

# St Ambrose Primary School

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

Respectful Responsible Resilient Kind



We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of this land, and offer our respect to Elders both past present & emerging.



Friday 13 March 2026	NAPLAN
Monday 16 March 2026	NAPLAN
Tuesday 17 March 2026	NAPLAN
Wednesday 18 March 2026	NAPLAN
Thursday 19 March 2026	NAPLAN
Friday 20 March 2026	NAPLAN
Monday 23 March 2026	NAPLAN
	SAC meeting and induction – 9.15am Sacrament of Reconciliation Practice 10.30am-11.30am
Tuesday 24 March 2026	Casual Clothes Day for Easter raffle items (amended date) Walking through Holy Week 10.15-10.45am / 12-12.30pm
Wednesday 25 March 2026	First Reconciliation & Celebration 12.30-1.30pm Assembly – 2.45pm Grade 3/4 camp information session 3.45pm
Thursday 26 March 2026	Cobaw Summer Sports – all Gr 5/6
Friday 27 March 2026	Easter Raffle Tickets to be returned to the office.
Saturday 28 March 2026	St Ambrose Parish School Fete 9am-1pm
Sunday 29 March 2026	Palm Sunday
Tuesday 31 March 2026	Whole School Cross Country 12-3.30pm
Wednesday 1 April 2026	End of Term 1 Mass 9.30am
Thursday 2 April 2026	Holy Thursday End of Term 1 – dismissal 3.30pm
Friday 3 April – Sunday 19 April 2026	School holidays
Friday 3 April 2026	Good Friday
Saturday 4 April 2026	Easter Saturday
Sunday 5 April 2026	Easter Sunday Daylight savings ends
Monday 6 April 2026	Easter Monday
Monday 20 April 2026	Term 2 commences

Heavenly Father, I come to You seeking renewal for my spirit. When I feel drained and weary, breathe new life into my heart. Restore my joy, my passion, and my faith in You. Let Your presence refresh me, filling me with peace and strength for the days ahead. Thank You for being my source of renewal and hope. Amen.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

## Message from the Principal

Dear Families, Parishioners and Friends,

Our Sports Day last week was a wonderful reflection of the strong, connected community we are so fortunate to have at our school. The partnership between families, students, and staff was truly alive and evident throughout the entire day, creating an atmosphere filled with encouragement, teamwork, and joy.

Although the wind greeted us in the morning, it certainly didn't deter our children. They showed incredible resilience and enthusiasm, embracing the fun, cheering on their teammates, and giving their very best in every event. When the sun emerged in the afternoon, it warmed not only the grounds but the spirits of everyone gathered.

It was especially heart-warming to see so many families join us—cheering from the sidelines, celebrating every sprint, and sharing in the pride of our students' efforts. Your presence made the day even more special.

A huge thank-you goes to Mrs. Cavric for her superb organisation and to our dedicated staff for their enthusiastic support. Because of the collective efforts of staff and our families, our students enjoyed a fantastic day of physical activity, teamwork, and school spirit.

What a wonderful day for our school community!

Speaking of community...we are very much looking forward to our fete which, thanks to the work of our core committee and helpers, will be another day to remember. In order to make this day possible **we need further volunteers to help out on the day.**

Even an hour of your time can make a difference. It will allow others to be released to have a look around the fete themselves. The funds we raise will help finance much needed new furniture for our art room.



## Fete Set Up- we Need Your Help!

Our fete committee have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that our much anticipated school fete is enjoyable for all. We are seeking your help to set up on **FRIDAY MARCH 27th at 4.30pm.**

We will also need assistance to pack up after the fete on Saturday.

Please let Sophie Lynch know if you can help via her email:

sophielynch1981@gmail.com

Thankyou.

## Make Sure you buy your Easter Raffle Tickets!



Hello everyone, our casual dress day is coming up on **TUESDAY MARCH 24th**, but instead of a gold coin donation we are asking if each family can please bring one item for our fete Easter raffle which will be drawn at the school fete. Tickets have gone home already and more are available from the front office!

Thank you!

