



**Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
**Term 3 Week 1 of 10**

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### **This Week's Newsletter Items:**

- Principal's Message
- Presentation Masses for Confirmation – Grade 6
- Parent Teacher Conversations
- Grandparents Day
- School Advisory Board
- PBL – Identifying Core Life Values
- St Francis College Enrolments – Grade 5
- MACSSIS – Parents Feedback Survey
- This Weekend's Gospel
- Term 3 Dates
- School Interview Booking Process
- NAPLAN – Information for Parents: Grade 3 & 5
- St Francis College Information

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Dear Parents, Students & Friends,

Welcome back! What a fantastic start to Term 3 with a palpable excitement amongst our students in seeing their renovated classrooms on Monday.

I wish to thank all families for the brilliant attendance on Monday morning. Despite the weather conditions, road closures, a change of family routine, the majority of our students were at school and on time. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!

The work undertaken during the last two weeks has been quite extraordinary with finishing touches still being completed Sunday evening.

We have received great feedback from our students, and we are looking forward to our families getting to see the impact that these new changes have made.

There is one question that we have received everyday which is "When are the fish coming?" Yes, we have a very large fish tank that has been installed outside the Prep classrooms. We hope to see fish being released into the fish tank this coming week.

### **Presentation Masses for Families Presenting Their Child for The Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation**

Families of students seeking for their child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are asked to please attend one of this coming weekend Masses on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July & Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July**. The purpose of your attendance at this Mass is to formally and publicly announce both your child's, and your own, commitment in preparing them to receive this sacrament.

To support parents as primary educators in the formation of their child's faith, St Catherine of Siena has organised a parent-child sacramental information evening. We hope that our parents will get as much out of this evening as your children will.

Fr John Madden will lead us during this evening to be held in the school hall on **Thursday 15 August (6.00 – 7.30pm)**

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### **Parent Teacher Conversations**

Parent Teacher Learning Conversations will be held on **Tuesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>** and **Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup>** between **3:45pm and 7:30pm**.

These interviews are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's report and reflect on their progress over the past semester, as well as their future learning goals. Your child may be present at the conversation if you like.

All interviews are for 10 minutes. It is important that we all keep to the allocated times and that you give yourself enough time to be at your next scheduled appointment on time. If you, or your child's teacher, think more time is required, arrangements can be made for a longer meeting at an alternative date. Booking details are located at the back of this newsletter.

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### **Grandparents Day (Next Week)**

We have received a huge response to the Operoo form sent out regarding Grandparents Day and are looking forward to as many Grandparents being able to attend next Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July. If you know of your Grandparents wishing to attend and have not responded to the Operoo form, could you please contact the school office so that we are aware of their attendance.

Mass will commence at 9.15am with Grandparents joining students in their classrooms from 10.00am. Our students are looking forward to hearing what school was like when their Grandparents went to school. Morning tea will be served in the school hall at 10.45am by the Grade 6 Wellbeing Leaders team.

## School Advisory Board Meeting

Our next School Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July.

Items to be discussed are:

- 2024 NAPLAN Data
- School Enrolment Numbers
- Student Report Format
- MACSSIS Survey – Engaging parental feedback

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## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

As a result of the 2023 School Review and feedback received from annual MACSSIS parent & student surveys, the school has undertaken to work with Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) on the implementation of the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework at St Catherine of Siena School.

PBL is a whole-school framework that promotes positive behaviour across a school and helps schools develop safe and supportive learning environments. Explicitly teaching the schools expected behaviours and acknowledging students who display these positive behaviours is a major component of the PBL framework.

An integral component of the PBL framework is to have 3-5 agreed values that we as a school community believe are important **life values** for all at St Catherine of Siena School.

Our staff, at the end of last term, engaged in a professional learning day led by our PBL coach, Jo-Anne Patrick (MACS Education Excellence - Student Engagement Learning Consultant). During this session, staff identified 26 core values that were then merged into 6. These will be reviewed in light of the values presented by parents and students.

We believe it is also very important to have input from both parents/carers and students when making this decision. Therefore, we are asking you to complete the Operoo Survey Form that was sent to parents on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July. Please tell us what you believe are the 3 - 5 life values that you personally believe are the most important for us as a school community to work towards. Our students will also engage in this process with their classroom teachers.

Once students and parents have completed this survey, the PBL team will look at all responses to help the school determine the values that best suit St Catherine of Siena School and will be the basis of PBL.

