Thursday, 20th November 2025



Welcoming Our New Principal – Mrs Lisa Black

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Lisa Black as the new Principal of St Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School, commencing at the beginning of Term 1, 2026.

Lisa joins our community with a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to Catholic education. She is currently the Deputy Principal and Acting Principal at St Andrew's Primary School, Werribee and has previously held a variety of leadership roles across schools in Melbourne's north-west, together with extensive classroom experience.

Lisa has undertaken formal professional learning in preparation for principalship, which has equipped her with a strong understanding of contemporary educational leadership. She is known for her relational approach, her capacity to build positive connections and her ability to bring people together around a shared purpose.

Lisa has already had the opportunity to meet our 2026 Prep students and their families at their second Transition Morning last Monday and she thoroughly enjoyed this first connection with our future students.

She is greatly looking forward to getting to know the wider St Catherine of Siena community and to working in mission alongside Fr Alex and the Parish.

Lisa will visit the school again during Term 4 to meet staff and students and will commence a handover process with the leadership team before the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition into 2026.

We warmly welcome Lisa to our school community and look forward to the wonderful contribution she will make in leading St Catherine of Siena into its next exciting chapter.

2026 Class Placement & Transition Days

Thank you to the many parents that have emailed the school in the past five weeks to assist in the placement of their child next year.

In **Week 9** we commence our **student transition (orientation)** days. It's a strategy we use to provide our students with a sense of belonging, an opportunity to get to know both the teacher and the students they will share the coming year with, along with getting a sense of the learning environment they will be working within.

Our two transition days for our current students from Prep to Grade 5 are:

Monday 1st December 2025

& Monday 8th December 2025



Camp Sunnystones!

The Grade 3 students had an unforgettable experience at Camp Sunnystones! Even those who felt nervous at first quickly found their confidence, joining in all activities with smiles and excitement. Despite late nights and little sleep, their energy never faded and the days were filled with laughter, teamwork and new friendships. It was wonderful to see everyone grow and support each other.



On Thursday the 13th November the Grade 3's all went to Camp Sunnystones. Straight away we had free time for an hour, so I played Soccer. We then had our first activity and mine was geocaching - it was 3 hours long; we were really tired after.



At our snack break they brought us Salada with cheese and tomato and two oranges to eat in the bush. We then headed back to camp to do bush art, we went on a walk to get materials to make artwork, we had clay and got to stick what we found into our creation.

It was then dinner time, we had nachos and I had every topping - for dessert we had ice cream, it was so yum!! We stayed up until 12:00am and woke up at 3.00am I was so exhausted. For breakfast we had toast and cereal then we got ready for our next activity, which was the low rope course, which is when you go on a rope, I was really good at it so I did a challenge I had to hold a cup with water I eventually did it, it was fun!



The next activity was archery, we had to listen to the instructions it took a little while but after the instructions it was so fun, I almost got a bullseye - it was my favourite activity.

Mello Z - 3B

Inviting All Parent To Participate in This Year's End Of Year Events

Many parents, and even more students, have commented as to how quickly this year has passed. From the school's staff perspective, so much has happened in such a short time.

As we come to the end of this schooling year, there are several events that are opportunities to participate, support, enjoy and create memories.

The following is a list of events that we ask you to mark in your calendar.

Wednesday, 10th December

- Whole School Picnic & Carols Evening 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Monday, 15th December

- Grade 6 Big Day Out

Tuesday, 16th December

- Grade 6 Graduation Liturgy (6.00pm)

Wednesday, 17th December

- Last Day Of Term
- Whole School End of Year Mass 9.15am
- 2025 End of Year Awards 2.00pm
- 2026 School Leaders Announced
- 2025 Grade 6 Farewell 3.00pm
- School Dismissal 3.15pm

Whole School Picnic & Carols Evening

Wednesday, 10th December sees the Whole School Carols Evening where students have their final opportunity to showcase their many talents to the St Catherine of Siena School Community and lead us in singing Christmas Carols.

