 are open. Parents of existing and new families who have a child to start in 2026 - must complete an Enrolment Application Form. This form can be accessed via our [website link](#) or request a paper copy from the office.

Please note this is an essential step for existing families in ensuring you child is enrolled in Foundation/Prep 2026.

Enrolments close 30th June 2025.

### INSPIRE | ENGAGE | THRIVE at St Ambrose School, Woodend



#### Open Day and Information Sessions

General Curriculum Information Evening

- Tuesday 22nd July 2025 5.30pm

School Open Mornings/Learning Walks:

- 19th May 9.30 am - 11.00 am and 11th August 11.30 - 1.00pm

ENROL FOR 2026 NOW



St Ambrose Primary School Woodend

Call to book a tour with the principal Bronwyn Phillips  
18 Templeton Street WOODEND | P: 03 5427 1285

E: [office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au)



KN283678K



## Photographing Children at School Events

As part of the MACS community, St Ambrose School follows important guidelines designed to keep our students safe and supported. One of these is our Parent Code of Conduct, (previously shared and accessed on our website or via this link: [Parent Guardian Code of Conduct](#) which outlines expectations for all members of our school community. A recent update to this document includes guidelines around photographing children at school events. In line with our Child Safety Standards, parents are now asked to only photograph or film their own child.

If you'd like to include other children in any photos or videos, you must first gain consent from their families. We understand this may be a change from past practice, but it reflects best practice for keeping all of our students safe. This will particularly apply to assemblies, sports days, excursions, and camps, where group photography has been common in the past.

We kindly ask all families to support this approach and help us maintain a safe and respectful environment for every child. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Social Media Usage

Please be mindful that children in the primary years are limited under law by the types of social media that they can engage with. We ask you to speak with your children about social media usage at home. If you become aware of any incidents of children using social media inappropriately, please let the school know and do not pass on images or messages to other people. Children sometimes make mistakes which we can work with at school but if these mistakes are shared with other people, then it becomes very difficult to protect young children. To do so is to act outside of the parent code of conduct for our school and we seek your support in assisting with this important matter.

## PFA

Our enthusiastic PFA are keen to recruit new members and to catch up with you all at our **autumn social on 9th May**. Read information later in this newsletter and book via trybooking! This will provide an opportunity to connect, mix and mingle with our wonderful St Ambrose community.

**You are ALL MOST WELCOME.**

Message from the Principal

## Winter Uniform Reminder

As the cooler weather settles in, a reminder that full winter uniform will be required from Week Four. This gives families a short transition period to prepare and adjust as temperatures begin to drop. A full description of our winter uniform can be found on the school [website](#), and uniform items are available for purchase from Hip Pocket and can be ordered online and delivered to the school. Thank you for helping our students comply with our uniform policy, stay warm, comfortable, and looking their best!

## Lest We Forget

Our school community came together for another well-attended ANZAC Day memorial service. Our children marched with great respect and should be commended for their patience and demeanor throughout the event. Our school captains led our school community in the march proudly, demonstrating the values we hold dear at St Ambrose School.

We would like to sincerely thank all our staff and families for their support and attendance on this important day. A special appreciation goes to our local RSL and the wider community for their efforts in keeping the spirit of the ANZACs alive.

Lest we forget.



On this Mother's day we offer our respect to our indigenous mothers both past and present and we give thanks for being able to raise our children in this great land.

With gratitude to our mothers and all who play a mothering role in our lives.

Loving God,  
Bless and care for our mothers & those like mothers to us always.  
May they always be beloved and cherished.  
Help us to be grateful and helpful,  
Not just on Mother's Day but everyday.  
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus,  
Who loved his own mother very much.  
All: Amen



## Next Newsletter

For more news and photos visit our [website](#) and look at latest news by clicking on our Facebook button.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday, 16th May 2025.