24<sup>th</sup> March

**CASUAL Clothes**



PREPS IN PYJAMAS  
ONES IN ONSIES  
TWO'S IN TUTU'S  
THREE'S IN CRAZY LONG SLEEVE  
FOUR'S IN FORMAL  
FIVE'S FEELING THE VIBES  
SIXES IN SEQUINS

Instead of a gold coin donation please bring something small for our fete Easter Raffle.

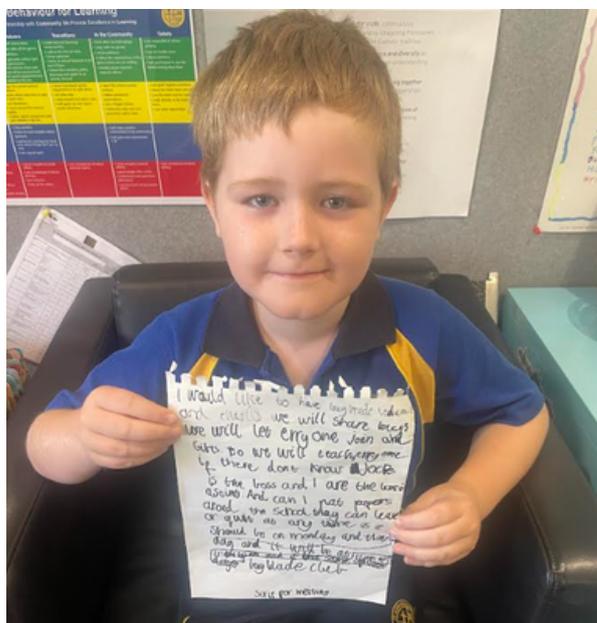
Or if you don't feel like dressing up feel free to wear your sport uniform



## Student Initiatives

Chase and Jock are organising Bay Blade Club which began this week. You can join

Chase and Jock at 11.20 am on Mondays and Thursdays. Meet Jock and Chase at the bubbler taps outside Erin's office if you are keen.



### Huff N Puff



We are grateful for Libby who makes time on Wed and Fri mornings each week to run outdoor games with our students from 8.30am before they go into their classrooms at 8.45am. Much fun is had during these sessions.

## School Photos Change of Date

Due to many of our 5-6 students taking part in the division cross country event in Castlemaine we have changed our school photo date to **Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please note this in your calendars.

## Student Leadership



This week I met with our sports leaders who had some ideas they wanted to discuss. It is fantastic to witness their enthusiasm and hear about their thoughts about how to improve our school. We are currently exploring whether we should get some nets to erect behind the football posts to stop the ball going onto the road. The leaders are also pricing the cost of replacing our damaged basketball and netball rings.

## Mini Vinnies



Pictured above is Neville from the St Vincent De Paul Society commissioning our Social Justice leaders Felix and Hayley into their roles. We are grateful for the support of SVDP and for the ongoing support Neville offers our school.

## School Drop Off

We have had children arriving at school before 8.30am who are not being supervised by their parents. In the interests of child safety and school policy, children can be dropped off from 8.30am not before as they will not be supervised. Thank you.

## nforma Alerts



It is in your interests to have the nForma App uploaded to your phone and to have the alerts turned on so that you don't miss updates from the school.

You can also log absences via this App.

Our fortnightly newsletter remains the central avenue of communicating school news. We are also sharing the newsletter link via nForma.

## Island Adventures: Grade 5/6 Camp



Last Friday our Grade 5/6 students returned from an epic coastal getaway to Phillip Island, and what a trip it was! From the rugged coastline to the thrill of the waves, our students displayed incredible teamwork and spirit.

Here's a snapshot of their action-packed itinerary:

- They stepped back in time at Churchill Island, spotted sleepy locals at the Koala Park, and braved the wind at The Nobbies. The highlight for many was the iconic Penguin Parade, watching the little penguins waddle home at sunset!
- The students tested their balance and bravery Boogie Boarding at the beach and navigated the mind-bending illusions and high-ropes at Amaze N Things.
- The views were unmatched during their Woolamai Coastal Walk, where students took in the breathtaking cliffs and salt air and learnt about the local environment.

It was a camp of building friendships, conquering fears, and making memories that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to the teachers and volunteers who made this possible!



## 2026 SAC Training

Thank you to those of you who have elected to join our SAC. We have enough interest and will let you know when our council is ratified.

