



Caring for Self, Caring for Others, Caring for the Environment

St Joseph's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

The little school
with a big heart

4-8 Raymond Street
Orbost VIC 3888
<https://www.stjorbost.catholic.edu.au>

Term 2- 6th May 2026

Issue No. 5



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Student Report— Frida and Jarred

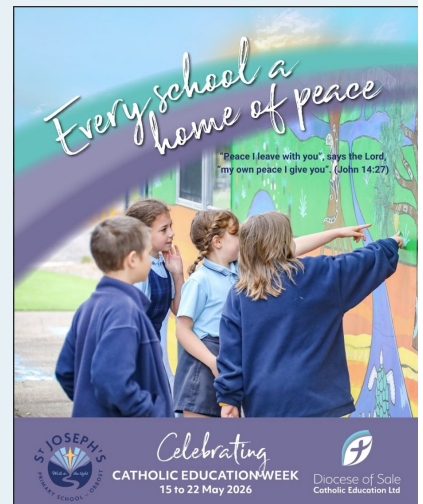
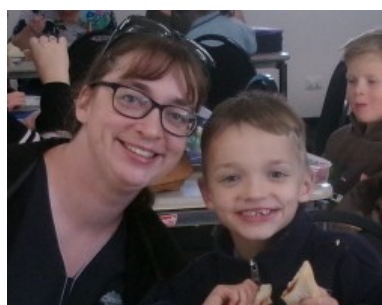
On camp my favourite thing was the boat trip to Raymond Island and the food. I also liked the blindfold climbing wall. Frida.

On camp my favourite thing was the blindfold climbing wall and the boat trip. Jarred.



Upcoming Reminders

- Thursday 7th May
Toddler Gym 10—12 Hall
- Wednesday 13th May
Athletics Day OCC
- Thursday 14th May
Toddler Gym 10—12 Hall
- Monday 18th May
Catholic Education Week
- Wednesday 20th May



A Message from the Principal

Welcome back to what has been a very busy and exciting start to Term 2! Our school has been buzzing with energy as students have jumped straight back into their learning. With incursions, excursions, school photos, Cross Country, and Year 5/6 Winter Sport training beginning on Fridays, there is certainly plenty happening across the school.

Today we were delighted to celebrate the wonderful mothers, grandmothers and special mother figures in our community with a shared lunch. It was a joy to see students take such pride in preparing for this event—setting tables, helping to make pumpkin soup, fresh sandwiches and pear cake, and welcoming their loved ones into our school.

This year, due to rising fuel costs and the increased cost of living, we made the decision not to hold a traditional Mother's Day stall. Instead, students will be creating special gifts during lunch and recess activities to take home. We hope all of our families enjoy a beautiful Mother's Day this Sunday, filled with special moments and time together.

We are thrilled to be receiving early enrolments into Foundation for next year—this is a wonderful sign of the strength of our school community. If you know of any families considering enrolment, we warmly invite them to contact the school for a tour at any time. We will also be hosting Open Days during Catholic Education Week on **18th and 21st May**, and would love to welcome prospective families.

Looking ahead, our Athletics Day will be held next Wednesday, with more information to be shared on Monday. We are also pleased to share that preliminary NAPLAN results are showing strong outcomes, reflecting the high expectations across the school and the way our students are rising to meet them.

Our Parents and Friends Association is keen to welcome new members. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with other families, contribute to fundraising ideas, and support social events within our school. If you are interested, please take a moment to complete the short survey attached to this newsletter—we would love to see some new faces involved.

We are also preparing for our upcoming School Review, which will celebrate all that we have achieved over the past three years and help set our direction for the future. As part of this process, we are seeking a small group of parents to participate in an interview on **Monday 26th May at 1:00pm**. Your voice is incredibly valuable, and we would greatly appreciate your involvement.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is wonderful to see such a strong sense of community and purpose across our school.

Walk in the Light

Kirsten Daly
Principal.



3 C's—Students in action

Caring for ourselves

Caring for Others

Caring for the environment

Road Safety Education

On Wednesday, 29 April, we welcomed Alex Patterson from our local police station, who spoke to all students about bike and road safety. The session provided valuable and practical strategies to help students stay safe around roads and when riding their bikes.

We are also currently exploring ways to improve the safety of our school 'end of day' pick up to better support our community.



Tesselaar Fundraising with Bulbs

- Fundraising goal reached is \$336 of Sales
- Funds to go to Caritas is \$134.40

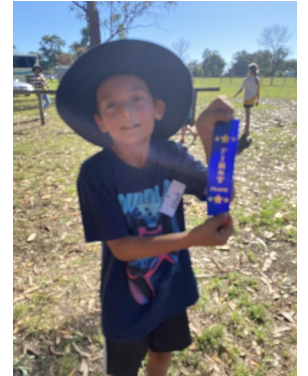


Fundraising level reached in Sales

\$500
\$400
\$336
\$200
\$100

Thank you to everyone that brought bulbs for our fundraiser.

