



Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Term 2 - Week 2 of 10

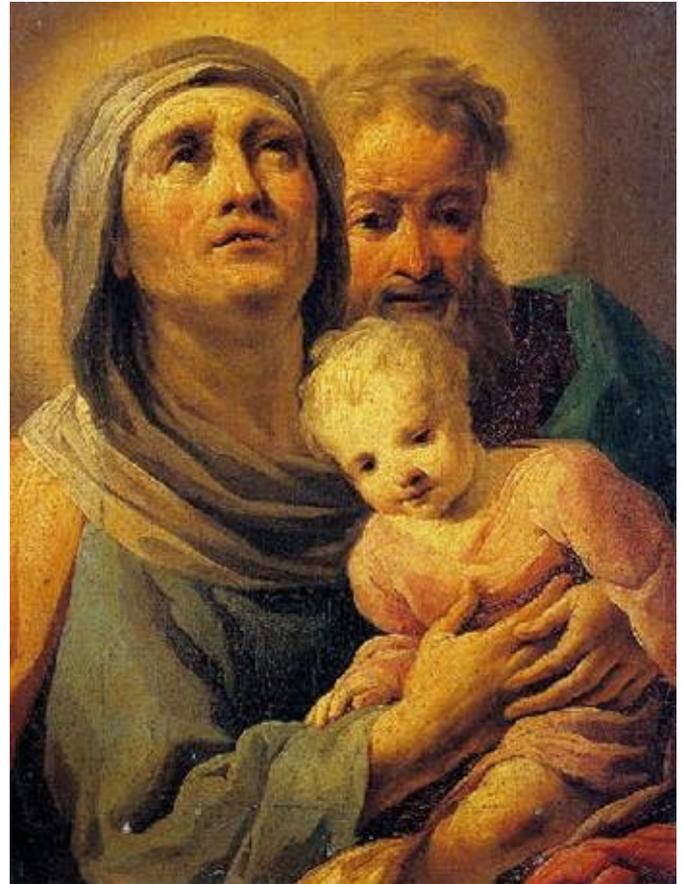


Dear Parents, Students & Friends,

This week we celebrated the Feast of St Joachim and St Anne, the parents of Mary, by celebrating our own grandparents. The beautiful painting of Joachim & Anne, holding Jesus in their arms, highlights just how special a bond grandchildren have with their grandparents.

This week's newsletter, through the photos provided, highlight so well the affection and love that these amazing members of our family provide. A special thanks to our Grade 6 student leaders who assisted by helping with the setup of the hall, catering, the serving of food and cleaning up afterwards. Mrs Susie Aquilina, who organised and oversaw the catering for the morning's supper was super appreciative of their efforts.

I would also like to thank our parents who are continuing to participate in the processes around school improvement and development by responding to the Operoo forms sent out seeking your input. I am told that the number of responses being received, particularly regarding core values, has been exceptionally high. We hope to publish your input in next week's newsletter regarding these values as we move to fully implement Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) at St Catherine's.



Artist: Mauro Gandolfi (Italian, 1764–1834)

Title: Sainte Anne, Saint Joachim et l'Enfant Jésus

## 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 weekend's Masses (**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.

Please note that there has been a change of date regarding this event with Fr John Madden leading the evening in the school hall on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August (6.00 – 7.30pm)**

## 100 Days Of Prep

It's 100 days of learning for the Preps next week and they're going to be doing something very special for it. Keep an eye out in next week's newsletter to see just how special the day was.

## The Role of Grandparents – How Important Are They?

While many of us no longer cohabitate with our extended families, 65% of grandparents still take on a caring role by caring for their grandchildren at least once a week. For these lucky families, there are huge advantages for all involved when our youngest and elder generations get that time together.



### The role model

The unfortunate thing about wisdom is it takes time to attain. For most of us, wisdom comes with the passing of years and an abundance of life experiences. These experiences, triumphs and tribulations are why our grandparents tend to make such great role models. When grampa and grandma spend time with the grandkids, they are able to instil values such as; a sense of family, strong work ethic and standing up for what you believe is right without even being aware of doing so.



### The generational link

History, and family history in particular, provides children with a real link to their past. It lays foundations for the continuity of life and even an acceptance of the circle of life. Hearing about long passed away relatives and first-hand accounts of past events, both large and small, hugely enrich the life of a growing child, not to mention leaving them with ever-lasting memories.



### The security link

Having another level of love, attention and security from additional family members is something that genuinely helps shape your child as he or she grows. With none of the stresses of work and bringing up their own kids, grandparents have the precious time that helps in all stages of a child's development. Research has shown that not only does grandparent interaction improve language skills in pre-school children but might also have a positive influence on their health as well.