Our first meeting for this year is on Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9.15am. We will be completing the MACS SAC training module at this meeting.

## Congratulations Deon !



This week at assembly we acknowledged the outstanding achievement of Deon S who came first in the 3km run in Bendigo out of 393 runners! See the Midland Express article later in this newsletter.

Bravo Deon!

## NAPLAN

Although there have been state wide technical issues our students have completed their reading and writing NAPLAN tests this week. Next week they will do conventions of language and numeracy.

## Next Newsletter

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 27th March 2026!

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



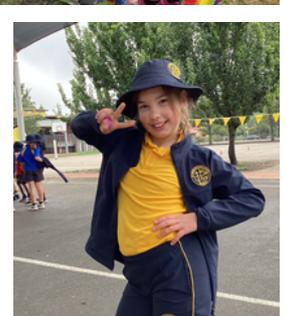
**Bronwyn Phillips**  
Principal

# 3/40 CLASSROOM FEATURE

This week in

3/40

"Lots has been happening in 3/40 lately. We have been learning about persuasive writing, multiplication, vertical algorithms and place value amongst other things. Recently though we had our school sports day. It was a lot of fun!!! We especially loved the sprints!"



I had lots of fun,  
Finding out that Lourdes won!  
- A Short Poem by Oscar D

I had lots of fun doing the hurdles  
and I came second in the sprints. - Elise

I loved getting soaked by the water  
balloon! - Reuben  
I was glad that I came first in the  
sprints. - Sailor

I loved trying to catch  
the water balloon, but  
it exploded in my hands.  
Isobel L

I am happy that Fatima won  
the Number Game. - Ben Y

I had fun cheering for Fatima.  
- Ruby

# GRADE 6 CAMP - PHILLIP ISLAND



On the 4-6 March the 5/6s visited Phillip Island for our 2026 camp. We loaded the bus at 9.50 and got ready for a 3 hour drive. After 1 and a half hours we ate lunch and were soon back on the bus and on the road again. After another hour we arrived at Churchill heritage farm. We had fun doing the activities, which included milking a cow and watching people herd sheep. To finish off we watched a person crack whips and also shear sheep.

We arrived at camp and found our rooms. We got ready to go to Nobies and then onto the Penguin parade, where we ate our dinner, which was burgers and fish. After we finished eating we walked to our seats which were right at the front. We saw about 300 penguins, but it turned out there were a bit more than 1000 penguins that night. We got ready to leave and went back to our camp at around 9.45 pm.

The next day we got up and had our breakfast. After we ate, we left for A' Maze and Things', where we first went into the maze and had to find four coloured flags. After that, we played mini golf and cleared a few holes. Then a few of us tempted the drop slide that was 7.2 metres high. We then went into a scary room called the house of horrors, but it wasn't too scary. Then we went outside and had a salad roll, wrap and a chocolate treat, which was Yum!

We crossed the road to the Koala conservation area and walked along the track to try and spot koalas. It actually wasn't too hard as there was an abundance of them. Afterwards, we split up into our bus groups and went on different tracks. Bus 1 spotted a Copper-head snake so we hurried ahead. We saw 3 koalas on our first walk and then we switched tracks. We saw about 4 koalas and one was around 1 meter away sleeping.

After that we got on the bus and headed to YCW beach, but the tide was in and there was little to no sand to play on. So we drove to Smith's Beach and put our wet suits on, grabbed a boogie board and headed in. Group 1 got in the water first and group 2 had a sand castle competition. After an hour we switched with group 2 and some people played beach cricket, volleyball and made sand castles.

When we got back to camp, we had showers and headed down to the dining room to have our last dinner, which was a lovely roast. Then we had a trivia night with special presenters, Celine and Dion aka Mrs Macca and Janene. We all enjoyed the trivia and went to bed for our last night at camp.

The next morning we had breakfast and headed to our guided tour. It was a 2 hour coastal walk, where we saw another snake which was crawling towards the path. Luckily, everyone was safe, but super excited to see a snake in the wild. With tired legs, we finished the walk and headed back on the bus ready for home. We arrived back at school at 3.00 pm to our awaiting parents.

We would like to thank all the teachers for taking time out from their families to take us to camp.