Looking forward to receiving your input and participation in this initiative and the continued development of a positive learning environment and culture at St Catherine of Siena.



**St Francis**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

## Grade 5 - Enrolments for Year 7 2026

A reminder to families that if you have a child you would like to enrol for Year 7 2026 at either of their campuses, please ensure you complete your online application by 16 August. [Click here](#) to visit their website.

As demand for places is high, applications received after 16 August will be classed as late and may affect your ability to secure a position in Year 7 2026.

Meeting the 16 August due date has never been more important. I also encourage you to advise friends and family of the upcoming date to ensure their application is submitted.

Please do not hesitate in contacting Kylie Perry – Registrar should you have any questions.

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Parent  
Feedback

## Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools – School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS): Monday 2 September – Friday 20 September 2024

Throughout each year, we pause to listen to our students, families and staff to gauge how our learning community is travelling. This feedback is invaluable to our progress as effective school communities and is backed by evidence-based research and best practices.

A significant and formal way in which we engage and gather data is through **MACSSIS**, the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools – School Improvement Surveys which will occur from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

MACSSIS is a set of surveys that have been built specifically for Catholic schools in Melbourne by the Learning Services team at MACS, in partnership with researchers at Learning First and in wide consultation with principals in our schools.

In 2024, students, families and staff are invited to participate in MACSSIS via our secure and purpose-built online platform. The online platform is where our school leaders will access the summary reports that visualise the results of the student, family and staff surveys.

The MACSSIS survey platform is operated by an independent supplier, ORIMA Research Pty Ltd. The platform meets with the high security and privacy standards for handling student and school data. Participating schools are in the process of updating their privacy policy to ensure school communities are fully informed and protected.

Students at our school will be provided with supervised sessions, where teachers are on hand to help and answer any questions. Families and staff can complete the survey anytime over the three-week window via an emailed link and password. Feedback has indicated that previous surveys were completed across a range of mobile devices and different web browsers. We will be providing more information about MACSSIS throughout Term 3, via newsletters and Seesaw.

*Our community's opinions are critical to understanding how our school is performing – MACSSIS is a key data source for guiding the ongoing work to improve our school.*

**All participation is invited, welcomed and 100 percent voluntary.** The surveys are not a test; they are an inclusive way to support the work we are already doing to improve our school. Everyone has the right to refuse to participate, or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during or after completion of the survey.

Please notify the school if your child does not wish to participate. If you would like more information, please contact the school.

On a personal note, from the perspective of a principal, the feedback provided by parents is essential in letting the school know how we are travelling, what we are doing well and where we can improve.

I look forward to being back on board this coming Monday having taken these last three days to recover from ill health.

Looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible this coming Tuesday and Thursday afternoon during the Parent Teacher Conversations.

With kindest regards,

Mr Des Noack  
Principal



## This Weekend's Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
6:30-34

### They were as sheep without a shepherd.

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

### Gospel Reflection

Fifty years ago the word 'stress' was only ever applied to materials like steel and the wings of planes. But since then, along with 'pressure', it has first crept into our language and more lately become an everyday term. Everyone experiences stress now. You can even hear Grade One students talk about the stress they're under at school! Perhaps it's the ever-growing pace of life or an innate competitiveness but pressure and stress have become part of daily life for most people in the so-called civilised world.

Although he may never have used the words 'stress' or 'pressure', Jesus knew all about the demands of ministry with other people. When the disciples returned from their first efforts away from Jesus he knew that they needed some time out to debrief, to pray and to re-energise themselves. He ordered them all into a boat and they headed for a lonely place where they could be by themselves and rejuvenate.

Jesus recognised the importance of taking time out. If you are engaged in a vocation or ministry that sees you meeting the needs of others, you need some time out to reflect on your experiences; time to hold those people up to God in prayer; time to make sense of your work and the interactions you've shared; time to simply recharge your batteries so that you can once again give fully of yourself.

Unfortunately, when Jesus arranged for himself and the disciples to have some time out, the crowd anticipated where they were going and actually beat them there! When the disciples arrived at their lonely spot, they were once again overwhelmed by the crowd. However, Jesus recognised the demands of the crowd as being more urgent than the demands of the disciples and himself. He took pity on them – he was moved by compassion – and responded to their need.

## Have you thought? Prayer and reflection

Jesus demonstrated how important it is to engage in times of quiet prayer and reflection. When you expend a lot of time and energy in the service of others it is essential to reflect on those experiences, to learn from them and consider what you'd do differently next time. It is also important that any ministry that seeks to be based in the message of Jesus can only remain so if it is fuelled by prayer. Only through prayerful dialogue with God can we learn what God desires for us.

