



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



NEWSLETTER

20th March 2025

**Save the date - Wednesday 30th April 7.00 pm -
8.30pm CyberSafety Seminar for parents and carers**



Register to attend:
bit.ly/stjudeslang

Dear Parents/carers

This week is Catholic Education Week. What a great opportunity for all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate their Catholic identity, the pivotal role they play within their local community and the strength of the sector.

This year's theme draws from the motto of the Holy Year, the Year of Jubilee, and the Australian Catholic Youth Festival's theme - 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

Yesterday I had the absolute privilege of attending the Valuing Darkness - Solving Light Pollution Conference in Melbourne. After last year's amazing work from students who worked on a project to tackle the issue of light pollution. The primary aim of the project was to design a preferred future that would make a difference in the lives of turtle hatchlings.

Using the design process, students were engaged in provocative, hands-on, and collaborative activities. This process facilitated discussions about complex concepts, like the impact of artificial light on wildlife, making these concepts accessible for young minds. The students were guided through each step of the design process — from identifying the problem, through to developing and testing innovative solutions. As part of this process, the students engaged with outside agencies, including the Biodiversity Council and R&D teams at Swann Security, to help answer questions and inspire new ideas. Of equal importance, the students learned to build empathy, refine problem-solving skills and develop a sense of ownership. Through the lens of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), this project sparked curiosity, fostered confidence, and empowered students to be part of designing a solution to ensure the survival of this precious wildlife.

After presenting their amazing work at the MACS Stem Mad day a scientist from the biodiversity council of Australia reached out to Braden Hammond and insisted that he and our students present at the Valuing Darkness - Solving Light Pollution.

Max K and Ruby P (both in Year 5) along with Braden presented to a packed audience of academics and government officials at the main



St Jude's Primary School
30 Warrandyte Road, Langwarrin, 3910
Email: admin@sjlangwarrin.catholic.edu.au
www.sjlangwarrin.catholic.edu.au
OFFICE HOURS: 8.30am – 4.00pm

auditorium at the Melbourne City Conference Centre. To say that I was proud of them is a huge understatement! My only wish was that the whole school community could have been there to witness Ruby, Max and Braden (AKA Mr Hammond) absolutely shine!

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a special occasion in our school, celebrating the rich diversity that makes our community so vibrant and welcoming. Rooted in the values of respect, inclusivity, and kindness, Harmony Day reminds us of our shared responsibility to treat every person with dignity and compassion, just as Jesus taught. It is a time to embrace different cultures, traditions, and backgrounds, fostering a sense of belonging for all. By recognising and appreciating our differences, we strengthen our school's commitment to love and unity, creating a safe and supportive environment where every child feels valued.

Let us come together this Harmony Day to celebrate the beauty of diversity and the power of inclusion in our faith-filled community. Tomorrow (21/3) Prep T and H will lead us in our Harmony Day assembly. All students are invited to bring a gold coin and to wear casual clothes which have a splash of orange, the Italian colours or clothes that signify their cultural tradition. Money raised will go to Caritas.

PREP 2026

It is hard to believe but it is already time to be looking ahead to 2026 Prep enrolments. If you have a child who is requiring a place for 2026 it is now time to complete your online enrolment forms. Please note that applications close by Friday 30th May.

[Click here to start your application](#)

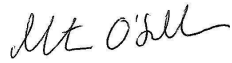
Uniform

St Jude's Uniform	
ACADEMIC/EVERYDAY UNIFORM OPTIONS Polo Shirt, short sleeve - with logo Polo Shirt, long sleeve - with logo Navy shorts - with logo Skort - with logo Navy long pants (boys) - with logo Navy long pants (girls) - with logo, School dress and tunic (remain the same as our current uniform) Windcheater - quarter zip and/or Soft shell jacket Navy Blue socks Plain black shoes (runners acceptable as long as predominantly black)	
SPORT UNIFORM	Term 1 & 4 Sun Hat Options
Polo Shirt in house team colour—with logo Navy Track Pants with logo Navy sport shorts with logo Windcheater - quarter zip Runners White socks	Navy Broad Brim Hat with logo Bucket hat - reversible with house colour
	OPTIONAL ITEMS
	Beanies - design TBC (student voice to be sought) Soft shell jacket

End of Term

A reminder that the Term will finish at 1.00pm on Friday 4th April. Term Two resumes on Wednesday 23rd of April.

Yours Sincerely,



Marita O'Sullivan

2025 School Closure Dates including Public Holidays during School Terms

Term	Date	Reason
Term 2	Tuesday 22nd April	Time in lieu
	Friday 25th April	ANZAC Day
	Monday 9th June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
	Tuesday 10th June	Curriculum day Religious Education
Term 3	Wednesday 30th July	Parent Teacher Interviews School finishes at 1pm
	Friday 22nd August	Curriculum Day Berry Street Day 4
	Friday 19th September	Time in lieu
Term 4	Friday 31st October	Curriculum Day Assessment & Reporting
	Monday 3rd November	Time in lieu
	Tuesday 4th November	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
	Tuesday 16th December	Last day of Term 4



As we continue through this journey of Lent, we are reminded that this is a special time to grow closer to God. Lent is a season devoted to reflection, prayer, and renewal, inviting us to turn towards Jesus with open hearts. One of the ways we do this is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we ask for God's forgiveness and receive His grace to start anew. This is the very reason that some of our students will be receiving this sacrament next week.

During this celebration students will explore the Gospel story of the Lost Sheep, where Jesus tells us about a shepherd who leaves his 99 sheep to search for the one that is lost. This story reminds us that God's love is endless—He is always looking for us, ready to bring us back when we stray. Just like the shepherd rejoices when he finds his lost sheep, heaven celebrates when we turn back to God through Reconciliation.