Cross Country 2026



What a fantastic day we had at the Cross Country! It was wonderful to see all students giving their best effort, showing determination, and having a go.

Congratulations to our students who have progressed to Round 2: Noah, Frida, Ruby, Lillian, and Cohen. We wish them all the very best for the next stage!

Easter Hat Parade - Egg Hunt



What a great way for our Students to enjoy the last day of Term 1 with our Easter Hat Parade and the Easter Egg Hunt Everyone had so much fun.



Black Snake Productions

Last Thursday, we welcomed Michael from Black Snake Productions, who visited the school to share his knowledge of Australian wildlife. Students were captivated by the presentation and had the exciting opportunity to see and even hold a variety of animals and reptiles.

Some of the incredible animals included a dingo, crocodile, python, tawny frogmouth owl, green tree frog, bettong, lace monitor, shingleback lizard, and even a "butt-breathing" turtle! It was a memorable and hands-on learning experience for all involved.

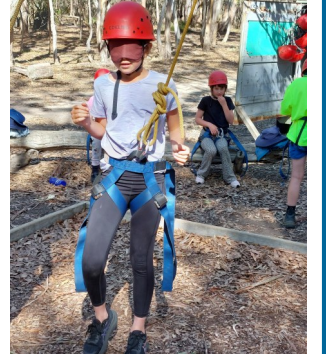
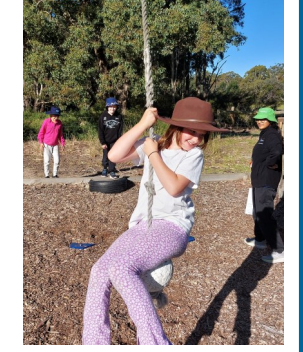
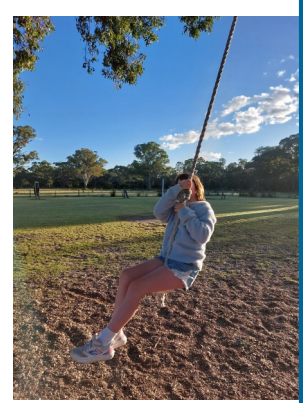


Camp Coolamatong Grade 3 and 4

On the first day of Term 2, our Year 3/4 students headed off to Camp Coolamatong for an exciting and memorable camp experience. One of the highlights was a ferry ride to Raymond Island, where students took part in a koala spotting expedition. They had great fun naming the koalas alphabetically, with creative names such as Abigail, Bree, Candy, Fiddly, and George.

Throughout the camp, students challenged themselves and tried many new activities, including a survival challenge, rock climbing, a rope obstacle course, canoeing, and a boat ride.

Of course, the delicious food was also a highlight, with chocolate mousse and chocolate biscuits proving to be favourites, alongside hearty meals like spaghetti and sausages. It was a fantastic experience that built confidence, teamwork, and lasting memories.



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to these students and staff who celebrated their birthdays recently and in the coming weeks:

MAY

17th Ms. Dunphy

17th Terri

22nd Noah

29th Aami

JUNE

2nd Myah

3rd Lillian

7th Ruby

7th Mrs. Graham

17th Cohen

21st Caddie

24th Frida

26th Logan



St Colman's Parish

St Colman's & St Brendan's Catholic Church - Mass Times



Tuesdays: St Brendan's Lakes Entrance
9:30am
Wednesdays : St Colman's Orbost
9:30am
Fridays: St Brendan's Lakes Entrance
9:30am
Saturdays: Once a month
St Dymphna's Buchan Check website
1st, 3rd, 5th wks.
St Joseph's Swan Reach 5:00pm
Sundays: St Brendan's Lakes Entrance
9:00am
St Colman's Orbost 11:00am



Prayers for our Community and student

Back to School Prayer

Dear God,

Help me to,

Use my **eyes** to see new friends,
Open my **ears** to **listen** to my teacher,
Open my **mind** to **learn** new skills.

Let my **heart** love everyone around me,
Help me to **grow** and **learn** each day,
I want to be the **best** that I can be this school year.

Amen



Term dates

Term 2 : Monday 20th April— Friday 26th June

Term Calendar

May 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1	2
3 Week 3	4	5 School Photos Cross Country Nagel College	6	7 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	8 Muffin for mum	9
10 Week 4	11	12	13 Athletics Day OCC	14 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	15	16
17 Week 5	18 Catholic Education Week. 'Every School a Home of Peace'	19 Catholic Education Week.	20 Catholic Education Week. Nagle 11am Whole school—Mass	21 Catholic Education Week. Toddler Gym 10-12pm	22 Catholic Education Week. Assembly 2pm	23
24 Week 6	25 Reconciliation Week	26 National Sorry Day	27	28 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	29	30

JUNE 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week 7	1	2	3	4 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	5 TIL Closure DAY TBC	6
7 Week 8	8 Kings Birthday No School	9 Curriculum Day No Students	10	11 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	12	13
14 Week 9	15	16	17	18 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	19	20
21 Week 10	22	23	24	25 Toddler Gym 10-12pm	26 Last Day of Term 1 School Finishes 2:15pm	27
28	29 SCHOOL	30 HOLIDAYS	SCHOOL	HOLIDAYS	SCHOOL	HOLIDAYS

Parents & Friends Association

Social News

Have an idea, send us an email!