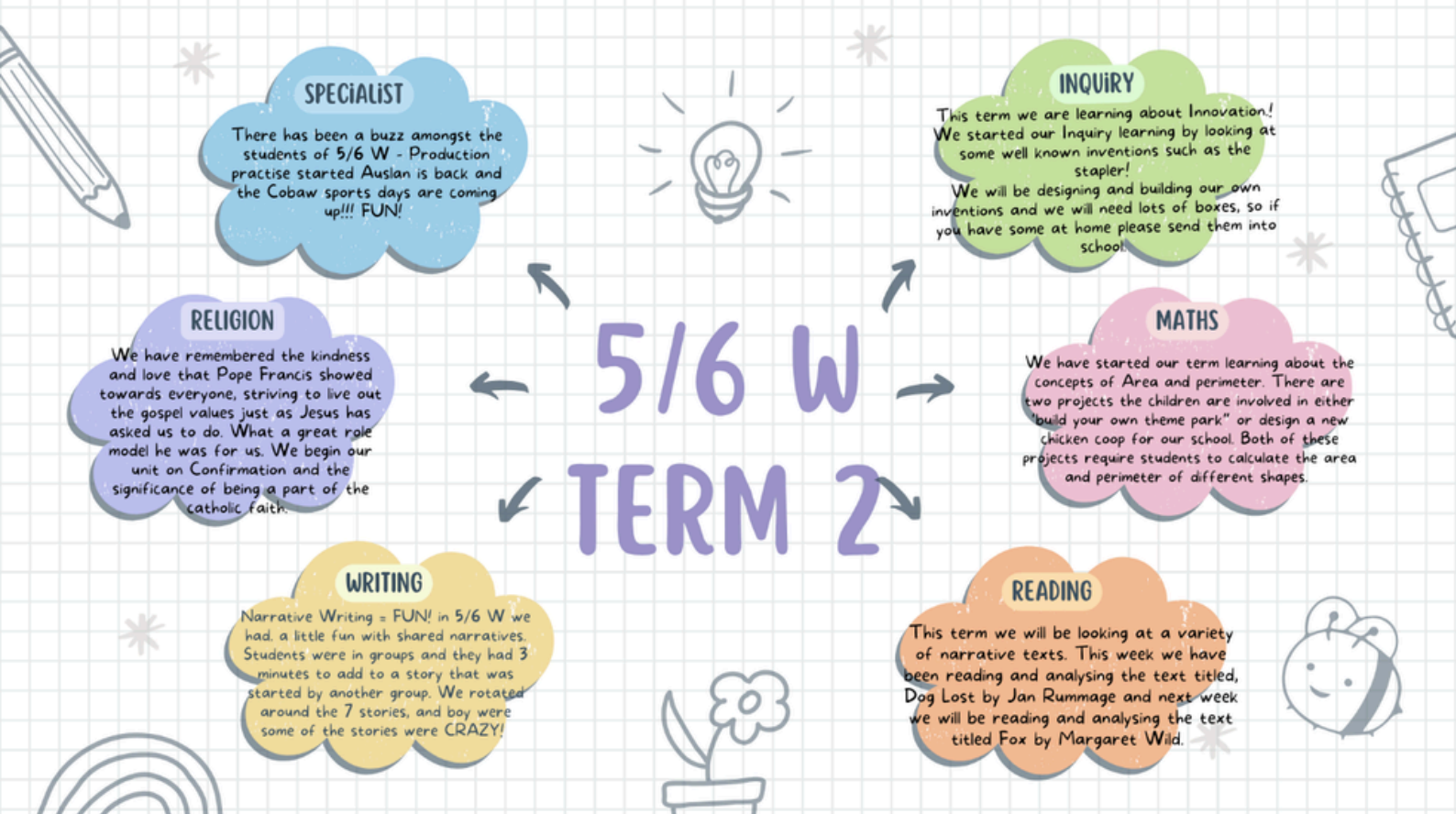


**Bronwyn Phillips**  
Principal





## 5-6W CLASSROOM FEATURE



## GRADE 5 VISIT TO SACRED HEART COLLEGE

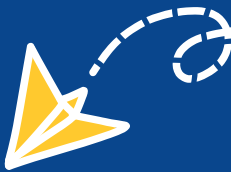




# AROUND THE SCHOOL







**Parents Autumn  
Social**  
hosted by the P&F


**9<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY**

Join us for a night to mingle, socialise & connect with your fellow St Ambrose parents. \$25 ticket includes delicious finger foods & warm live music.



