

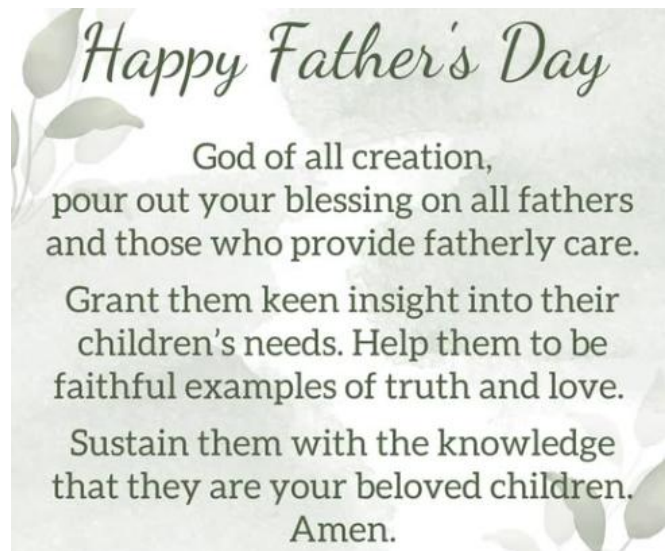


Friday, 5th September 2025

- Father's Day Celebration and Father's Day Prayer
- Year 6 Production Update
- MACSSIS
- Focus on Learning and Teaching
 - Year 6 Science Incursion
 - Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day
 - Year 5 Camp Parent Info Night
- AMT - Math's Competition

Father's Day Celebration and Father's Day Prayer

This week on Wednesday, 3rd of September, our dads and those who play father like figures in the lives of our children, enjoyed a hearty breakfast along with the opportunity to play games outside. It was fantastic to see so many dads attend. The sense of pride that each child expressed in their huge grins and eyes with dad beside them highlighted just how special it was for them to have dad visit the school and share this special occasion with them.



Year 6 Production Update

The countdown to the Production is on! Only 5 sleeps until the year 6's step on stage for the Production of Alice and Wonderland. Over 200 seats were released and have been snapped up by our school community. On behalf of all the Year 6 cast and Lauren Jamieson our Performing Arts teacher we look forward to hosting you soon and sharing all our hard work.

MACSSIS

One of the most powerful ways our families can influence school improvement is through participation in the School Improvement Survey.

An email was sent to every family on Monday, 1st September providing you with your family's personal number (PIN) for completing the survey with further instructions as to how to access the survey site. Please note that the survey needs to be completed by Friday 19th September 2025.

This survey may only be completed once. For families with more than one child attending our school, we ask that you focus on the eldest child attending the school when completing the survey. The school has invited all families to respond via this survey and participation is completely voluntary. There are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers – all responses are completely anonymous and at no point are any of the responses from students, families or staff identifiable by the school.

The survey is available in English, Arabic, Assyrian, Chaldean, simplified and traditional Chinese, Dinka, Falam, Hakha Chin, Karen, Tagalog, Vietnamese and Zomi.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact ORIMA Research on 1800 654 585 or macssis@orima.com, or Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) via email - macssis@macs.vic.edu.au.

We thank you for your ongoing partnership and as a school are looking forward to using this vital data to strategical plan for our school.

Focus on Learning and Teaching: Year 6 Science Incursion

Last Friday, our Year 6 students took part in a fantastic Mad About Science incursion. The session was highly engaging, and students enjoyed exploring the topic of light through hands-on activities and demonstrations. They learnt about how light travels, reflections, refractions and how shadows are formed.

The students showed great curiosity, asking thoughtful questions and participating with enthusiasm throughout the day. This incursion has provided a strong foundation for our Inquiry unit and students will continue learning more about light and its properties for the remainder of the term.

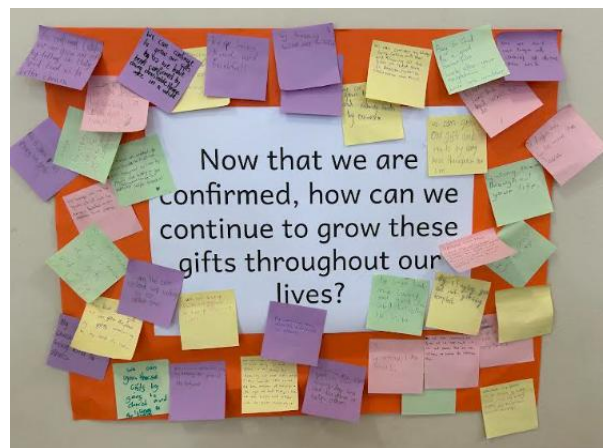
It was a wonderful learning experience that both inspired and challenged our Year 6s to think like scientists!



Focus on Learning and Teaching: Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day

Congratulations to the Year 6 candidates from St Catherine's, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation over the past two weekends. On Tuesday, 3rd September the students took part in their Confirmation Retreat Day, a special time set aside to reflect on the Sacrament of Confirmation and their faith journey. Throughout the day, students deepened their understanding of the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit and considered how these can guide them in their daily lives.