Grade 6 Big Day Out – Go Ride A Wave

The Grade 6 Big Day out is on Monday 16th December where students will be taken to Torquay Main Beach to learn how to surf and participate in other water activities with the company Go Ride a Wave. On this day, we would love parents who would like to join their child in learning to ride a wave and assist with preparing lunch to join us. Further information will be sent out via Operoo regarding this day. Parents who have already decided that they would like to come along are asked to ensure that they have a current Working With Children Check.

Grade 6 Graduation Liturgy

On Tuesday 16th December, we have our Graduation Liturgy where all students (in full summer uniform), will participate in a final liturgy as Year 6 students and the attending parents receive a final blessing.

End Of Year Award Ceremony & Farewell To Grade 6's

Finally on Wednesday 17th December, we celebrate our final day of the year. We ask that parents, if able to, join us for both the Whole School End Of Year Mass at 9.15am and the End of Year Awards Assembly at 2:00pm.

At 3:00pm, weather permitting, we will gather on the school oval to give our Grade 6 students, together with their parents, a final farewell. Students will then be dismissed at 3:15pm.

This is an exciting time for our students who have grown, learnt and formed strong friendships over these last seven years of primary school. Let's together make their final weeks at St Catherine of Siena as special as we possibly can.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office or your child's Grade 6 teacher.



Prep A
Lyla A - For showing outstanding progress in your reading skills. Demonstrating confidence and being able to sound out words in your head.

Mikyla K - For your amazing growth in your writing skills, being able to write down a sentence correctly during our daily dictation sessions.

Prep B
Siobhan A - For always being a kind, friendly & positive class member & always following our class routines independently.

Noah S - For your growth and confidence in sounding out and blending your words during independent writing. Amazing.

Prep C
Elizabeth G - For using heart words and letter/sound relationships to write a creative story. Your growth this year has been amazing!

Chloe F - For using heart words and letter/sound relationships to write a creative story. Your growth this year has been amazing!

Year 1A
Marcus L - For developing your handwriting and correctly placing each letter on dotted thirds lines. The presentation of your work is great. Keep up the great work.

Esme H - For listening to and following teachers instructions respectfully and for treating others with kindness.

Year 1B
Isabella N - For being ready to learn throughout all parts of the school day and engaging in your learning tasks.

Carter S - For showing great responsibility for your learning and keeping focused. Keep it up!

Year 1C
Emma M - For your helpful nature toward your peers. Your willingness to help others is outstanding. Thank you Emma!

Amalia E - For showing care and kindness towards your classmates. We are so lucky to have you in 1C!

Year 2A
Marcus B - For always trying your best to follow our school values by being kind, respectful, responsible

and safe and for being a great role model in our class. Well done Marcus!

Mariah A - For making great improvement in your spelling and always sharing your ideas in our class discussions. Keep up the amazing effort!

Year 2B
Victoria M - For outstanding editing in your writing by adding adjectives, interesting dialogue and detailed sentences to make your story more exciting.

Evelyn P - For impressive progress in writing by using strong adjectives and fixing your run-on sentences.

Year 2C
Jayce F - For reading with a strong expression, natural pacing and excellent confidence every day! Keep up the amazing reading, Jayce.

Liam P - For explaining new vocabulary and helping 2C read unknown words. 2C appreciates your empathy and wisdom every day!

Year 3A
Aishia S - For showing incredible resilience, positivity and a "give it a go" attitude during our Year 3 Camp at Camp Sunnystones.You made the most of every experience.

Lukas F - For being brave, joining in with every activity and showing amazing resilience throughout our Year 3 Camp at Camp Sunnystones.

Year 3B
Quinn B - For your fantastic attitude at camp! Your enthusiasm and encouragement during activities was amazing and made it a fantastic experience for your group and the leaders.

Zayden M - For being a positive role model to your peers during group activities at Camp Sunnystones. This helped to make the activities enjoyable for all of your group including the leaders!

Year 3C
Samiya S – For working through challenging moments and successfully completing the camp experience.

Charlie S – For using the camp experience to bravely discover the fun of being more social.

Year 4A
Lexi T - For your amazing growth in your Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division Westwood testing. Amazing!

Dinuli R - For your creative and considered use of adverbial phrases and figurative language to add detail to your narrative. Well done!