SCAN TO BOOK

-  THE VIC HOTEL
-  LUCY WATSON  
lucywatson.me
-  FINGER FOODS PROVIDED
-  CASH BAR



SCAN THE QR CODE OR  
CLICK HERE TO  
BOOK YOUR  
TICKETS



# Student Awards



P/1O Henry Q for being responsible on the yard and putting rubbish in the bin.  
P/1O Madeline Q for always trying her best in everything she does.  
P/1T Lachie E for being respectful and responsible in the community on ANZAC day.  
P/1T Aaliyah F for her perseverance and dedication to improving her reading fluency. Well done.  
P/1S Jack D for being a wonderful role model to his peers. Well done!  
P/1S Bodhi V for working hard to sound out words in his holiday writing. Well done!  
2KR Harper C for doing a wonderful job explaining and demonstrating your group's invention.  
2KR Harry R for fantastic leadership and collaboration in our Create It workshop!  
2KR Lizzy R for joining in and sharing her ideas when making a Marble Maze during our incursion.  
3/4CW Lawson N for his thoughtful contributions in class discussions.  
3/4CW Lucy S for always putting so much effort into her work!  
3/4M Niamh F for being a wonderfully supportive and kind friend.  
3/4M Darcy S for having an amazing start to term 2 and working hard.  
3/4O Gwen G for always striving to take on challenges and do her best.  
3/4O Rose B for being a kind and supportive friend.  
5/6M Amity C for always being attentive during class discussions.  
5/6M Sonny B for his wonderful leadership not only in the classroom but also in the yard.  
Grade 5/6P for a wonderful start to Term 2.  
5/6W Tom L for always displaying a positive growth mindset towards your learning and encouraging other to do the same. Well done Tom!  
5/6W Alice C for consistently applying herself to all class activities. Keep up the great work Alice!