The retreat included opportunities for quiet meditation, prayer and creative art activities, allowing students to reflect personally and meaningfully on what it means to be newly confirmed. It was a wonderful day of faith, reflection and community, helping our students prepare to live out their Confirmation with courage and joy.



Spirit

Spirit of Love,
Make me loving
Spirit of Truth,
Teach me what is right.
Spirit of Wisdom,
Give me understanding.
Spirit of Power,
Give me strength.
Spirit of Gentleness,
Show me your way.
Spirit of God,
Be with me
Within me
To fill me and inspire me.
Amen



Focus on Learning and Teaching: Year 5 Camp Parent Info Night

Thank you to all the families who attended our Year 5 Parent Camp Information Night. It was a fantastic turnout and we really appreciate your time and support. During the evening, we shared key information about our upcoming camp to PGL Campaspe Downs in Term 4. Both students and staff are already looking forward to this exciting experience.

School camp is such an important opportunity for students as it allows them to develop independence, teamwork and leadership skills in a fun and supportive environment. The activities offered at Campaspe Downs are designed to challenge students, build confidence and strengthen friendships.

More detailed information about camp will be shared with families in the coming weeks. In the meantime, we kindly remind parents to ensure that their child's **medical details and dietary requirements are up to date on Operoo** so that we can best support every student while away.

We are excited for what promises to be a memorable and rewarding Year 5 Camp!



AMT - Math's Competition

Earlier this term, 44 of our Year 3-6 students participated in the Australian Maths Trust Competition. This competition consisted of 30 questions focusing on different mathematical skills from basic arithmetic, to geometry, to statistics and probability and even questions around problem solving. Some examples of these questions are below.

2. 2014 MP10

Cecily is 10 years older than Naida. Naida is 6 years younger than Joycelyn. If Cecily is now 42, how old is Joycelyn?

- (A) 32 (B) 34 (C) 36 (D) 38 (E) 40

5. 2014 MP25

In this magic square, the even numbers

2, 4, 6, ..., 18

are placed so that the sums of the numbers in each row, column and diagonal are equal.

What is the sum of the two numbers in the shaded squares?

	18	
14		6
		16

- (A) 12 (B) 14 (C) 18
(D) 22 (E) 28

Of our 44 students, we had 13 students receive a credit meaning they were in the top 55% of their year and region and 4 students receive a Distinction. Meaning they were in the top 20% of their year and region. All certificates for these students will be presented to them soon.

Congratulations to these students who participated in the competition, they have made the school proud.

AMC.

Matthew Galea, Numeracy Leader



This Weekend's Gospel

This weekend's Gospel reading is the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1, 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man."

And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

Gospel Reflection

In this passage from Luke, Jesus is a guest at a meal hosted by a prominent Pharisee. He is not merely a passive observer; he is actively watching and learning from the human interactions around him. He notices a scene that is familiar to us even today: people maneuvering for the best seats, jockeying for position and social recognition. It is from this observation that he offers two powerful lessons on humility and authentic generosity.

The first lesson comes in the form of a parable about a wedding feast. Jesus advises his listeners to take

the lowest seat, not the place of honour. This advice seems counterintuitive in a world that values ambition and self-promotion. Yet, Jesus explains the logic of true humility. By taking the lowest place, one avoids the embarrassment of being demoted and instead opens the door to being elevated by the host. This isn't a lesson in strategic humility for personal gain, but a profound teaching on the nature of honour. True honour is not something we can grasp for ourselves; it is a gift bestowed upon us. It comes from God, who sees our inner disposition and lifts up those who are not preoccupied with their own status. "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted." This is a fundamental principle of the Kingdom of God, a principle that challenges our cultural instinct to climb the ladder of success and recognition.

The second part of the passage shifts from a personal parable to a direct command to his host. Jesus challenges the social conventions of giving parties only for those who can repay the favour—your friends, family, and rich neighbours. This system of reciprocal hospitality is designed to maintain social standing and build networks, but it falls short of true charity. Instead, Jesus urges his host to invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. These are people who, by their very circumstances, are unable to repay the kindness. Jesus describes this as a fortunate act, not a charitable burden, because the "repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again." This teaching points to a higher form of generosity, one that is not transactional but transformative. It calls us to extend our table to those on the margins, to give out of pure love without any expectation of return. It is in this selfless giving that we find true blessing, not in the currency of social exchange, but in the promise of eternal reward.

Both lessons in this passage are deeply interconnected. They speak to a radical reordering of our values. The world says, "seek honour and social standing," while Jesus says, "seek the lowest place." The world says, "give to those who can give back," while Jesus says, "give to those who cannot." In following these two simple but challenging teachings, we move beyond the superficial pursuit of status and gain and enter into a life of authentic humility and selfless love.





Prep A

Remy Z - For identifying who is in your family, what special events you celebrate and a place that is special to you. Well done!

Tori T - For trying your best to expand a sentence by adding a 'where'. Keep it up!

Prep B

Valentina G - For being a knowledgeable learner and being able to identify the different people in your family.

Conleth G - For being a knowledgeable learner during maths and showing your understanding of capacity.