## Living the Gospel – Take time out

I recently travelled to France and was amazed that in the smaller towns and villages everything stopped for two hours in the middle of the day and people went home for lunch. As a tourist used to almost 24 hour convenience, it was at first terribly frustrating. Even tourist attractions would close down. The only businesses open were restaurants. However, the wisdom of the custom soon became apparent. How wonderfully civilised and life-giving to stop for two hours in the middle of the day, go home and have a leisurely lunch. It made me ask myself, 'When do I take time out to renew myself?'

## Historical Context – Sheep and Shepherds

This gospel passage is one of many gospel references and even more Old Testament references to sheep and shepherds. It is an enduring image from the Bible. Much of it stems from the shepherd-become-King, David. When a monarchy developed in Israel it was clear that the role of king was like that of a shepherd, caring for his flock. Jesus applied the image to himself on several occasions, reinforcing an image of servant leadership. The language continues today, with bishops referred to as shepherds of their diocese and carrying a crosier that is reminiscent of a shepherd's crook.

© Greg Sunter

**Greg Sunter** is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.

# Term 3

## Week 2

### Monday 22/07

- **Saint Mary Magdalene**
- Emergency Displan Practice
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

### Tuesday 23/07

- *Saint Bridget*
- **Parent Teacher Learning Conversations 3.45pm to 7.15pm**

### Wednesday 24/07

- *Saint Sharbel Mahkluf*
- **Grandparents Day Mass (Whole School) & Celebration**

### Thursday 25/07

- Saint James
- **Parent Teacher Learning Conversations 3.45pm to 7.15pm**

### Friday 26/07

- Saints Joachim and Anne

### Saturday 27/07

- **Presentation Masses for Sacrament of Confirmation**

### Sunday 28/07

- 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time
- **Presentation Masses for Sacrament of Confirmation**

## Week 3

### Monday 29/07

- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

### Tuesday 30/07

- *Saint Peter Chrysologus*
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm
- **Parent Advisory Committee 7.00pm – 8.00pm**

### Wednesday 31/07

- Saint Ignatius Loyola

### Thursday 01/08

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

### Friday 02/08

- *Saint Peter Julian Eymard*
- **100 Days Of Learning for Preps**

### Saturday 03/08

- Saint Dominic

### Sunday 04/08

- 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

## Week 4

### Monday 05/08

- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

### Tuesday 06/08

- **The Transfiguration Of The Lord**
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

### Wednesday 07/08

- *Saints Sixtus II and companions*

- *Saint Cajetan*
- **Whole School Mass – St Mary of the Cross Mackillop 9.15am**

#### Thursday 08/08

- Saint Mary Of The Cross
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 09/08

- *Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross*

#### Saturday 10/08

- Saint Lawrence

#### Sunday 11/08

- 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Week 5

#### Monday 12/08

- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 13/08

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Wednesday 14/08

- Saint Maximilian Kolbe
- **Whole School Mass – Feast of the Assumption 9.15am**

#### Thursday 15/08

- The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary
- **Sacrament of Confirmation Family Night 6.00pm - 7.30pm (School Hall)**
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 16/08

- *Saint Stephen of Hungary*

#### Sunday 18/08

- 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Week 6 – Book Week

#### Monday 19/08

- **Book Week Parade – 9am**
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 20/08

- Saint Bernard
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Wednesday 21/08

- Saint Pius X

#### Thursday 22/08

- The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Northern Region School Improvement Network (All Day)
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 23/08

- *Saint Rose of Lima*

#### Saturday 24/08

- **Sacrament of Confirmation Masses 11.00am & 2.00pm**

#### Sunday 25/08

- 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Week 7

#### Monday 26/08

- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 27/08

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Wednesday 28/08

- Saint Augustine

#### Thursday 29/08

- The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 30/08

- The Passion of Saint John the Baptist
- **Father's Day Breakfast (7.30am) & Blessing (8.15am)**
- **Fathers Day Stall**
- **Footy Colours Day**

#### Sunday 01/09

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time
- **Father's Day**

### Week 8

#### Monday 02/09

- Saint Augustine
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 03/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm
- Parent Advisory Committee 7.00pm – 8.00pm - TBC

#### Wednesday 04/09

- Mr. Noack on Study Leave (Returns Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October.)