This Lent we are all called to take time to reflect on our actions, seek forgiveness, and open our hearts to God's mercy. Through prayer, acts of kindness, and maybe even asking for forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we can renew our faith and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

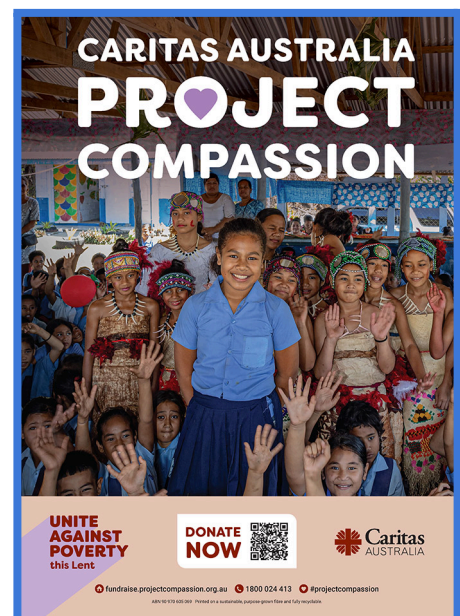
May we always remember that no matter how far we wander, God is always ready to welcome us back with open arms.

PROJECT COMPASSION REMINDER

A friendly reminder that we are accepting donations for Project Compassion until the end of term. Every coin makes a difference in helping those in need. Your generosity supports vital programs that bring hope, food, and education to vulnerable communities.

Let's work together to make a big impact this Lent for those most in need, by sharing kindness, compassion and love.

Thank you for your support!





Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge 2025

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is **now open** to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by **5 September 2025**.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books. All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

The Premiers' Reading Challenge website offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
 - a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklist and to register your child for the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge> If you would like your child to participate, they will need to be registered as a **Home-based reader**.

For instructions on how to register as a **Home-based reader**, click [here](#). If you would like any further assistance with the registration, please email Caroline Hume (Literacy and Enrichment Leader) at St Jude's - chume@sjlangwarrin.catholic.edu.au.



ART NEWS

HARMONY WEEK POSTER COMPETITION



Theme: Harmony – We All Have A Role To Play

Entries Close: April 12 2025

Specifications: A3 drawing, painting or mixed media work

Enter individually or as a group. The poster must be original and made this year. You need to showcase the theme. The overall winner in each of the Junior and Senior sections will receive \$250. The group winners will each receive \$150.

Please read the terms and conditions carefully.

Ask your parents to enter your artwork via the link:

<https://movingforwardtogether.org.au/poster-competition/>





MOONLIT SANCTUARY

AUTUMN HOLIDAY CLUBS





JNR KEEPER CLUB

Ages: 7-14

9:00am-2:00pm

Registration Fee **\$104**

In Keeper Club kids enjoy environmental activities, animal encounters and native animal care. Junior Keepers help with feeding animals and animal enrichment activities. See our website for dates. Groups are small, with a maximum of 14 children.

CONSERVATION CLUB

Ages: 12-18

9:30am-3:30pm

Registration Fee **\$119**

Perfect for older kids passionate about wildlife and conservation, this program includes animal encounters, enrichment activities, and environmental projects.


Thursday, 10th April

Learn more: moonlitsanctuary.com.au


Info : (03)5978 7935



Moonlit Sanctuary
the best way to see Aussie animals




Please present this ticket when you arrive.
Please note that Moonlit Sanctuary closes at 4:00pm.



Local School Family Pass - Autumn 2025

WHO
Local School Donation Pass (Local School Donation Pass - Primary)

WHEN
Can be used once any day from March 8, 2025 until September 7, 2025



BOOKING REFERENCE
88194763-297785124

YOUR ITEMS

Local School Family Pass - Autumn 2025
1 x Family Pass - Local School Donation

NEED HELP?

Call us on 03 5978 7935 or email bookings@moonlit-sanctuary.com.
Plan your visit at www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU BUT FIRST THE IMPORTANT SMALL PRINT

Can't get to a printer? Display this on your smartphone upon arrival at Moonlit Sanctuary.



Charlie Silly Pants

EGGS-CELLENT ADVENTURE


SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN
Charlie Silly Pants
9TH APRIL
11AM-12PM & 1-2PM
SESSION

\$7.50 per person

PURCHASE TICKETS:
 SCAN QR CODE OR HEAD TO
WWW.FRANKSTONRSL.COM.AU/TICKETED-SHOWS
 OR CONTACT RECEPTION 8792 4400



OPEN DAY-

Wonnai Preschool

WONNAI PRESCHOOL HAS BEEN A PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1978, CREATING DEEP ROOTS WITH LOCAL FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

PROUDLY OFFERING FREE KINDER FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS, WONNAI IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO BEGIN YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION; TAUGHT BY OUR WARM, PROFESSIONAL, EXPERIENCED TEAM OF EDUCATORS.

Saturday
29th
March

10am-12pm

**JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN DAY -
A CHANCE TO EXPLORE WITH LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES!**

2 ELM GROVE, LANGWARRIN
 (03) 9789 2642
WWW.WONNAIPRESCHOOL.COM.AU
WONNAI PRESCHOOL

RATED

EXCEEDING

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD



Preschool
Langwarrin



Bayport Preschool

located just off Warrandyte Road in Langwarrin offers 15 hours of funded 3 year-old and 4 year-old kindergarten.






Tours available please contact the kindergarten by phone on 0387518835 or via email at bayport@ckp.org.au www.ckp.org.au





REGISTRATIONS FOR 2026 WILL BE OPENING SOON ON THE FRANKSTON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE.