

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 gratutude; The St Ambrose Community.







those in this world, lavishing them upon others in our lives. May your love bind us together in perfect unity. All this I pray through your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Calling for members to join our 2026 Fete Core Committee! See information later in this edition.

We must teach more by example than by word. Maru MacKillop



Term 3 Dates: Pg 2 Community News: Pg: 15-17





Term 3 2025 Dates

Setundary 2 Assesset 2025	First Fush said Committee and Many Form
Saturday 2 August 2025 Sunday 3 August 2025	First Eucharist Commitment Mass 5pm First Eucharist Commitment Mass 11am
Monday 4 August 2025	Swimming Program
Monday 4 August 2025	12.30-1.15pm 3/4M
	1.15pm-2pm 3/4CW
	2-2.45pm 3/40
Tuesday 5 August 2025	Cobaw Basketball Grade 6
, ,	100 days of school – Prep/1
	Swimming Program
	12.30-1.15pm 3/4M
	1.15pm-2pm 3/4CW
	2-2.45pm 3/40
Wednesday 6 August 2025	Grade 5/6 Mass 9.30am
	Swimming Program
	12.30-1.15pm 3/4M, 1.15pm-2pm 3/4CW, 2-2.45pm 3/4O
Thursday 7 August 2025	Swimming Program
	12.30-1.15pm 3/4M, 1.15pm-2pm 3/4CW, 2-2.45pm 3/4O
Friday 8 August 2025	Feast of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)
	Swimming Program
	12.30-1.15pm 3/4M, 1.15pm-2pm 3/4CW, 2-2.45pm 3/4O
Monday 11 August 2025	Bullying, No Way! Week
	School Nurse to visit Prep students
	School Open Day 11.30am-1.00pm Kid's Helpline largest anti-bullying lesson 1-1.30pm (refer page 12)
T	
Tuesday 12 August 2025	School Nurse to visit Prep students
Wednesday 13 August 2025	SAC Meeting 9.15am
	Prep-Gr 2 Mass 9.30am Assembly 2.45pm
Thursday 14 August 2025	Prep/1 excursion to Melbourne Museum
Illuisuay 14 August 2025	Sacred Heart College Junior Chef 10am-12pm
Friday 15 August 2025	Cobaw District Athletics
11100 13 1108031 2023	Feast of the Assumption
Monday 18 August 2025	Book Week
,	Swimming Program
	12.30-1.15pm 5/6M & half of 2KR, 1.15pm-2pm 5/6P & half of 2KR, 2-2.45pm 5/6W
Tuesday 19 August 2025	Book Fair 8.15-8.45am and 3.30-4.00pm
Wednesday 20 August 2025	Book Fair 8.15-8.45am and 3.30-4.00pm
	Book Week Parade 9.15am
	Virtual Perform Education Performance 12-12.45pm
Thursday 21 August 2025	Book Fair 8.15-8.45am and 3.30-4.00pm
	Girl's Division Volleyball Bendigo
Friday 22 August 2025	Book Fair 8.15-8.45am and 3.30-4.00pm
Monday 25 August 2025	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 26 August 2025	AFL Roadshow incursion for all classes 9am-12.45pm (1hr per class)
	Sacred Heart College Junior Chef 4-6pm
Wednesday 27 August 2025	Reconciliation for First Communion candidates 11.45am
	Melbourne Renegades Cricket Team visit Grades 3-6 2.30pm
Thursday 28 August 2025	First Eucharist practice 11.45am-1.15pm
Saturday 30 August 2025	Sacrament of First Eucharist 5pm
Sunday 31 August 2025	Sacrament of First Eucharist 11am
Tuesday 2 September 2025	Father's/Special Person Day refreshments 2-2.45pm in the library
Cunday 7 Cartanta - 2005	Liturgy in the classroom 2.45-3.30pm
Sunday 7 September 2025	Father's Day
Monday 8 September 2025	School Production "Vaudeville" rehearsal at SHC 11am-1.45pm
Tuesday 9 September 2025	School Production "Vaudeville" matinee performance at SHC 11am-1.45pm
Wednesday 10 September 2025	School Production "Vaudeville" evening performance 6pm
Thursday 11 September 2025	School Production "Vaudeville" evening performance 6pm
Monday 15 September 2025	SAC meeting 9.15am
Wednesday 17 September 2025	End of Term Mass 9.30am
Friday 19 September 2025	Last day of Term 3 – students are dismissed at 3.30pm
Saturday 20 September – Sunday 5 October 2025	School Disco (PFA initiative) - Prep-Gr 2 = 4.30-6pm, Gr 3-6 - 6.15-8pm
Jacob day 20 September - Suriday 5 October 2025	Term 3 school holidays
Monday 6 October 2025	Term 4 commences





