Dear Families,
As we come to the end of the year it is at this time that we say goodbye to some staff members. Mrs Amy Carmody is moving on at the end of this year to pursue her career closer to home. Amy has been at St Catherine of Siena for 8 years and in that time has developed effective working relationships with staff, parents and students alike. This year she has run the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program for our middle school students and has engaged them thoroughly in the growing and harvesting of produce and then the enjoyment of the cooking and eating of it. I’m sure that many of you have also enjoyed these recipes when the children took them home and practised them. Although we will miss her we wish her all the very best as she takes up her new position.

Mr Anthony Dimkopoulos began at St Catherine of Siena several years ago and in his time with us he has always worked hard to support the children in his care. He has a gentle way of working with each student so that he can get to know their strengths and challenges in order to best assist them in becoming independent learners. Anthony is a dedicated staff member who readily supports others and is a constant contributor to school events and initiatives. He has been a valued staff member, we will miss his friendship and sense of fun, however we wish him all the very best as he leaves us to join his new staff.

Mr Blake Pitman has only been with us a short time; however, in that time he has been an important part of the Year 4 team. Blake has worked hard to support the children in Year 4 and has taken the time to get to know each child, their interests and challenges so that he can best support their learning. He has added an extra dimension to assembly with his guitar playing and earlier in the year worked with our ensemble group. We thank Blake for his contributions and wish him all the very best for his future endeavours.

Mrs Brittni Summers leaves us at the end of this year for a period of Parental Leave. This year Brittni has worked in the Year 3 space and has been a vital part of this team. She has developed effective relationships with the students and their parents and communicated effectively in order to best support their learning. We thank Brittni for her dedication to the children and families in her care and wish her all the very best for the safe arrival of her first child early in the new year.

Mr Mark Sage is leaving us after 6 years and moving to be closer to family. In his time with us Mark has worked hard to provide a variety of extra curricular sporting activities for the children, often organised and practised in his own time. He has also been a vital member of the Year 6 team, organising the Year 6 interschool sports program and representing the school at the local sports network. I’m sure you join with me in wishing Mark and his family all the very best.

Mrs Mary Drew is retiring after many years at St Catherine’s. In recent years she has been our art teacher and has worked with teachers to support classroom learning through visual art activities. She has come up with some amazingly creative activities to engage and inspire the children; many of these showcased at our Art show earlier this term. We wish you all the very best Mary for many new and exciting adventures.

I know that many of you have worked closely with Amy, Anthony, Blake, and Mark over the time they have been with us and will join with me in wishing them all the very best in their new school communities. You will also have fond memories of Brittni and Mary and the many ways in which they have contributed to our school community; we also wish them all the very best as they turn their attention to their families and new adventures.

Best wishes for a great week.

Carmel Marantelli  
PRINCIPAL

Advent Week 2 ~ The Candle of Peace

The prophets spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, the prophet Isaiah called Christ “the Prince of Peace”. When Jesus came he taught people the importance of being peace-makers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God. We light the Candle of Peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through him peace is found. Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that as we wait for you to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen
Parish Of Melton Office
10 Unit Street, Melton
Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603
Email: stdoms@bigpond.net.au
Office Open: Tuesday-Friday
10am-4pm

Mass Times - St Catherine of Siena
Tuesday Evening: 7.00pm
Wednesday Morning: 9.15am
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday Morning: 9.00am & 11.00am
Sunday Evening: 5pm

Reconciliation
Saturday: 5.30pm - 5.45pm

Mass Times - St Dominic’s
Thurs - Friday: 9.15am

Last Chance Raffle Tickets
Thank you to all who have supported the end of year raffle. The response so far has been fantastic. The final date to return ticket stubs, money and unsold tickets is next Monday, 5th December. At this stage we still have a number of books outstanding. We would appreciate your assistance in returning all money and tickets (including unsold tickets) to school by Monday, 5th December. As this is a registered raffle we need to account for all the tickets issued. Thank you for your understanding and your efforts in supporting this raffle.

PFA committee

Whole School Picnic
Date: Friday 9th December 2016
Venue: Maddingley Park, Maddingley Vic 3340
Time: 8.50am - 3.15pm for students going on the bus.

For students coming with their parents, the picnic will begin at approximately 9:30am and conclude at approximately 2:00pm.

Snack and lunch arrangements: Children need to bring food for the day as per usual: a healthy snack and lunch as well as a drink bottle of water.

Clothing: Students will need to wear their full sports uniform and bring their school hat and sunscreen.

Parents and other family members are welcome to join us on this day.

Please return the permission slip by Tuesday, 6th December

School Concert
This year’s school concert will be held on Tuesday, 13th December at 6:30pm in the school hall. The theme of this year’s concert is ‘STARS’ and children are asked to come dressed in Christmas clothes and Christmas colours.

The end of year raffle will also be drawn at this event.
Hello families,

Last week the children participated in Under the Sea week. They were very excited for this week and were involved in activities such as paper plate turtles, ocean collages, and creating their own aquariums. We participated in group games such as dead fish and ship, shark and shore. The children were very engaged in the activities that were planned.