By Josh and James 5/6BM



## Congratulations Marli!

### Interschool Sports and State Competition Horse Riding

On Friday the 6th of February, I represented our school at the overnight Interschool horse Competition held in Boneo Park. Also competing was my sister Eva and some of our friends.

Interschools meant that I was representing our school. I came 3rd in the dressage tests, where we had to complete several activities including, 20 m circle work, canter and finish in a trot. I also came 6th in another dressage test.

I was very proud of my horse Harry, he was a little bit excited, but he did a great job.

We had a great time and were very happy with our ponies and results.

A week later Eva and I competed at a bigger competition called State Championships.

It is where all the best riders in Victoria came and competed against each other.

My sister completed four tests because she rode two horses, Willow and Sammy.

She came 3rd and 2nd overall.

In my first test, I halted too early, but then corrected it and received a score of 71%. In my second test, when I was supposed to halt at A, but I did it a little late and from muscle memory accidentally did a halt salute. I then trotted when I was supposed to walk. I fixed it and finished my test with 66%.

Although I got a little mixed up I am still very happy with Harry.

I had a great time!

From Marli 5/6BM

## Well done Deon!



### Future superstar!

Woodend 10-year-old Deon! ran the 3k Bendigo Fun Run on Sunday and placed first out of 393 runners.

In an extraordinary effort, Deon won by close to a minute ahead of his nearest competitor!

He will next be competing at the Little Athletics State Championships this coming weekend at Knox.

Deon is a member of the Romsey/Lancefield Little Athletics club and has broken two club track records over the past few weeks. The 400m was a record from 2004, which he broke by half a second, and the 1500m record was from 1994, which he broke by 30 seconds.

Congratulations to Deon and we wish him all the best in the championships.

## Well done Dom!



Dom O and his brother Joseph competed for Gunnamatta Surf Life Saving Club at the Victorian State Life Saving Championships in Warrnambool over the weekend. Dom did very well in some tough conditions. Well done Dom!



## Congratulations to our former students!



Three class of 2022 students who have been selected for the Calder Cannons U16 boys' squad. Congratulations Seb, Oscar & Hayden!

## CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE PROGRAM



The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

### Eligibility criteria

The eligibility criteria varies depending on the type of school attended and where it is located.

Students attending a government or non-government school must:

- attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
- be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne's metropolitan conveyance boundary
- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
- be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

If you believe you are eligible, please click on the [link](#) or collect a form from the school office.

If you completed a form in a previous year, you do NOT need to fill in another one. Any questions, please ask Karen at the school office.

### Bulb Drive - 1 month left



Only 1 month to order your beautiful spring bulbs. Please feel free to ask your neighbours, family and friends if they would like to place a bulb order and share this link with them. We have already had many orders and look forward to making the vegie garden a beautiful and productive place to learn in and enjoy all year round.

If you have already placed an order, we thank you.

If you are planning on placing an order that would be amazing.

<http://www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/STAMBROSEPS>

All orders need to be in by April 10.

Thank you for your ongoing support  
3/4 Teachers and Students

# AROUND THE SCHOOL





# AROUND THE SCHOOL





**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

13 MARCH ROSE AG  
14 MARCH HARRY O, LIZZY R  
19 MARCH WILLOW R  
20 MARCH FELIX D  
21 MARCH AALIYAH F  
25 MARCH ANGUS N

## Congratulations!

- Prep O Harrison G for using the sounds he knows in his writing.  
Fantastic effort!
- Prep O Elara P for encouraging others while playing maths games. Well done!
- Prep O Alaska T for her dedication to learning to write her name. Well done!
- Prep O Ella W for helping others in the classroom without being asked.
- 1/2B Ava T for working hard in class and actively participating in class activities.
- 1/2B Grace Y for always trying her best and showing a positive attitude in class.
- 1/2S Neville G for your joy and optimism! You shine bright in our class!
- 1/2S Taran G for your engagement in learning and the huge effort you put in.  
Keep it up!
- 1/2T Millie E for making a fantastic effort all week and completing tasks with a positive attitude. Well done!
- 1/2T Willa M for consistently bringing a positive attitude to learning and striving to do your best - well done!
- 3/4C Casey M for the effort he put into revising and editing his writing.
- 3/4C Isla M for settling in to her new school so confidently. Well done!
- 3/4O Isobel L for showing courage and modelling vertical subtraction to 3/4O.  
Thanks Isobel!
- 3/4O Ben C for bravely volunteering to do the first open mic in 3/4O.  
Great work Ben!
- 3/4R Harper C for always trying her best and having great ideas for her persuasive writing!
- 3/4R Elliott N for being a responsible and caring class member!
- 5/6BM Tillie J for sharing all her knowledge about Phillip Island with her peers.
- 5/6BM Alice C for showing resilience and determination while boogie boarding on camp.
- 5/6JM
- 5/6JM
- 5/6W Rose B for always showing kindness towards others and having a positive mindset in all that you do! Well done Rose!
- 5/6W Iona T for showing resilience on camp by giving every activity a go and having lots of fun! Well done Iona!