Term 2 Dates

Message from the Principal

Dear parents, families and friends,

Welcome to semester two! I hope you had a chance to rest and recharge over the break. It has been great to welcome our students back and catch up with their news.

We have a numerous key events this term that will offer valuable opportunities for our students, staff and community to grow, connect and flourish.

The staff began the term with a professional development program that was designed to offer a dynamic and enriching learning experience that fosters spiritual growth, pedagogical excellence, and missional clarity for all participants.

The program highlights included:

Keynote Presentation: Dr Joel Hodge (ACU) –
 Pilgrims of Hope in Catholic Education
 Morning Workshops: Practical strategies for
 Religious Education and classroom teaching.
 Afternoon Panel: Catholic Social Teaching in
 action, featuring school and charity
 representatives
 Instructional Eucharistic Liturgy: Celebrated by

 \cdot Instructional Eucharistic Liturgy: Celebrated by Fr Mark Reynolds.

We appreciated this time to further develop our faith and Catholic identity.



St Ambrose Win



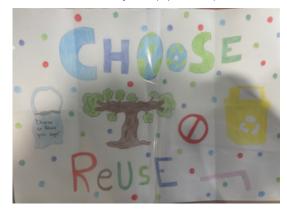
I would like to thank the staff and students for taking the time to enter the Council's bin truck art competition! We had over 240 amazing entries, and our panels of judges had a very challenging time selecting the 15 winners!

We would like to inform you that Madeline D (5/6P) and Phoebe G (5/6W) are two of the winners!

You will see their artwork displayed on our local trucks and we will receive a free load of compost as part of the prize.

We applaud the following students' whose artwork was shortlisted:

Sophie V (5/6P) Lizzy D (2KR) Bassy G (3/4M) Neve E-S (3/4CW) Molly M (3/4CW)



Our Beanies Have Arrived!



Captains Asher and Sonny are pleased to announce that our school beanies have arrived! Students can purchase these for \$23.50. We receive \$4.00 for each beanie sold and can put the money towards an area we choose. If you would like your child to purchase one of these cosy beanies you can do so at the front office at 8.45-9.00am or 3.15-3.30pm

Monday-Friday next week.

This initiative was inspired by student voice and I congratulate Sonny and Asher for their leadership in making it happen.

Next PFA Meeting

Our next parents and friends association meeting will be held on Monday August 18th at 7.00pm online. Please email Sophie Lynch on sophielynch1981@gmail.com if you would like an online invitation sent.

Next SAC Meeting

Our next school advisory council meeting will be held on Wednesday August 13th at 9.15am in the staffroom.

2026 Enrolments



We will soon be planning for 2026. To avoid disappointment, if there are any families that have a child commencing in prep next year they should submit an enrolment form asap. If you know of anyone wishing to enrol their child at our great school across any level, you could direct them to our website or encourage them to call the office to make an appointment with me.

Come Dressed for the Weather

We have many of our students coming to school without jumpers or jackets who then come up to the office asking for a spare jumper or jacket to wear as they are cold. It would be helpful if you can support your child to make appropriate choices from uniform items for the winter months.

We do have outdoor play if it is not raining or too windy. This supports children's health and ability to concentrate for their next learning session. We thank you for checking in with your child to make sure they have adequate clothing for the weather.

We also encourage our children to bring a pair of slippers to school. They can then change into them when they come inside if their shoes are wet or muddy.