### The support network

As well as providing time, patience and oodles of fun for their grandkids, many grandparents provide an essential support network such as child-minding, babysitting, being a much-needed taxi service and more.

And, on the flip side, grandparents in turn get a whole heap of benefits from spending time with those just beginning their journey of life. Kids provide the in-built urge to pass on knowledge, something of which Nanna and Grandpa have a wealth to share. Children also help the older generation remain current, perhaps learning new skills such as use of the internet, sending emails, and using messaging services like What's App and Messenger to share photos. And, as most grandparents will testify, you get to make the most of all the fun parts of having children in your life, without the worry of sleepless nights, constant worrying and all the other 'joys' that go hand in hand with having kids.



## Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

The Victorian Health Department recently issued a public notice in relation to an increasing number of cases of whooping cough (pertussis) in Victoria, particularly among children aged 10-12.

Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory illness known for causing a cough, and can lead to life threatening infections in babies. Many babies who get pertussis catch it from older children and adults who might not even know they are infected.

Pertussis usually begins with cold-like symptoms, such as a dry cough (occurring in bouts), characteristic 'whooping' sound when breathing in, tiredness, runny nose, and low-grade fever.

**Please speak to your doctor (GP) and seek a diagnosis if your child is exhibiting any of these symptoms. Early identification and separation are crucial in preventing the spread to other children.**

Pertussis is mostly spread to other people by droplets from coughing or sneezing, so good hygiene practices and immunisations help prevent the spread. Immunisations are particularly important for infants and pregnant women.

If pertussis is diagnosed, your GP will advise on appropriate treatments. If you have any questions, please speak to your GP.

Read the full alert here:

[Increasing pertussis \(whooping cough\) cases in Victoria | health.vic.gov.au](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/increasing-pertussis-whooping-cough-cases-in-victoria)

### Legislated Exclusion Periods

For diagnosed cases:

- The treating doctor can provide specific advice in relation to exclusion periods from school, and can verify when exclusion periods can be ended.
- Children diagnosed with pertussis to be exclude from primary schools and children's services for a minimum period of 21 days after the onset of cough, or until they have completed 5 days of a course of antibiotic treatment.
- The treating doctor will complete the required

notifications to the Department of Health

- Schools should notify MACS via the report form on CEVN or at ohs@macs.vic.edu.au
- For contacts of diagnosed cases:
- **The exclusion requirement only applies to contacts who meet all three of these criteria:**
  - **aged less than 7 years;**
  - **in the same room as the child with the diagnosed case; and**
  - **have not received three effective doses of pertussis vaccine**
- Children meeting these criteria should be excluded for 14 days after the last exposure to the infectious case, or until they have taken 5 days of a course of effective antibiotic treatment.



## *This Weekend's Gospel*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
6:1-15

**He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.**

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough, he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

### *Gospel Reflection*

In the readings for Ordinary Time, we take a break from the sequence of readings from the Gospel of Mark for a few weeks and this week's reading begins a diversion into chapter 6 of the Gospel of

John. The whole of John 6 is an extended discourse that explores the image of Jesus as the Bread of Life. The chapter and the discourse begin with this week's miraculous feeding of the multitude. As this event occurs in each of the four gospels there is a compelling argument that there is some basis in fact or, at the very least, that the metaphoric image of Jesus feeding a crowd was an enduring one in Christian communities.

Jesus is described as testing the disciples, asking them where they might be able to purchase bread for the crowd. Phillip is overwhelmed at the thought of spending a fortune on enough bread for more than 5,000 people. A small boy nearby had a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, gave thanks and then had the disciples begin to distribute the food. When everyone had eaten their fill, the disciples collected twelve hampers of leftovers. Some commentators suggest that the twelve baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel – indicating that the message of Jesus will be enough to feed and sustain the whole of Israel. Having witnessed this miracle the people have a sudden insight into who they think Jesus might be – the promised Messiah come to free them from their Roman oppressors. Wary of the crowd's mistaken understanding of what the Messiah is to be, Jesus literally heads for the hills to avoid being made a political figurehead for the people.

### Living the Gospel – Plenty for all

The feeding of the multitude is a profoundly political statement. Quite simply, there is sufficient food in our world to ensure that no one should ever be hungry. Sadly, the distribution of that food is such that there are some in our world whose bellies are expanding from an excess of food while others' are distended from the lack of it. We can easily feed the entire world. It is the responsibility of those of us in the developed world with more than we need to bring about a more equitable distribution with those who don't even have enough to live.

