



Friday, 24th October 2025

Celebrating World Teachers' Day – Friday, 31 October

Next Friday, we join with schools across Australia to celebrate **World Teachers' Day** – a special moment to recognise the extraordinary contribution our teachers make each and every day in the lives of children, families and the wider community.

At St Catherine of Siena, we are truly blessed with a dedicated team of educators who bring learning to life through their creativity, care and commitment. Each teacher not only nurtures knowledge and skills but also helps our students grow in confidence, character and faith. Their influence extends far beyond the classroom – shaping hearts and minds and inspiring a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.

This year's national theme, **"Hats Off to Teachers"**, invites us all to pause and express our gratitude. Whether it's a kind word, a simple thank-you, or a thoughtful gesture, these acts of appreciation remind our teachers just how valued they are.

On behalf of our school community, I extend my deepest thanks to our wonderful staff for their professionalism, generosity of spirit and unwavering commitment to our students. You embody the values of **kindness, respect, responsibility and safety** that define our school and make St Catherine's such a special place to learn and grow.

Happy World Teachers' Day!

Warm regards,

Des Noack
Principal

Important Reminders

- **2026 Sacramental Enrolment Night:** Wednesday 29th October at 7pm in School Hall
- **Year 3 Camp Parent Information Night:** Thursday, 30th October 2025 – 6:00pm, School Hall
- **Year 3 Camp Dates:** Thursday, 13th – Friday, 14th November 2025 (Sunnystones Camp, Merrimu)
- **Year 2 Swimming Program:** Monday, 27th October – Friday, 31st October
- **School Closure Day – 2026 Curriculum Planning** – Monday, 3rd November
- **Melbourne Cup Public Holiday** – Tuesday, 4th November

Year 6 Aspire Incursion



This term our Grade 6 students took part in the Aspire 2 Incursion Workshop — a high-energy, high-impact program designed to inspire leadership, teamwork and personal growth. Throughout the day, students were challenged to contribute their unique strengths, work collaboratively and reflect on the positive influence they can have on others.

Session 1 – The Power of Influence

Students explored what influence means and discovered the difference one person can make through their words and actions.

Session 2 – T.E.A.M.S

A dynamic team-building session focused on synergy, communication and the importance of working together effectively.

Session 3 – Battle of the Houses

The day concluded with an action-packed challenge, where students competed in their house

(or class) groups, putting their teamwork skills into practice.

Our students had an incredible time and left the workshop motivated, empowered and ready to make a difference!

Student Reflection

On the 9th of October, the Year 6 students participated in an ASPIRE incursion. When we arrived at the hall, we were greeted by two leaders, Gill and Alana.



Throughout the day, Gill and Alana led us through a range of fun and engaging activities. One of these involved pairing up with someone we didn't know very well- our BFFT (Best Friend for Today).

Another highlight was the class battles challenge. In one of these battles, our whole class had to jump over a large skipping rope together. We were very proud to win the challenge with a time of 1 minute and 1 second!



The activities helped us to further develop our leadership skills and work together as a team. The ASPIRE incursion also encouraged us to be more confident and prepared for secondary school next year.



Overall, it was an amazing day. We learned a lot about being an upstander and how everyone can be a leader- even if we don't wear a badge.

By Emma 6C

Building Resilience in Children: How Parents Can Help

By Des Noack, Principal

At St Catherine of Siena, we talk often about helping children grow not only in knowledge but in character — becoming young people who are respectful, responsible, kind and safe. One of the most important qualities that underpins all of these is **resilience** — the ability to cope with challenges, learn from setbacks and keep trying even when things don't go to plan.

Building resilience doesn't mean shielding children from every difficulty; rather, it's about supporting them to *navigate* life's challenges with confidence and optimism. It's something we teach and nurture at school every day — and parents play a powerful role too.

Here are some practical ways families can help build resilience at home:

1. Encourage problem-solving

When your child faces a problem, try not to jump straight to the solution. Instead, ask, "What could you try?" or "What might help next time?"