From Fr John

Wishing you all the best for term three, may it be filled with many exciting things. One of the exciting things happening in the Parish is the restructuring of the local Parishes.

As you know, I am currently the Parish Priest of Woodend, Lancefield and Romsey, and after conversation with the Vicar General, the Archbishop has also appointed me the Parish Priest of Gisborne, Riddells Creek and Macedon. This appointment begins as of September 19th. It is impossible for me to manage these Parishes on my own, an Assistant Priest has been appointed: Fr Wahid Riad. Fr Wahid will live at Gisborne and I will continue to live at Woodend. Fr Wahid and I will share the pastoral and sacramental needs of the six churches and four primary schools. The restructuring keeps the parishes of the Macedon Ranges as a united faith community. Let us continue to keep each other in prayer. Fr John

Curriculmn Information Meeting

Deputy Principal Debbie Geisler and I met with a large number of parents for our information evening recently. We were very happy to be able to share information about our great school.

We have also welcomed numerous members from the local community on our school open mornings. We have another opening morning- afternoon coming up on August 11th from 11.30am-1.00pm.



2025 Naplan Reports

Our year 3 and 5 students families should have received their child's 2025 NAPLAN report. Congratulations to our students who performed strongly across all domains.

Junior Chef

Those students in year 4, who are interested, are currently working on their video applications to gain one of the four positions in the annual SHC junior chef competition.

Our four successful applicants will represent our school. We will keep you posted.

Outdoor Maintenance and Please Use Footpaths



David and Jorel are pictured above collecting equipment that has been left on our oval. We are launching a student initiative to promote responsibility for our belongings and resources. The SRC are collaborating on this initiative which we will detail in our next newsletter. We thank Jorel and David for their dedication to our grounds maintenance.

We ask that all in our community please use the designated footpaths so that our lawns can replenish and to reduce the mud that is coming inside to our carpets.

Thank you everyone for using footpaths and wiping your shoes before entering our building.

Athletic Trials

On Monday our year 3-6 students engaged in athletic trial events. It was fantastic to see our children having a go and congratulate them for their positive attitude.

Those who qualified will be competing in the Cobaw & District Athletic Trials.





Calling for Core Committee Members for our 2026 School Fete.

We Need Your Help!

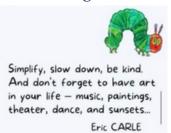


We are very keen to start planning for our 2026 School & Parish Fete. In order to make this event possible we need a number of willing parents to **join our core planning committee**. If you are interested in joining this group to make our next Fete possible please email Sophie Lynch on sophielynch1981@gmail.com

Swimming Program



We are grateful for the super support parents have offered to assist with our swimming program. We do hope that our children are enjoying their lessons and improving their swimming skills.



Next Newsletter

For more news and photos visit our <u>website</u> and look at latest news by clicking on our Facebook button.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday, 15st August 2025.





Bronwyn Phillips
Principal

P/1T CLASSROOM FEATURE







NAIDOC Week: Honouring Culture and Country

During our first week back, our students took time to reflect on and celebrate the rich cultures, histories and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Through art, storytelling, and class discussions, students learned about this year's theme:

"The Next Generation: strength, vision and legacy."

Making a Splash in Swimming
Lessons Our swimming
program kicked off with a big
splash! Students have been
developing their skills in the
pool-learning important
water safety techniques,
floating, and building
confidence. It's been
fantastic to see so many
smiling faces, proud
moments, and growing
independence in the water.





Stepping Back in Time: Our Inquiry into the Olden Days We've just begun our new inquiry unit all about life in the olden days—and the curiosity is already buzzing! Students will be exploring what school, home, transport and technology were like in the past, and how things have changed over time.



Learning All About Shapes
In the classroom, we have
been diving into the world
of shapes! From triangles to
circles and everything in
between, we've been
exploring 2D and 3D shapes
through sorting, building,
drawing, and even going on
"shape hunts" around the
school grounds.