This week is children’s choice week, they will decide what activities and games they would like to participate in or finish projects they have started in the past.

Just a reminder to please ensure your child brings a spare hat in their bag for OSHClub due to some children still missing out on playing outside as we have a No Hat No Play policy.

Please check out our program journal and the newsletter at the parent sign in/out area to keep up to date with what your children experience while at the program.

Enrolling your child into the program is free! If you are thinking about having your child attend the program but are still not sure, please feel free to come in with your child and experience the service we provide.

Have a great week,
Allison, Cindy and Heidi.

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**Community News**

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**End of Term 4**
Monday, 19th December - Students dismissed at 1:30pm

**Term 4 2016**

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**Week 10**
- *Yr 7 2017 Orientation Day @ CRC
- *Yr 8 Big Day Out
- *2:30 Week 3 Advent Liturgy led by Yr 4 in church
- *Whole School Picnic - Bacchus Marsh

**Week 11**
- *School Concert @ 6:30pm
- *2017 Orientation Day Yr 1 - 6
- *Yr Prep Excursion to Cambrian Park.
- *2:30 Week 4 Advent Liturgy led by Yr 3 in church
- *Year 6 Graduation @ 7pm
- *End of Year Mass 9:15am

**Week 12**
- *9:35am Christmas Liturgy led by Prep in church
- *Student’s Last Day dismissed @ 1:30pm
- *Staff Last Day

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**End of Term 4 Monday, 19th December**

- Students dismissed at 1:30pm
Let’s Celebrate Children’s Week 2016!

Free special library event for 5 to 10 year olds.

Enter a fairytale land where things are not quite what they seem and let your imagination run wild and free.

BOOK EARLY! Don’t miss out as places are limited.

Bookings online at http://tiny.cc/fiasco-4 or http://tiny.cc/fiasco-5 | Phone: 9747 5300

For further information visit melton.vic.gov.au/events

BOOK EARLY! Don’t miss out!

Melton:

WHEN:
Monday 5 December

TIME:
Session 1: 4 - 5pm
Session 2: 5:15 - 6:15pm

WHERE:
Melton Library
31 McKenzie Street
Melton

COST:
Free

RSVP:
Bookings online at http://tiny.cc/fiasco-4 (4pm session) http://tiny.cc/fiasco-5 (5pm session) | Phone: 9747 5300

For more information, visit melton.vic.gov.au/events
RACV Wild Bytes - Stories From Your Backyard

Have you ever wondered what to do when you’ve been swooped by a magpie or when a blue-tongued lizard suddenly appears in your yard, or maybe you’ve found a possum curled up inside your garage roof?

Come along to hear Wildlife Victoria rescue, transport and care volunteers share some great tips for these situations as well as sharing some of their rescue adventures!

Melton Library & Learning Hub
(31 McKenzie St, Melton)
2-4pm, Saturday 10 December 2016

This event is free but bookings are essential. Head to our website: www.wildlifevictoria.org.au or call 8400 7318

Wildlife Victoria on call to help
13 000 94535
# Vacation Care Program

## Summer Program Details

**Who**
This program is open to all primary school aged children.

**Program Hours**
6.30am – 6.30pm

**Location**
Bridge Road Children’s & Community Centre
260 Bridge Road, Melton South

**Cost**
$65 per day (prior to Child Care Benefit being applied)
Excursions and Incursions will incur an additional cost

**Enrolments Open**
8.30am Monday, 21 November 2016

**Enrolments Close**
5pm Friday, 16 December 2016
Bookings submitted after this date will only be accepted at Supervisor’s discretion and incur a $20 late enrolment fee

**Contact**
E: vacationcareprogram@melton.vic.gov.au
Ph: 9747 7200

**BOOK EARLY! Don’t miss out!**

### Activities and Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 2 January</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 3 January</td>
<td>Summertime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4 January</td>
<td>Excursion Charge $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geelong Adventure Park</td>
<td>Departs 9am</td>
<td>Returns 4.30pm</td>
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<td>By popular demand, limited places</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 5 January</td>
<td>When I Grow Up?</td>
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<td>Friday, 6 January</td>
<td>Laser Tag in a Box</td>
<td>Incursion Charge $20</td>
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<td>Monday, 9 January</td>
<td>Team Building</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 10 January</td>
<td>Super Science</td>
<td>Incursion Charge $20</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 11 January</td>
<td>Excursion Charge $30</td>
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<td>Movies</td>
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<td>Thursday, 12 January</td>
<td>Rainbow Day</td>
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<td>Friday, 13 January</td>
<td>Spooky Day</td>
<td>Incursion Charge $20</td>
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<td>Monday, 16 January</td>
<td>Wood Work</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 17 January</td>
<td>Active Athletes</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 18 January</td>
<td>Excursion Charge $30</td>
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<td>Melbourne Zoo</td>
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<td>Thursday, 19 January</td>
<td>Island Holiday</td>
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<td>Friday, 20 January</td>
<td>Talent Quest</td>
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<td>Crafty Kids</td>
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* Activities are subject to change.