Fundraising

**FORGE THEATRE EXCURSION
THE BOX SHOW AND LUNCH AT THE PARK**



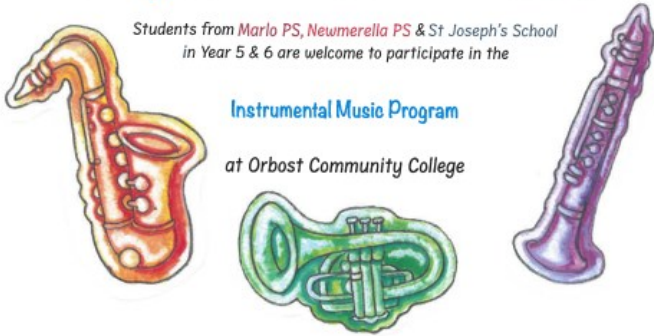
Mackillop Class attended the Forge Theatre on the last week of Term 1 and had a wonderful time watching the Box Show and then spending some time at the All Abilities Play Ground in Bairnsdale, before their return to school.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Would you like to learn a MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

Students from Marlo PS, Newmerella PS & St Joseph's School in Year 5 & 6 are welcome to participate in the



Instrumental Music Program

at Orbost Community College

Instruments available: flute, clarinet, saxophones, trumpet, trombone, bass guitar & percussion

Commitments are a weekly lesson, and participation in the "Junior Band" from Term 2, or when your music teacher thinks you are ready.



If you are interested please leave your contact details with the OCC admin team on 5154 1084, or orbost.cc@education.vic.gov.au and we will contact you to arrange an appointment where you can

try all the instruments in the lolly shop to find the perfect match!

Enchanted

COMMUNITY ART SHOW

5 June - 31 July 2026

ENTRIES OPEN: 1ST MAY 2025
ART TO BE DELIVERED: 30TH MAY - 3RD JUNE 2026

Inviting entries that fit the theme, from East Gippsland artists of all ages. Art that takes us on a magical journey through creativity; immerse yourself in a world where imagination knows no bounds and art comes to life to enchant and delight those who come seeking wonder and whimsy...

All Mediums Welcome and Encouraged!

Viewers' Choice Prizes to be won!

ENTRY FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FRONT DESK AND ONLINE SOON

Orbost Arts Centre
Performance & Visual Arts - Events - Wood Design
8 Clarke St, Orbost
www.orbostartscentre.com

HIPPY

East Gippsland

HOME INTERACTION PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND YOUNGSTERS

FREE PROGRAM

Are you living in the East Gippsland area & caring for a child who is turning three on or before the 30th of April 2026

for more information please contact
Nikki 0403 692 639

Uniting

Now I am Three

We belong

ART COMPETITION 2026

Deaf Children Australia's annual Art Competition supports, promotes, and celebrates the creative pursuits of young deaf and hard of hearing people. This year's theme is 'We belong'.

Submissions open now.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE 22 JUNE 2026

Exhibition in September, details to be announced.

CATEGORIES & ART GRANTS

8 to 11 Years 1st Prize \$500 Runner Up \$250	12 to 17 Years 1st Prize \$700 Runner Up \$300
18 to 23 Years 1st Prize \$1000 Runner Up \$500	Early Education Group Project (0 to 11 Years) 1st Prize \$800 Runner Up \$450

For more info go to:
deafchildreinaustralia.org.au
or email us with any questions:
events@deafchildren.org.au

Deaf Children Australia.



LET'S PLAY WITH

SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP



LITTLE FEET, BUSY HANDS AND BIG SMILES WELCOME!



ORBOST PLAYGROUP
WEDNESDAYS 10AM - 12PM
ORBOST KINDER

Play • Create • Explore • Connect
 Join us for a relaxed, welcoming
 playgroup where children learn through
 play and families connect.

- ★ Songs & stories
- ★ Craft & sensory play
- ★ Indoor & Outdoor Play
- ★ Social connection

TODDLER GYM
THURSDAYS 10AM - 12PM
ST JOSEPHS PRIMARY

Jump • Climb • Balance • Roll
 A fun movement program designed
 especially for toddlers!

- ★ Builds confidence
- ★ Supports gross motor development
- ★ Encourages social skills
- ★ Safe, supportive environment

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 CONTACT PETA 0498 666 422