### **PBL Bronze Award** -

Isla M, Skylar C, Isobel L, Ben C, Mack R, Leah W, Charlotte W, Grace M, Teddy A, Felicity F, Teddy M, Willow S, Willow R, William E, Violet D, Theo T, Poppy F, Percy F, Mila D, Indiana M, Imogen M, Hugo M, Harvey O, Harrison G, Harriet C, Georgia B, Ella W, Elena N, Elara P, Chloe M, Charlie P, Charlie B, Arianna F, Alice C, Alaska T, Harry R



FREE  
ONLINE  
WEBINAR

# YOUNG PEOPLE & VAPING: What every parent needs to know

Parents and carers are one of the biggest protective factors when it comes to preventing young people from vaping.

Join Community Health Nurse Bron Grieve for an empowering and practical session designed to help you confidently support your young person.

## WE'LL TALK ABOUT:

- ✓ What vaping actually is
- ✓ Why young people are tempted
- ✓ Why it's a concern
- ✓ What you can do – practical tools that work



**TUESDAY**  
24 MARCH 2026



**TIME**  
6:00 PM–7:00 PM



**PLATFORM**  
Online

**TO REGISTER SCAN THE  
QR CODE OR GO TO:**

[MRSC.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/162334](https://MRSC.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/162334)



### About Bron

Bron Grieve is the Community Health Nurse at Dhelkaya Health with over 20 years' experience supporting young people. She delivers community education on youth health, technology, relationships and risk behaviours, including vaping.



# JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS Faith & Family



During 2026 our focus for our community of faith will be based on the image of the Trinity (see our new picture). An image reflecting the community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to be a community of WELCOME and HOSPITALITY.

## Prayer: Third Week of Lent

Loving God,  
I hear your invitation, "Come back to me"  
and I am filled with such a longing  
to return to you.  
Show me the way to return.  
Lead me this day in good works  
I do in your name  
and send your Spirit to guide me  
and strengthen my faith.  
I ask only to feel your love in my life today.

May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil  
and bring us to everlasting life.  
Amen.

## Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for March:

For Disarmament And Peace  
Let us pray that nations move to effective  
disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and  
that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and  
diplomacy instead of violence.

This year marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Pope Leo has proclaimed this year as the Jubilee Year of St. Francis.

## Ponder:

When can you build in a small pause during your day to reconnect with God?

## Parish Newsletter

### Religious Calendar of Events in Term One, 2026:

Date	Details	Time
Mon, 23rd March	Sacrament of Reconciliation Practice	10:30
Tues, 24th March	Walking Through Holy Week	10:15 & 12
Wed, 25th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation & Celebration	12:30
Wed, 1st April	End of Term Mass	9:30

Please note: All are welcome. If you would like to join us in any of these celebrations, you are most welcome. Please sit at the back or upstairs to make sure there is room for all the students.

### Gospel Reflection: Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

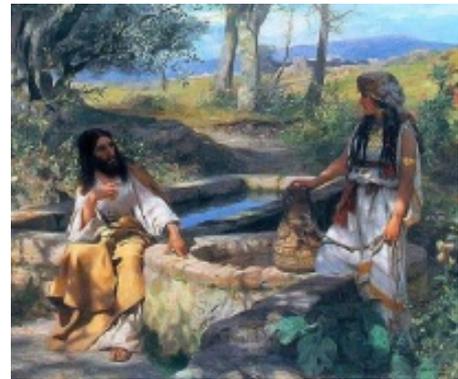
In today's Gospel, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman who has come to the well in the heat of the day. She's tired, likely avoiding others, and not expecting anyone to start a conversation. But Jesus not only speaks to her, He offers her living water, the kind that truly satisfies.

I think about how easy it is as a parent to give until there's nothing left to pour out. We focus on our daily grind at work, getting meals on the table, shuttling kids to activities, making sure homework is done and the house is clean. Each of us knows that if we're not tending to our own hearts, we end up running dry.

That's why reaching for His "living water" matters. For me, it's in small, deliberate moments. I wake up a bit earlier than needed to read the day's Scripture and pray a Rosary. In the middle of the day, before my students head to lunch, I take a few deep breaths and pray "Lord, stay with me." These little moments don't fix every problem, but they remind me where my strength comes from and help me make it through each day.

Our children will have their own seasons of weariness. If they see us turning to Jesus in ours (not perfectly, but honestly), they'll know where to turn when they're running dry.

By: Silvia-Maria Patalano-Ross (Copyright © 2026 CatholicMom.com. All Rights Reserved)



### Sacramental Dates in 2026:

If your child is making one of their Sacraments this year, please note the changes to the calendar below.

Date	Details
23rd March	Reconciliation Practice
25th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation & Celebration
<b>2nd &amp; 3rd May</b>	Confirmation Commitment Masses
7th May	Confirmation Evening Meeting ( <b>Venue To Follow</b> )
29th May	Confirmation Practice
<b>Saturday, 30th May</b>	<b>Confirmation @ 1 pm (Please note change of time!)</b>
6th August	Eucharist Evening Meeting
<b>22nd &amp; 23rd August</b>	First Eucharist Commitment Masses
10th September	First Eucharist Practice
12th & 13th September	First Eucharist Masses

THE MASS ON SATURDAY IS AT 5 PM SO ALL SATURDAY COMMISSIONING MASSES FOR THE SACRAMENTS WILL BE AT 5 PM.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

**MACEDON RANGES**  
**AUTUMN FESTIVAL**  
April 1-30  
EAT · DRINK · EXPLORE

**A MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION ACROSS NINE VILLAGES**

Macedon Ranges Shire Council | VICTORIA'S HEARTLAND | Community Bank Lonsdale and Horsey | Bendigo Bank | MVR | MACEDON RANGES REGIONAL COUNCIL

**WOODEND SOCCER CLUB**  
**Woodend Eagles**  
*Spots Open*

Football Victoria

Community Bank - Trentham & Districts  
Bendigo Bank

**Effort  
Attitude  
Teamwork**

For more information head to :  
[woodendsoccer.com.au/2026-eoi](http://woodendsoccer.com.au/2026-eoi)

Community Bank Trentham & Districts  
Bendigo Bank  
nice RICE p2p

13 March 2026

**Discover, Create, Learn at the Sacred Heart College Open Evening**

Dear St Ambrose parents, students and families

We are once again thrilled to be able to invite you all to our approaching College Open Day. This year the event will be held during Term 1 on **Thursday 26 March**.

Open Days provide a valuable opportunity for families who are working through the process of choosing the right school for their child. At Sacred Heart College, Kyneton we understand the need for parents and children to explore their prospective school, speak with staff and students and have their questions answered about the educational experience on offer.

We encourage families to Discover, Create and Learn more about the College at our Open Evening on **Thursday 26 March from 4:30pm – 7:30pm**. This event will offer a range of hands-on experiences for children, aimed those in Years 3 – 6, allowing them to immerse themselves in creative and learning opportunities, while parents discover more about the diverse educational offerings and supportive wellbeing structure that are central College life.

Bookings for our Open Evening can be made via the College website: [www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)

We hope to see you there.

Dr Darren Egberts  
PRINCIPAL

**Discover, Create  
Learn**

**Open Evening**  
Thursday 26 March, 4:30pm - 7:30pm  
Book Online: [shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](http://shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)

Hands on activities, information sessions and displays - lots to see and do.

**SACRED HEART COLLEGE KYNETON**  
[www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)  
T: 5421 1200 E: [registrar@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)  
A Ministry of Mercy Education Limited - ABN 69 154 531 870