### Different View – A miracle of sharing

Some scripture scholars suggest that the real miracle of the feeding of the multitude was not so much a multiplication of meagre resources by Jesus but rather a personal response by individuals within the crowd. It is suggested that upon seeing the willingness of Jesus (and the small boy whose food it was) to share the small amount of food available, everyone dug into their pockets and pulled out the small amount of food they also had and shared it with one another. The miracle was a breaking through from selfishness and isolation to a spirit of sharing and community.



### Gospel Focus – Messiah

At the time of Jesus there was a heightened expectation that the Messiah – the anointed one of God – would come and once again set the people of Israel free. However, there was great conjecture about what sort of person the Messiah would be. Some thought he would be a warrior king; others a wise priestly leader; others thought a shepherd-king in the image of David. Confounding all these expectations, Jesus' model of Messianic leadership was that of the servant leader; a leader who was one with the people, offering hope and meaning in the midst of their everyday suffering and struggling.





## 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



# Term 3

## Week 3

### Monday 29/07

- Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus
- 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

- Saint Alphonsus Liguori
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

### Friday 02/08

- Saint Eusebius of Vercelli
- 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

- Saint Jane Frances de Chantal
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm

### Tuesday 13/08

- Saints Pontian and Hippolytus
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm
- **Sacrament of Confirmation Family Night 6.00pm - 7.30pm (School Hall)**

### 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
- 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

- *Saint John Eudes*
- **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

- Saint Bartholomew
- **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)**
- **Father's 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

- Saint Gregory the Great
- 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

- *Saint Peter Claver*
- 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

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

#### Tuesday 17/09

- *Saint Hildegard of Bingen*
- *Saint Robert Bellarmine*

#### Wednesday 18/09

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

#### Thursday 19/09

- *Saint Januarius*
- 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**



# Star of the Week

## Prep A

Dante A - Always having a growth mindset and not giving up. What a great learner

Lual M - Excellent participation in whole class discussions

## Prep B

Christian D - For being a respectful and responsible member of Prep B. It has been fantastic seeing you settle into Term 3.

Matilda C - For being an inquisitive learner and constantly asking questions to further your understanding. Well Done!

## Prep C

Cyrus N - For naming the days of the week in the correct order.

Makayla M - For demonstrating the skills of segmenting, blending and isolating the different sounds we hear in words during our Heggerty.

## Year 1A

Avah P - For using her morphemic knowledge to read multisyllabic words, such as the word 'unpacked'.

Mary Z - For using morphemic and phonetic knowledge to spell multisyllabic words such as 'unfloatable'.

## Year 1B

Isabella M - For excellent skip counting by 2's and 10's in maths.

Luwayne S - For striving to give his best in everything he does and being a great role model for his peers.

## Year 1C

Zane S - For your amazing effort in recalling your heart words this week. You're a superstar!

Zoey T - For your excellent start to term 3. You have worked so hard this week! Keep it up

## Year 2A

Amelia G - For reading 'A Job for Clown' with improved fluency. Keep up the great work!

Olivia V - For improving her ability to segment and blend unknown words when reading. You are a super star!

## Year 2B

Peyton-Ivy F - For independently writing a detailed recount about your family trip to Bali. Well done, Peyton!

Latoya J - For demonstrating your understanding of naming arrays.

## Year 2C

Taylah D - For rereading and editing her recount writing to make improvements.

Lukas F - For learning how to spell new words when writing independently.

## Year 3A

Bunny M - For showing confidence and a growth mindset when sharing with the class ways to resolve worries.

Irah K - For showing her amazing ability to play 'Silent Night' on the Guitar. Great job!!

## Year 3B

Krishna C - For adapting smoothly to the school schedule and making a positive impact as a new member of 3B. Welcome!

Tayla F - For showing kindness and making sure our new student in 3B feels welcomed.

## Year 3C

Jason G - For demonstrating excellent listening skills during whole class discussions by responding to your peers.

Ayen A - For confidently identifying verbs and adverbs in a procedure text. Keep up the great work!

## Year 4A

Sifa A - For identifying the name and properties of 2D shapes and using two or more shapes to create new composite shapes.

William P - Using critical thinking to identify the modality of verbs and how they are used in context.

## Year 4B

Isabel R - For efficiently applying -ing rules when creating word sums for your spelling words.

Gabriel M - For displaying an excellent understanding when identifying the properties of 3D objects.

### Year 4C

Jedidiah R - For identifying the properties of 2D shapes and including vocabulary like equal and straight when describing the side.

Riley D - For demonstrating a clear understanding of the difference between facts and opinions when sharing her ideas on a given topic

### Year 5B

Aguer A - For always staying on task, completing work and engaging in class discussions. Keep it up!