Year 4B
Ajhak A - For your substantial growth in the PAT Maths assessment this semester. Excellent work!

Fenaan T - For your substantial growth in the PAT Reading assessment this semester. Excellent work!

Year 4C
Jayden M - For achieving fluency in multiplication facts up to 12 x 12. Your hard work is amazing. I am so proud of you

Sienna P - For achieving fluency in multiplication facts up to 12x12. Your hard work is amazing. I am so proud of you.

Year 5A
Lucian R - For outstanding growth and success in your reading fluency this term. Your hard work has truly paid off as seen through your PAT Reading results and your DIBELS Oral Reading Fluency assessment. You have become a more confident, fluent and expressive reader.

Alana F - For showing steady and consistent progress in your reading fluency this term. Your effort during our daily reading routines, as well as your improvement in both your PAT Reading and DIBELS Oral Reading Fluency assessments, shows your commitment to growing as a reader. Well done!

Year 5B
Aaliyah Q - For consistently demonstrating our school value of kindness by always assisting and supporting your peers with care and positivity. Keep up the wonderful effort, Aaliyah!

Jayden D - For showing outstanding growth in your reading fluency and comprehension. Your effort and dedication are truly shining. Amazing work, Jayden!

Year 5C
Indiana C - For showing amazing growth on your post data investigation assessment. Keep up the amazing work!

Alfred W - For showing a great improvement in his reading fluency on his Dibels test! Keep up the great effort Alfred!

Year 6A
Yumi N - For your general dedication and enthusiasm for learning! You have put in solid effort across many learning areas and your results are a testament to this! Keep it up, you're doing awesome!

Andrew S - For consistently leading with kindness, integrity and a strong sense of faith. You encourage your classmates through your positive example and are always willing to guide the group in prayer when needed. Thank you and well done!

Year 6B
Alivia S - For demonstrating using 'because', 'but' and 'so' to construct clear and detailed sentences. Using these conjunctions is strengthening your writing! Well done!

Kelsey B - For taking on responsibility for your learning by asking thoughtful questions to deepen your understanding and learning. Well done!

Year 6C
Dhieu Y - For outstanding growth in PAT Math results. Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off. Well done!

Kaiden F - For exceptional progress in your writing and literacy skills. I am so proud of your progress. Well done.

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

Family Christmas CAROLS

WEDNESDAY, DEC 10



Come and enjoy a night of Christmas Carols and performances from students across the school.

Picnic starts at 5pm. BYO blanket and/or picnic chairs & picnic dinner. On the St Catherine of Siena Soccer Pitch

Christmas Carols begin at 6pm

Come and visit our school Nativity. Located opposite the fish tank in the Year 2 foyer.



Term 4 Dates for the Diary

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24 Week 8 *Prep 2026 Transition Session 3 9am - 10am *Library Stocktake begins – borrowing concludes for 2025	**25** *Year 2 Excursion to Immigration Museum	**26** Class Mass – Year 5 Whole School Assembly 2:15pm *Year 6 Camp – Waratah Beach Camp	**27** *Year 6 Camp – Waratah Beach Camp	**28** *Year 6 Camp – Waratah Beach Camp
1 December – Week 9 *2026 Student Transition Day 1	**2** *SFCC – Year 7, 2026 Transition Day *Year 2 Cultural Infusion Incursion	**3** Class Mass – Year 4 Whole School Assembly 2:15pm	**4** *Prep Animal Land Children's Farm Excursion	**5** *Prep 2026 Transition Session 4 9am - 10am
8 Week 10 *2026 Student Transition Day 2	**9**	**10** Whole School Assembly 2:15pm *Carols Night 6:00pm	**11**	**12** *Prep 2026 Transition Session 5 9am - 10am *Semester 2 Reports Sent Home
15 Week 11 *Year 6 Big Day Out	**16** *Year 6 Graduation 6:00pm	**17** Whole School Mass 9:15am End of Year Awards Assembly 2:00pm ***Last Day of Term – Students Dismissed @ 3:15pm**	**18** **School Closure Day**	**19** **School Closure Day**