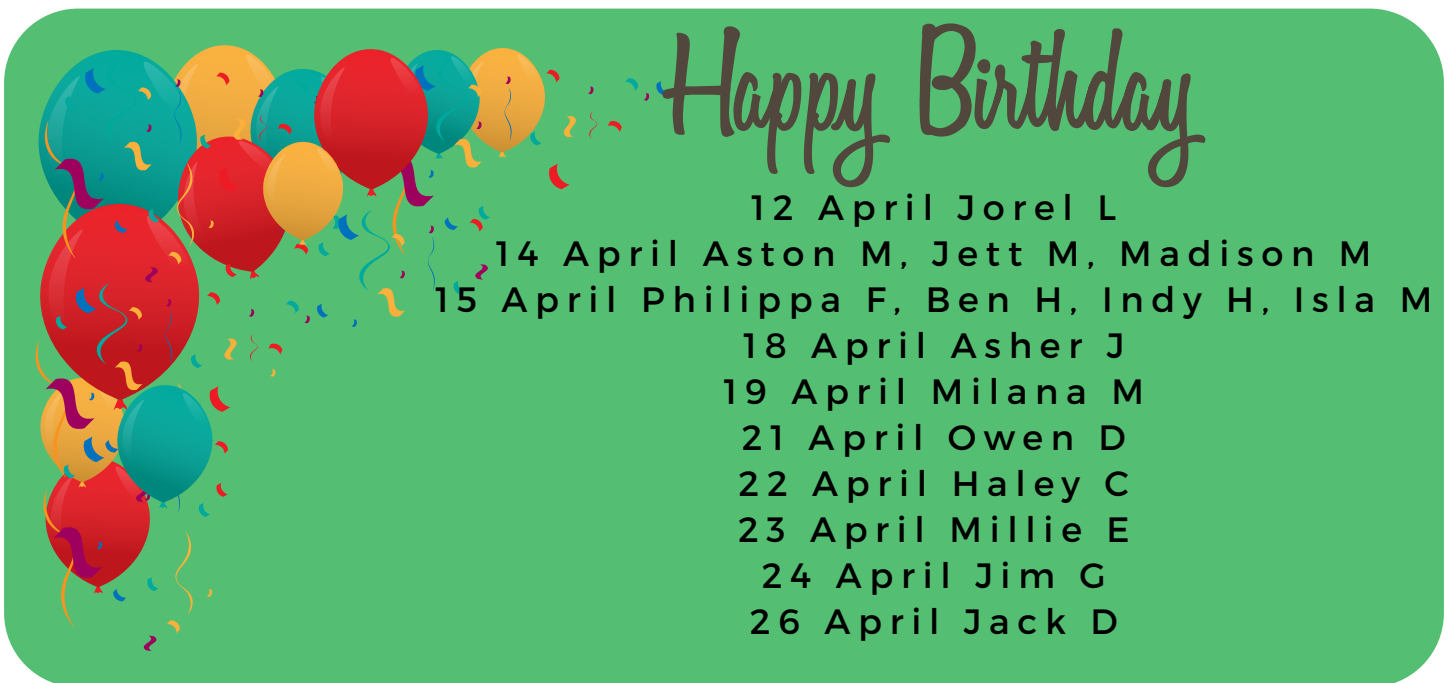
## Sports Stars of the Week

Tom L for always demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, encouraging others and ensuring fair play.  
Taj M for excellent listening and participation in PE classes.

PBL Bronze Awards - Deon S, Leah W, Teddy A, Elliott N, Kate D, Emily S, Sebastian C, Jethro F, Rose A G, James F,

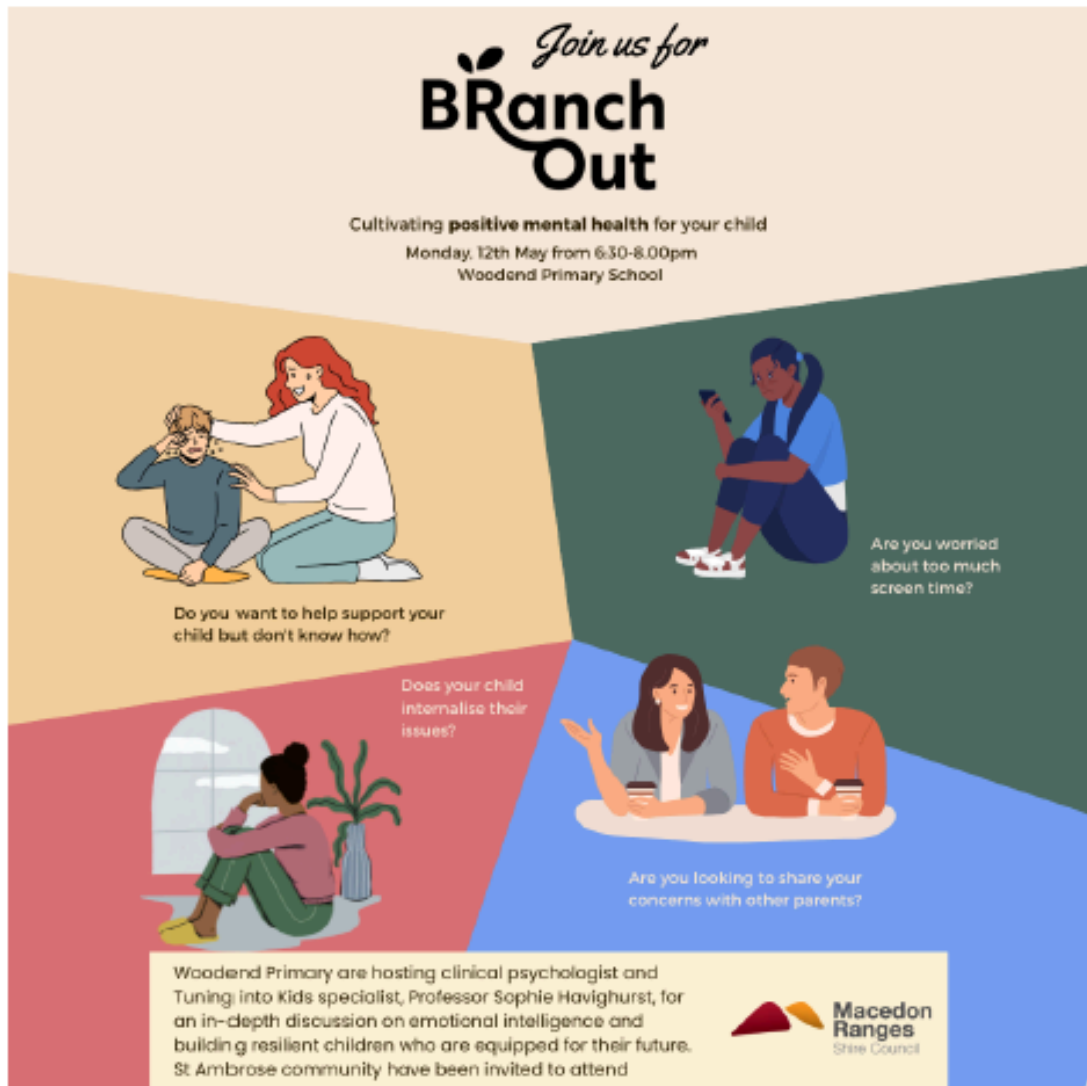
PBL Silver Awards - Neve E-S, Grace M, Alice L, Renzo L, Redmond O, James B