Yumi N - For actively participating in all of our sessions and asking questions during writing. Great work!

### Year 5C

Harper K - For amazing effort with her Mathematics tasks. You are crushing it!

Jaiden G - For making good choices during class time in our first week back.

### Year 6A

Deng D - For participating enthusiastically in classroom discussions.

Asha A - For demonstrating enthusiasm and a growth mindset when simplifying fractions.

### Year 6B

Jaxon F - For working hard to identify the different types of figurative language types in narratives.

Julia T - For showing growth in cohesion in your writing. Great to see you using a range of synonyms and connective words to make your writing engaging.

### Year 6C

Reese P - For being able to order fractions with related denominators

Brody C - For being able to read a narrative passage and identify the language features used.



It's the things that happen behind the scenes that make all the difference. Parents such as Lisa make a huge difference to our ability to provide our students with the resources we have. In providing a little time each week, her contribution along with several other mums has allowed as many books to be put on shelves ready for our students to use, read and enjoy.

If you would love to make a difference, please let the office staff know as many hands make light work, not to mention a better learning environment for all our students.





Grade 6A have been learning about the use of foreshadowing and flashback devices in narrative writing.

**Back fill:** four boys entering an old, abandoned house but one of them is hesitant.

#### **Group 1: Jed, Charlotte, Gabriella, Elias**

"I don't think we should have done that," exclaimed Luke regretfully.

Luke suddenly remembered the time when he and his friend Johnny were being silly and were mucking around in a sewer and Johnny got stuck and severely hurt.

#### **Group 2: Sophie, Charli, Euan, Duot**

"Did the door just swing open by itself? I am getting goosebumps," whispered a terrified Bob.

Bob closed his eyes and shivered. The image of his old friend David opening this same door appeared in his mind. Bob opened his eyes and with a trembling hand turned the rusty doorknob. As the door creaked open it lept of its hinges and landed with a THUD!!!

#### **Group 3: Asha, Austin, Nikita, Mayen**

"Guys, I don't think we should be here" Marcus whispered nervously.

Every step they took felt like a warning, walking through this haunted house felt as scary as walking into a war.

A chill went down Marcus's spine which triggered the time he experienced (a walk through the haunted house) feeling he has always felt before.

"Why am I here?" Marcus anxiously thought as he followed the boys onto the second floor.

As Marcus reached the top step, the other boys pulled out their flashlights as the door creaked open, a faint scream echoed down the hall.

As the scream reached Marcus ears, it took Marcus back to the tragic car accident that occurred in front of this exact house five years ago.

#### **Group 4: Akot, Sienna. H, Olivia, Torsten, Madison, Mary:**

"What was that noise?" Jack asked nervously as he followed his friends inside. Jack remembered the time he got stuck in his old house, where his parents abandoned him. All those thoughts came back to him after he stepped foot inside the house.

#### **Group 5: Sienna. L, Luke, Peter, Madeline:**

"If someone gets hurt, I'm out of here", John shouted as the door shut behind them. John's mind jumped back to when he saw the news when a group of girls went missing in front of the abandoned house.

## Grand Final Results

Yesterday, Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> July, Mr Galea and Mrs Whitehand took two teams, made up of Grade 3 & Grade 4 students to Arnolds Creek for an AFL Tournament. We were blessed with dry and warm weather and overall had an amazing day.

Mrs Whitehand coached the girls team. They did exceptionally well given that most of the girls were experiencing the sport for the very first time. We are super proud of their efforts.

Mr Galea coached the boys team who put in an amazing effort winning 4 out of 5 games and putting them into the Grand Final. The game was a tough battle but in the end St Catherines of Siena came out winners with the final score being 42 to 23.

The teams and the coaches would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who came out and supported us!



### **Student Questions:**

1. What has changed since you went to school?
2. Do you wish you went to school now?
3. What was your favourite subject in school?
4. What time did school start?
5. What was one of your teacher's name?
6. What was your school called?
7. How many students were in your classroom?
8. What was your favourite grade level?
9. Who was your best friend? Are you still friends?
10. Did you like school?
11. What did you play at recess and lunch?



Students in **Grade 3A** loved asking their grandparents the questions listed above. The following are just a few responses that were shared with them.

- Playing with elastic
- Used to walk in the snow to school
- They liked to play tag
- The desks were fully wooden
- They used to play with marbles
- There were 40-60 students in a classroom
- Every lesson they had to move around to a different classroom
- Some of them are still friends with their school friends
- They had sewing and knitting classrooms

Our students are looking forward to their Grandparents visiting their classrooms next year and bringing with them, if they still have them, photos of when they went to school. How different will their photos look to our own!





**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)**



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