AROUND THE SCHOOL



AROUND THE SCHOOL



P/10 WRITTEN RESPONSE

The Prep/1 Students celebrated Naidoc week in the first week of term. As part of the celebrations, we read the book 'Wilam'. After reading the text and discussing the use of indigenous language alongside English, we wrote our own sentences using the words from the book. Here are some of our efforts!

Bunjil murrup Ngua- Eagle is the spirit of the sun. Henry Q

Wallert plays with Tadjerri under Ngua- Possum plates with Sugar Glider under the sun.

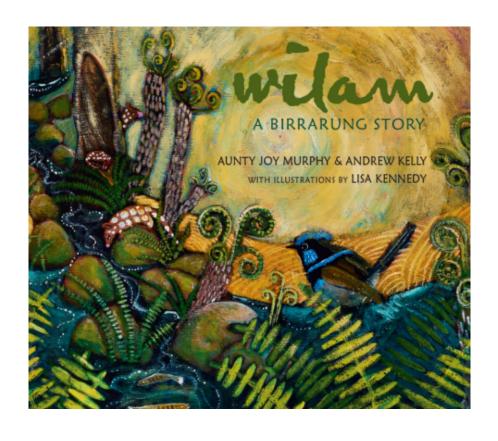
Abi B

Bunjil soars under Ngua and Dulai-Wurrung soars through the river - Eagle soars under the sun and the platypus soars through the river.

Felix D

Bathmu yawa in Birrarung- Duck swims in the river.
Thomas S

Bunjil flows under Ngua- Eagle flows under the sun. Leboko S



Around the School

Birthdays





2 August Phoebe G, Gwen A & A.J. S
3 August Jack B
5 August Lexi K
7 August Amelia S
13 August William C & David Y

Student News



State Cross Country Event

Last Thursday, 4 St Ambrose students represented themselves and our school at the School Sport Victoria state cross country event after qualifying through the district, division and regional events.

A big congratulations to Elsie (61st), Elke (58th), Aston (63rd) and Deon (52nd). What an amazing achievement to be in the top 100 cross country runners in our state!



School News



Book Week

In week 5, Monday 18th August-Friday 22nd August we will be celebrating book week. This year's theme is 'Book an Adventure'.

BOOK FAIR

From Tuesday 19th- Friday 22nd August the Book Fair will be open in the library before school from 8.15am-8.45am and after school from 3.30pm-4.00pm. The students will have an opportunity to visit the fair with their class on Monday 19th to create a wish list of items. That wishlist can then be taken home and the purchases can be made by you online.

BOOK PARADE

On Wednesday 20th August we will have our annual book parade on the basketball court (weather permitting). This will start by 9.15am. The students and teachers are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. Please come and cheer the students on as they parade their costumes. You are welcome to come dressed up too!



Wish List and you want to pay for these selections by credit card in advance, please:

- Go to scholastic.com.au/payment
- Click 'Book Fairs'
- 3. Enter amount and pay
- Record receipt number on back of Wish List
- Your child then takes this payment record back to school, chooses books at the Fair and takes receipt number to cashier as payment.



LIVESTREAM EVENT

On **Wednesday 20th August** at **12.00pm** all classes will be attending the livestream event of Treasure Hunt!, being performed by Perform Education. The show will run for approximately 45 minutes.

Treasure Hunt!

Jess lives by the ocean. George lives in the forest. One morning they both wake to find that something terribly important is missing! It appears their world may have changed ... and not for the better! Together they set off on a quest to find the treasure that has disappeared from their homes. Despite their differences, George and Jess share a common need. However they must first overcome their distrust, obstacles and greatest challenge. Fortunately help is waiting from a most unexpected source...

If for some reason your child is not at school on Wednesday 20th August, you are more than welcome to use the log in details below to gain access to the performance.

Livestream Portal: https://performlivestream.com/ Livestream Access Password - ApeTzSt

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School News









D A Y 1 AT THE WOODEND TENNIS CLUB

GRADES PREP,1&2 GRADES 3,4,5&6



6:15 - 8PM





Mental Health & Wellbeing at St Ambrose Erin Brass



Our Social Justice Leaders are pleased to announce that St Ambrose School is participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action, 11th to 15th August 2025.

