



# St Catherine of Siena

*"Be all that you can be and you will set the world on fire"*

T: 9743 2166

E: [principal@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au)

W: [www.scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au](http://www.scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au)

## NEWSLETTER

Term 3, Week 5 12th August 2022

### Reflection

Blessed Mary MacKillop, you were faithful to the will of God. Your faith was so strong that, in your mission to serve and educate the poor, even when you were faced with challenges, you never gave up and trusted in God completely. You remained courageous, forgave all those who hurt you and always lead by example.

We ask you, especially in the difficult times we face, that we stand courageous, faithful and completely trust in God and remain strong as we are guided by the Spirit.

Amen.



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will all be aware there is a real shortage of teaching staff at the moment. This is in part due to the large numbers of teachers suffering from COVID and the flu, staff retirements across the system and a shortage of casual replacement teachers to replace absent staff.

To give you a context for the situation here at St Catherine's I have compiled these figures for you.

#### In Term 2 we had

\*137 staff replaced by emergency staff and another 159 who either could not be replaced or did not need replacing.

\*The 296 staff away in term 2 is equal to 6.5 staff away every day of the term.

#### In the first 4 weeks of Term 3 we have had

\*78 staff replaced by emergency staff and another 94 who either could not be replaced or did not need replacing.

\*The 172 staff away so far this term is equal to 8.6 staff away every day of the term.

I'm sure you can all imagine the challenge this creates in maintaining consistency for the children and also ensuring that all specialist programs continue despite staff absences. We make every effort to replace teachers so that we do not have to resort to splitting classes across the school. We also try to ensure that if a teacher is away we ask for the same replacement teacher each day however emergency teachers are also falling sick or have sick children so this is not always possible. In light of the figures above and the challenges this creates, I thank you for your understanding that these shortages create.

We have been contacted by the Proactive Policing Unit which meets with representatives from the schools in the area on a regular basis. Over recent months there has been an increase in vaping by young children. Many vapes are flavoured so as to entice young children to use them however still contain an amount of nicotine. The policing unit is eager to get information about these out into the community and encourage parents who may know where their children are obtaining them, to contact us at the school so we can provide this information to the policing unit in order to limit the supply to young children.

Have a lovely weekend

Carmel Marantelli  
**PRINCIPAL**

### **School Closure Day**

On Monday, 29th August the school will be closed for a Staff Planning Day.

We hope that you can all make the most of a long weekend.

# Congratulations!

Well done to Charlotte Stead for her amazing performance at the 2022 National Karate Championship. Charlotte's hard work and dedication was rewarded with a bronze medal and an Australian ranking of #3 in under 12's!



## Bike Helmets

A reminder to parents that all children who ride a bike or scooter to school **MUST** wear a properly fitted helmet unless they are exempt. Mandatory bicycle helmet laws were introduced in July 1990. This applies when riding:

- on roads and road-related areas
- on bike and shared paths
- in bike lanes
- in recreational parks
- in car parks
- on footpaths.



## Scholastic Book Club

Issue 6 of the Scholastic Book Club have been sent home with all students. Orders must be submitted online by Wednesday, 31st August. *No late orders can be accepted.*

## School Camp Program

We are reviewing the current Camp Program and are inviting feedback and/or suggestions from staff, children, parents and carers prior to determining what this program will look like in the future. Surveys have been sent out to all families via Operoo and we are asking for responses to be submitted by Friday, 2nd September.

## Parish of Melton Office

20 - 22 Unitt Street, Melton

Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603

Email: [melton@cam.org.au](mailto:melton@cam.org.au)

Office Open: Tuesday - Friday 9am - 3pm

w: <http://pol.org.au/melton/Home>



**Mass Times - St Catherine of Siena**

**Saturday Evening:** 6.00pm

**Sunday Morning:** 9.00am & 11.00am

**Sunday Evening:** 5.00pm

**Mass Times - St Dominic's**

**Thursday - Friday :** 9.15am



## Victorian Government Shade Sails Grant

Recently we have installed 4 6m café style umbrellas as permanent structures outside the first 4 classrooms on the park side of the school. These umbrellas can easily be wound up for use and then wound down and the canopy secured when not in use. They were purchased with the support of the Victorian State Government in providing funds for schools to install shade structures for outdoor teaching settings and we are thankful for this support and the initiative. I think you will all agree that the added flexibility this gives for small group teaching, play activities, reading groups, eating etc in outside shaded areas is a real benefit and certainly a new feature for the school.



# Family Maths

## Monthly Challenge -

This month's challenge has got off to an amazing start! Families have been counting heads and legs of sheep and hens, guessing the number of peas in a jar and calculating CP points in the Pokemon task. Keep your entries coming - just put them in the classroom office tub.