Highest Fundraising Student - Bodhi V





From little things, big things can grow.



Join us on 12th May March for Branch Out, a Woodend Primary and Macedon Ranges Council special event, helping support positive mental health in our children. From 6:30pm Clinical Psychologist, Professor Sophie Havighurst will discuss how to manage emotions and raise resilient children. Professor Havighurst will help improve communication with your children, develop stronger relationships and guide optimal responses to their emotions.

We are doing this, because we know that the initial steps we take in supporting the mental health of young people can branch out and make a huge difference in their futures.

Register here:

<https://mrsc.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/148726>

WHEN: Monday, 12th May

TIME: 6.30PM-8.00PM

WHERE: Woodend Primary School



# JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS Faith & Family



## Prayer for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis:

O God, immortal shepherd of souls,  
look on your people's prayers  
and grant that your servant Pope Francis,  
who presided over your Church in charity,  
may, with the flock entrusted to his care,  
receive from your mercy the  
reward of a faithful steward.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May:

For working conditions  
Let us pray that through work, each person  
might find fulfilment, families might be  
sustained in dignity, and that society  
might be humanized.

## Gospel Reflection: John 20:19-31

Despite his lack of faith, we should be grateful to Thomas, because he was not content to hear from others that Jesus was alive, or merely to see him in the flesh. He wanted to see inside, to touch with his hand the Lord's wounds, the signs of his love. The Gospel calls Thomas Didymus (v. 24), meaning the Twin, and in this he is truly our twin brother. Because for us too, it isn't enough to know that God exists. A God who is risen but remains distant does not fill our lives; an aloof God does not attract us, however just and holy he may be. No, we too need to "see God", to touch him with our hands and to know that he is risen, and risen for us. How can we see him? Like the disciples: through his wounds.

By: Pope Francis (Homily, 8 April 2018) [Copyright © 2017-2025 Dicasterium pro Communicatione - All rights reserved.]

## Ponder:

How can the Risen Lord be  
with us?



## RELIGIOUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN TERM TWO, 2025:

Date	Details	Time
7th May	Mothers' Day Prayer Service	2:45 pm
8th May	Confirmation Evening Meeting	6:30 pm
17th May	Confirmation Commitment Mass	5:00 pm
18th May	Confirmation Commitment Mass	11:00 am
21st May	Middle Years Mass (Yrs 2, 3 & 4) (Cancelled)	9:30 am
4th June	Buddies Mass (Yrs Foundation & 5/6)	9:30 am
11th June	Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates	11:45 am
15th June	Confirmation	1:00 pm
2nd July	End of Term 2 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



# COMMUNITY NEWS

**WJFNC**

## TRIVIA Night

Join Woodend Junior Football Netball Club for our first fundraising event of the year! Gather your friends for a fun, kid-free night out. Test your trivia skills, meet other parents and win some amazing local prizes!

**Saturday 3 May**  
7.30 PM - 11:30 PM  
**Social Rooms @ Gilbert Gordon**

*Book Now!*



### Woodend Junior Football Netball Club Trivia

Come down and support the WJFNC fundraiser event. Prizes for the winning team. Raffle prizes to...

[trybooking.com](https://trybooking.com) / May 3

**AFL Superkick**

**GET IN THE GAME**

Step into your footy era! Learn the skills and put them into action with our NEW AFL Program!