Our Social Justice Leaders are pleased to announce that St Ambrose School is participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action, 11th to 15th August 2025.

The theme for this year's campaign is **Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up**. It takes a community to be brave and address bullying behaviours, within and beyond the school gate. Students can be bold, kind and take a stand to support others being bullied, while parents and teachers are there to support children to learn how to behave in a positive way. In our community and in our school, we want a place where everyone can belong, a place that celebrates everyone, and where bullying is never accepted.

For more information about Bullying No Way Week and bullying prevention, visit the <u>Bullying No Way website</u>.

The hero colour for the campaign is **purple** — symbolising peace, strength and empowerment to take a stand against bullying behaviour. The students will be invited to wear a **pop of purple** to school on <u>Wednesday 13th August</u>.

During the week we will be engaging students in meaningful discussions and activities aimed at promoting empathy, understanding, and respect for diversity.

This year, the Kid's Helpline is hosting a national live online 20 minute Anti Bullying session for all Primary aged students on Monday 11th August, at 1.00pm, of which we at St Ambrose will participate in.

The 2025 primary school Anti-Bullying session has been thoughtfully designed by the Kids Helpline Counsellors to suit students from Prep to Year 6. The 20-minute live session will cover the following key areas:

- What is bullying?
- · The impacts of bullying
- Stand Up Actions Covert strategies to protect yourself and others, including building support networks and showing empathy
- · Stand Out Actions Overt strategies such as interrupting bullying and speaking out
- Identifying your safety net

If you have any questions about this session or do not want your child to participate please let their classroom teacher know.

We encourage parents and carers to take this opportunity to have open and honest conversations with their children about the impact of bullying and what they can do if they need support. You can visit the <u>Bullying No Way website</u> for tips around how to have this discussion.

You can access the school's bullying prevention policy $\underline{\text{here}}$ to learn more about our process for preventing and responding to bullying.

If you have concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. If you believe the behaviour constitutes a crime, or is a serious incident of cyberbullying, please refer to the Bullying No Way website for information on how to report to other authorities and access wellbeing help.



Mental Health & Wellbeing at St Ambrose

Erin Brass



Macedon Macedon Ranges Health

supported by benetas

Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Macedon Ranges Health have launched a Grade 6 Mental Health and Wellbeing survey for students and their parents.

This survey is voluntary, completely anonymous and takes about 5 minutes to complete.

We know grade 6 can be a crucial time of adjustment, with students preparing to transition to high school. The aim of this survey is to better understand the current health and wellbeingrelated needs for grade 6 students and their families, and the information will be used to inform future health and wellbeing initiatives and effective early education and prevention strategies for grade 6 students and parents across the Macedon Ranges Shire.

This survey is open until Friday 8th August, and we encourage all parents and caregivers to participate and support their children to participate also.

Thank you for contributing to the health and wellbeing of our Macedon Ranges young people!

https://yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au/grade-6-survey

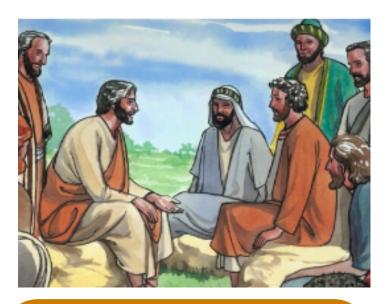




JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family





Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August:

For mutual coexistence
Let us pray that societies where
coexistence seems more difficult might
not succumb to the temptation of
confrontation for ethnic, political,
religious, or ideological reasons.

Ponder:

Can you recall a time in your life when God answered your prayer in a most magnificent way?



PARISH NEWSLETTER

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Gospel Reflection: Luke 11:1-13

It seems like a dream come true—ask, and the Father will give to you.

When we stop and consider the blessings God has bestowed on us during the course of our lives, we can become overwhelmed by His sheer goodness. How many times have we worried and fretted, only to see the Lord work things out for us?

And yet, doubt can creep into our minds, making us wonder whether the Lord really loves us.