#### Thursday 05/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 06/09

- Instalment 3 - Family Fee Payment Due

#### Sunday 08/09

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Week 9

#### Monday 09/09

- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 10/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Thursday 12/09

- *The Most Holy Name of Mary*
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 13/09

- Saint John Chrysostom

#### Saturday 14/09

- The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

#### Sunday 15/09

- 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Week 10

#### Monday 16/09

- Exec Team 9.30 – 11.00am
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
- Team Leaders Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Tuesday 17/09

- *Saint Robert Bellarmine*

#### Wednesday 18/09

- **Whole School Liturgy 9.15am**
- Year 3 Camp – Camp Sunnystones

#### Thursday 19/09

- Year 3 Camp – Camp Sunnystones
- Year 4 Camp – Camp Sunnystones
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

#### Friday 20/09

- **Last Day of Term 3**
- Year 4 Camp – Camp Sunnystones
- **Dismissal Time 3.15pm**



Dear parents/guardians,  
Parent Teacher Learning Conversations will be held on **Tuesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>** and **Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup>** between **3:45pm and 7:30pm**.

These interviews are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's report and reflect on their progress over the past semester, as well as their future learning goals. Your child may be present at the conversation if you like.

All interviews are for 10 minutes. It is important that we all keep to the allocated times and that you give yourself enough time to be at your next scheduled appointment on time. If you, or your child's teacher, think more time is required, arrangements can be made for a longer meeting at an alternative date.

1. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the code **zwnp2**
2. Enter your details
3. Select the teachers you wish to see
4. Select the appointment times that suit your family best
5. When you click FINISH your selected bookings will be emailed to you immediately.
6. If you do not receive your email, please check your junk-mail, or enter the event code again and check your email address spelling. Update your details if the email address is incorrect.

DO NOT DELETE the email you receive. Keep it somewhere safe. You may need to refer back to it at a later date.

REMEMBER TO ADD YOUR APPOINTMENTS TO YOUR CALENDAR - reminders will not be sent home.

## **Bookings close on 19<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm**

If you need to view, cancel, change or print your bookings:

- Click on the link in the confirmation email you received after you made your bookings
- OR return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the code and the email address you used when making your bookings.

# NAPLAN individual student report

## Information for parents and carers

# 2024

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment undertaken by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It is the only national assessment that all Australian children undertake. Literacy and numeracy skills are the critical foundation for all learning and for the ability to participate effectively in society. NAPLAN questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum in English and Mathematics.

NAPLAN tests are only one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process. As they are held once every 2 years for each student, they cannot replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. Your child's teacher will have the best insight into your child's educational progress. Along with other school assessment reports, NAPLAN individual student reports can be used to discuss your child's progress with their teacher.

### How does NAPLAN assess students?

NAPLAN tests are delivered online to schools across Australia. Online assessment presents questions tailored to an individual student's responses, delivering more precise results and an engaging test experience for students.

Questions in NAPLAN are based mostly on the literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills students have learnt from previous years of schooling. A few questions assess additional content from the year of testing and the following year. These questions have been designed so that they can be answered using strategies students have learnt in previous years. This ensures students of all abilities can show their capabilities.

Detailed information on the knowledge and skills being measured in NAPLAN is available at [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au).

### New proficiency standards

From 2023, new standards were introduced to NAPLAN reporting. This reporting replaces the previous numerical NAPLAN reporting bands and national minimum standards. Education ministers agreed 2023 was the right time to introduce this change alongside moving NAPLAN to March.

Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected for the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling.

There are 4 proficiency levels:

- **Exceeding:** The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- **Strong:** The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- **Developing:** The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- **Needs additional support:** The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

What NAPLAN assesses has not changed. Page 4 of the individual student report provides a more detailed summary about what students know and can do within each of the proficiency levels. Further information is available at [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au).

### How were the proficiency levels determined?

Panels of expert teachers identified the levels of proficiency against learning expectations for each assessment area and year level. Parent and carer input on student reports was also provided through focus groups and national parent organisations.



**YEAR 7 2026**  
**ENROLMENTS DUE**  
**FRIDAY 16 AUGUST**

*As demand for places is high, applications received after 16 August will be classed as late and may affect your ability to secure a position in Year 7 2026.*



**You can apply online for our Melton and Cobblebank campuses at [www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/enrolment](http://www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/enrolment)**



**St Francis**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

**We welcome you to join one of our final campus tours for 2023.**

**Reserve your place at [www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/college-tour](http://www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/college-tour)**