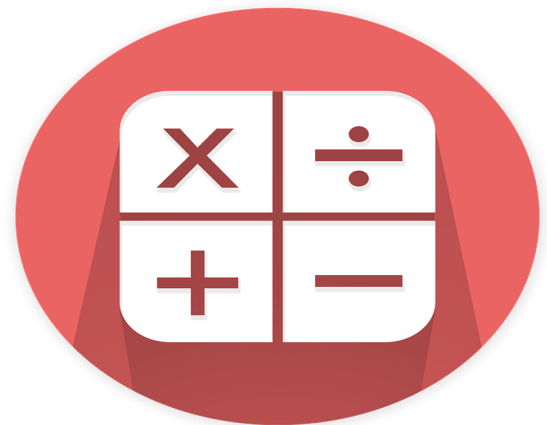
JUNIOR - Heads & Legs

MIDDLE - Pokemon Go : Combat Points

SENIOR - Peas in a Jar

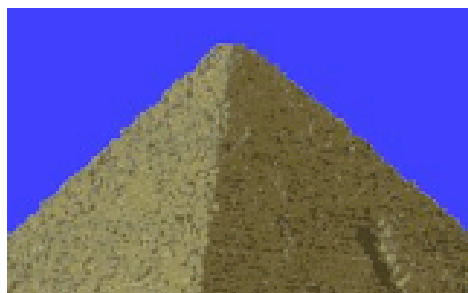
This challenge will end on Wednesday, August 31st.

Get your entries in if you want a chance of winning!



## August Puzzles

Pyramid Puzzle



Click on the Pyramid to go to the puzzle.





# Book Week - Term 3, Week 7



This year our Book Week celebration will run from Monday, 22nd August to Friday, 26th August. The theme for Book Week is,



**'Dreaming with Eyes Open'.**

Our Annual Book Week parade will be held on Friday, 26th August and children are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character.





St Catherine of Siena Parents & Friends Association

# Father's Day Stall

Friday, 2nd September

Gifts priced between \$1 and \$4

Please bring along a plastic bag to put your gifts in.

*\*children will have the opportunity to purchase 1 or 2 gifts.*







# Father's Day Breakfast & Footy Colours Day

All Dads, Grandfathers or Special Persons are invited to attend our Annual Father's Day Breakfast on Friday, 2nd September at 7:30am.  
*(Please bring a gold coin donation for breakfast)*

---

This will also be our Annual Footy Colours Day. A day to celebrate your favourite sports team. Children are invited to wear their team jersey or colours instead of their school shirt.

---

Children will be provided with a hot dog lunch on this day but may still bring their own lunch or have a lunch order.



# CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following children who all received a class award this week.  
These awards have been presented to children at school today.  
Keep up the terrific effort!!

Prep A - Khai Blackshaw

Prep B - Zayden Matijas

Prep C - Malual Majok

Prep D - Aurora Blackshaw

1E - Reighson Fajado

1F - Zakaria Alumbulwa

1H - Olivia Schwartz-Nicart

2G - Taylah Crabtree

2I - Nathaniel Deng

2K - Chloe Ashamalla

3J - Sabrina Balebanga

3L - Mussie Gebreyesus

3M - Dor Telar

4Q - Agurke Poundak

4S - Duot Garang

4U - Jaxxon Portelli

5R - Ceara Goundar

5T - Paige Farrugia

5V - Isum Meemaduma & Cruze Ivanina

6O - Frederick Johnson

## Term 3, 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
15 Week 6 *The Assumption Mass	16 *Yr 3 Excursion to Melbourne Zoo *Sibling Storytime @ 2:30pm	17 *The Assumption Mass @ 10am	18	19	20	21
22 Week 7 Book Week	23 *Sibling Storytime @ 2:30pm	24	25	26 *Book Week Parade	27	28
29 Week 8 SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY	30 *Sibling Storytime @ 2:30pm	31	1 September	2 *Father's Day Breakfast *Father's Day Stall *Footy Colours Day	3	4
5 Week 9	6 *Sibling Storytime @ 2:30pm	7 *Yr 1 Excursion to Melbourne Museum & IMAX	8 *Parent/Teacher Interviews	9	10 Yr 6 Sacrament of Confirmation	11
12 Week 10	13	14	15	16 End of Term 3 - Students dismissed at 1:30pm	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25





# YEAR 7 2024 ENROLMENTS CLOSING SOON

Enrolment applications for  
Year 7 2024 at our Melton  
West and Cobblebank  
campuses are due on  
**Friday 19 August 2022**

Apply online now

[www.crcmelton.com.au/join-us/enrolment](http://www.crcmelton.com.au/join-us/enrolment)