Prep C

Charlee-Rose P - For remembering our writing non negotiables and recording the sounds you hear during dictation. Awesome writing!

Hunter W - For writing creative sentences and recording the sounds you hear in words when writing. You're a super star!

Year 1A

Micah B - For always engaging in learning by sharing his great ideas.

Emily K - For engaging in learning with a positive mindset.

Year 1B

Abiei B - For demonstrating our PBL value of kindness and being a thoughtful friend to all.

Isabella N - For demonstrating enthusiasm towards her learning and always putting in effort into your learning tasks.

Year 1C

Achol A - For taking steps to becoming an independent learner. We are so proud of your growth!

Rubaab K - For your recent efforts in taking care in learning, by improving your handwriting and presentation of your ideas.

Year 2A

Aluel A - For your expanded sentences in your imaginative narrative story and for using lots of verbs

to describe the characters' actions. Fantastic writing Aluel!

Ava F - For always trying your best to complete tasks independently and for listening respectfully to others. Well done Ava!

Year 2B

Noah K - For inspiring and supporting classmates through your curiosity and knowledge during our water unit.

Connor K - For your kindness, positivity and constant smile that makes our learning space feel like home!

Year 2C

Xavier M - For your outstanding ability to read poetry with fluency, expression and tone that brings the stanzas to life!

Isabella M - For working hard to use structure, punctuation, adverbs and adjectives to enrich your writing. Your creativity and effort make you a true writing superstar!

Year 3A

Latoya C - For showing amazing effort and determination in learning to read, spell and analyse words in their contracted form.

Joshua O - For consistently showing kindness, respect and responsibility in the classroom. Keep up the amazing work, PBL Superstar.

Year 3B

Penny S - For your focus and effort with your learning. You always demonstrate being ready to learn and complete learning tasks to a high standard.

Isaac M - For your active participation in our daily reviews for Mathematics. It is great to see your continued engagement in your learning and the consistent development of skills.

Year 3C

Aaron D - For consistently following school policies by reading every night and ensuring his diary is signed.

Livia S - For making great progress in her multiplication skills, as shown in her 'pre' and 'post' test results. Well done!

Year 4A

Krishna C - For being an excellent role model in class routines such as 3,2,1 and Choral Responses. Your enthusiasm for learning is incredible! Well done!

Morgan G - For showing great growth in using figurative language and 'Show Don't Tell' to begin narratives with a 'Sizzling Start'. Amazing!

Year 4B

Harrison P - For his focus, dedication and support of others during our Inquiry building project.

Tayla F - For her focus, dedication and support of others during our Inquiry building project.

Year 4C

Zoey B - For your outstanding progress in our angle unit as shown in your 'post' test results – keep up the amazing work!!

Angeth B - For your outstanding progress in our angle unit as shown in your post-test results – keep up the amazing work!!

Year 5A

Christian L - For an awesome job on working hard to finish your tasks and giving it a go on your own. Keep up the great effort!

Peyton K - For a great job on your factual recount writing for our novel study of *The Durrarn*! You've included awesome detail and really shown your understanding. Well done!

Year 5B

Aalyiah Q - For the fantastic effort you have put into developing your ideas in your second body paragraph for your factual recount. Great work!

Xavier M - For always demonstrating our PBL values of kindness, respect and responsibility in the classroom. You are a fantastic role model!

Year 5C

Alison S - For an amazing work ethic and being an outstanding student. Well done!

Lucas N - For outstanding work during our decimal lessons and having a positive attitude towards learning. Well done!

Year 6A

Jaxson S - For your enthusiasm and active participation during the Mad About Science incursion!

Zion T - For your fantastic enthusiasm and engagement during the Mad About Science incursion, it was great to see your curiosity and involvement!

Year 6B

Lucas G - For showing wonderful improvement last week in staying focused during class and applying himself to learning tasks. Your effort and determination are making a real difference. Keep up the great work!

Benjamin E - For being an enthusiastic learner during our Mad about Science incursion last week. You asked thoughtful questions, participated in all

activities and showed a wonderful curiosity for learning. Well done!

Year 6C

Nazar G - For consistently asking questions in class, completing all tasks and homework with dedication and showing responsibility by always bringing work back on time.

Robert R - For thoughtfully applying feedback from last term to make positive personal changes and improve learning habits.

TERM 3

dates for your diary

Week 8

National Child Protection Week

Monday 08/09

- Year 4 Shelter Building Incursion
- Team Leaders Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Tuesday 09/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 10/09

- **YEAR 1 and 2 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am**
- Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
- **Year 6 School Matinee Production 11.30am**
- **Year 6 School Production 6.30pm**

Thursday 11/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm
- **Year 6 School Production 6.30pm**

Friday 12/09

- *The Most Holy Name of Mary*
- Instalment 3 - Family Fee Payment Due

Saturday 13/09

- *Saint John Chrysostom*

Sunday 14/09

- The Exaltation of the Holy Cross-RED

Week 9

Monday 15/09

- *Our Lady of Sorrows*

Tuesday 16/09

- *Saints Cornelius and Cyprian*
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 17/09

- **PREP ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am**
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 18/09

- Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Friday 19/09

- **End of Term 3**