The Our Father is a reminder of God's devotion to us. We ask for bread—both that which nourishes our bodies and the sacred host by which we receive Holy Communion—and God provides. He is, in fact, the ultimate provider, giving us all we need at exactly the right moment.

For our part, we need to forgive as the Lord forgives — completely and without hesitation. That does not mean justifying bad behavior—on the contrary, we recognize the implications of an offense against us, but we choose to forgive, anyway, as the Lord has taught us.

If I pray for a million-dollar jackpot, the odds are not in my favor that I will be a winner. Yet, God lavishes love upon me, making me feel as if I were wearing a million-dollar designer gown.

I have lost count of the number of times God has answered my prayers—often in extraordinary ways. Look deep into your heart today and consider all of the times our Heavenly Father demonstrated His care for you from the storehouse of His provision.

And keep in mind that, while God may answer no, there may be a greater yes right around the corner. As my late father used to say, "God's delay does not mean God's denial."

By: Maria V. Gallagher (© 2024 CatholicMom.com. All Rights Reserved)

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN TERM TWO, 2025:

Date	Details	Time
2nd August	1st Eucharist Commitment Mass	5:00 pm
3rd August	1st Eucharist Commitment Mass	11:00 am
6th August	Senior Level Mass (Grs 5/6)	9:30 am
7th August	1st Eucharist Evening Meeting	6:30 pm
13th August	Junior Level Mass (Grs P-2)	9:30 am
27th August	Reconciliation for 1st Eucharist	11:45 am
28th August	1st Eucharist Practice	11:45 am
30th August	First Eucharist	5:00 pm
31st August	First Eucharist	11:00 am
2nd September	Father's Day Prayer Service	3:00 pm
10th September	Middle Level Mass (Grs 3/4) (Cancelled)	9:30 am
17th September	End of Term 3 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.

Faith & Family 14



COMMUNITY NEWS



Ranges Music Network/Creative Ranges Foundation

There is so much happening with the Ranges Music Network and the Creative Ranges Foundation in Term 3! The RMN is excited to launch two new, ultra-accessible break-time ensembles aimed at getting as many musicians singing and playing as possible -- BIGSING and BIGBAM!

We're also opening the new home for creatives in the Macedon Ranges -- the Creative Hub Woodend! It is an exciting spot for members to join and access music, media and podcast studios, industrystandard equipment and software, maker tools like art activities, laser cutters, 3D printing, sticker, vinyl and button makers -- plus rehearse your band or play, shoot your next music video and access a dedicated group of Mentors across a wide variety of interests in the creative arts!

Learn more by visiting us at rangesmusic.net (for in-school programs) or creativeranges.org (for the Creative Hub Woodend). All brought to you by the notfor-profit charity Creative Ranges Foundation!

See flyer below.

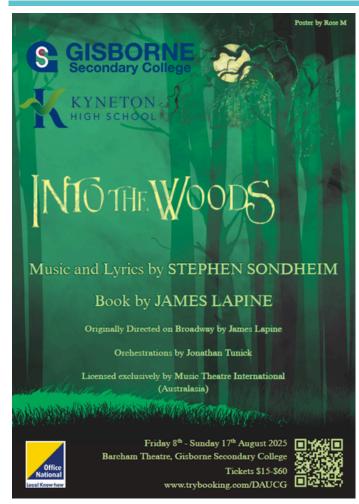


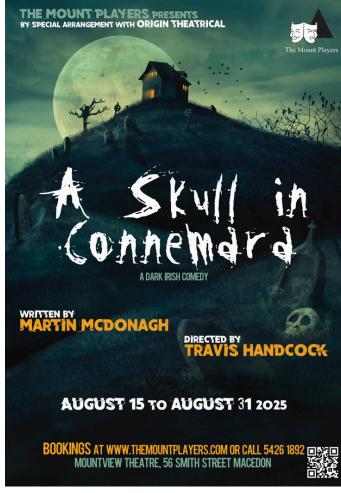






COMMUNITY NEWS











COMMUNITY NEWS