**WOODEND SUPERKICK CENTRE**

Buffalo Sports Stadium Oval, Woodend  
Saturday's 9.30-10.30am  
Starts 3 May 2025



[play.afl/superkick](https://play.afl/superkick)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT-  
[AUSIEHOOPS@MRBA.ORG.AU](mailto:AUSIEHOOPS@MRBA.ORG.AU)

**Fred Aussie hoops x MRBA**

## TERM TWO REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AUSSIE HOOPS

8 WEEKS | 60 MINS SESSIONS  
INTRODUCTION TO BASKETBALL

**GISBORNE (MRSP) -**  
WEDNESDAY - 4:45PM - 5:45PM  
SATURDAY - 8:30AM - 9:30AM  
**WOODEND (BUFFALO STADIUM) -**  
FRIDAY - 4:30PM - 5:30PM  
SATURDAY - 8:30AM - 9:30AM



**AFL PLAY**

**come find your awesome**

**WOODEND AUSKICK CENTRE**

Buffalo Sports Stadium Oval, Woodend  
Saturday's 9.30-10.30am  
Starts 3 May 2025

**nab AFL Auskick**



[play.afl/auskick](https://play.afl/auskick)






# COMMUNITY NEWS


## KIDS CLASSES

AT THE WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE




### ART CLUB FOR KIDS

- 2-5 years  
Wed: 2pm - 3pm
- Prep to Grade 4  
Wed: 3.45pm - 5pm
- Grade 5 & 6  
Wed: 5.15pm - 6.30pm



### YOGA FOR KIDS

- Bendy Buddies  
2-5 years  
Tues: 9.30am - 10am
- Creative Yoga  
Prep to Grade 6  
Wed: 3.45pm - 5pm



More information: [www.woodendnh.org.au](http://www.woodendnh.org.au)



[www.sunburycobaw.org.au](http://www.sunburycobaw.org.au)



We have recently on-boarded new Speech and OT allied health practitioners and we are accepting NDIS clients at all 3 of our sites: Sunbury, Romsey & Kyneton. No referral required to access our allied health services and low wait times.

### Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy (NDIS)  
0-18 years of age

Physiotherapy (Community Health)  
This service is for children 0-18 years of age, providing short term supports

### Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy (NDIS)  
0-18 years of age

We can complete functional capacity assessments to support NDIS documentation.

Occupational Therapy (Community Health)  
This service is for children 0-12 years of age, providing short term supports.

### Speech Therapy

Speech Therapy (NDIS)  
0-18 years of age

We can complete assessments to support NDIS documentation.

Speech Therapy (Community Health).  
This service is for children 0-12 years of age, providing short term supports.

### Audiology

Audiology diagnostic testing  
This service is for clients 0-65 years of age.

Families can contact the Access & Engagement Team directly on 5421-6035 or [access.engagement@scchc.org.au](mailto:access.engagement@scchc.org.au)



11:30am Monday 9 June 2025  
St Ambrose Hall, Woodend

## CINDERELLA

Step into a magical realm where Prokofiev's "Cinderella" dances with new life. Let Inventi Ensemble sweep you off your feet with their enchanting performance, weaving together the timeless tale with Sally Whitwell's captivating composition. Like Cinderella's transformation at the stroke of midnight, experience a symphonic metamorphosis that transports you through every twist and turn of the story. With each note, you'll feel as if you're gliding across the ballroom floor, swept up in a whirlwind of emotion and melody. Join us for a night where music and storytelling converge, leaving you spellbound till the final curtain falls.

This is a family-friendly event with children's tickets available.



For tickets and more information visit  
[woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au](http://woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au)





# COMMUNITY NEWS



**#playtolearn**  
with  
**The Ranges Music Network**  
at your school!

Keyboard | Strings | Guitar | Drums | Harp |  
Woodwinds | Brass | Voice | Composing |  
Electronic Music | DJ | Ensembles

+ CODING | MAKING | FILM & PHOTO | CREATIVE ARTS

## Launchpad

a fun mix of individual & small ensemble instruction where you learn the language & then start speaking right away!


### Individual

tailored just for you and your interests  
working 1:1 with your mentor

### Just for P-2

Li'l Bites individual lessons & Discovery are perfect for our youngest musicians & creatives

visit [rangesmusic.net](https://rangesmusic.net) to get started



CREATIVE RANGES FOUNDATION  
FALL / WINTER CONCERT SERIES

*Songs In The Key Of*  
**STEVIE WONDER**

SAT MAY 17 - 12PM OR 3PM SHOWS  
MOUNTVIEW THEATRE, MACEDON  
ADULTS \$28 / 18 & UNDER \$15