This shows trust in their ability to think through challenges and builds independence.

2. Praise effort, not just results

Focus on the *effort* your child puts in, not only the outcome. Phrases such as "I'm really proud of how hard you worked on that" help them understand that persistence and learning from mistakes are what matter most.

3. Model calm and optimism

Children learn a great deal by watching how adults respond to stress. When they see you pause, breathe and look for solutions, they learn that challenges can be handled in constructive ways.

4. Keep routines and boundaries

Consistency at home provides the safety net children need when life feels uncertain. Regular routines — bedtime, meals, homework — give structure and a sense of calm predictability.

5. Build strong connections

A child's greatest source of strength comes from knowing they are loved and supported. Spend time together, listen to their worries and celebrate small achievements. Encourage them to talk to trusted adults — parents, grandparents, teachers or friends — when something is troubling them.

6. Teach balance and wellbeing

Enough sleep, good food, outdoor play and downtime all strengthen emotional resilience. A rested, active and connected child is far better equipped to manage life's ups and downs.

When children feel secure, encouraged and supported, they become more willing to take risks in their learning, to care for others and to believe in their own capacity to make a difference. Together, as parents and educators, we can continue to nurture the resilience that helps our children grow into capable, compassionate and confident young people — true reflections of our school values of **Respect, Responsibility, Kindness and Safety**.

It's your reaction to
adversity, not adversity itself
that determines how your
life's story will develop.

DIETER F. UCHTDORF

School Fees & Levies Important Reminder

The school currently has **\$310,000 in outstanding fees and levies**.

For families who are in arrears for the 2025 school year and have not yet made a payment arrangement, we ask that you attend to your account as soon as possible or contact the school office prior to Friday, 14 November 2025 to discuss your situation.

We sincerely thank all families who have finalised their school fees or who have made arrangements with us to meet their commitments in a way that supports their family budget. Your partnership enables us to continue providing high-quality learning programs and a supportive school environment for every child.

By working together, we can ensure that St Catherine's continues to offer the best possible educational, community and faith-based experiences for our students and families.



Monty's Colour Fun Run – Thursday, 20th November!

Remember to create a profile page at www.myprofilepage.com.au and share your profile to family & friends to receive online donations.

Mix and Match prizes or send the donations to one of the causes available – The Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Carbon Neutral, OzHarvest, The Smith Family and Dolly's Dream.

Become a Fundraising Monstar and receive a Monty Handball by completing all your online virtual badges! Can you receive them all?



Prep A

Celina L - For trying your best to identify how many tens and ones in a tens frame. Keep it up!

Leon P - For showing great improvement and always giving new things a go.

Prep B

Ben N - For being a knowledgeable learner and when identifying the middle and final sounds in words during dictation.

Maddison C - For being a knowledgeable learner during inquiry when identifying features of an animal.

Prep C

Athena W - For making great attempts to record the sounds you hear during dictation! Awesome work!

Connor J - For making great growth on your Heggerty test! Well done!

Year 1A

Micah B - For demonstrating great phonemic awareness during Heggerty sessions.

Achirin G - For being a friendly and inclusive member of our class.

Year 1B

Lual M - For showing great interest and showing responsibility with your reading. Keep it up!

Quinn R - For showing growth in your learning and always giving everything a go. Keep it up!

Year 1C

Achol A - For clearly breaking consonant blends into two individual sounds in Heggerty lessons. Well done!

Grace D - For listening for the vowel sound we hear in the middle of words. Amazing effort Grace!

Year 2A

Logan B - For your excellent improvement in your reading fluency and comprehension. Well done Logan!

Eldana A - For all the time and effort you put into your reading. You are an epic reader! Amazing!

Year 2B

Bol P - For outstanding growth in your reading and advancing multiple levels through hard work and determination. Way to go!

Connor K - For showing enthusiasm in learning about halves, quarters and eighths. Your curiosity, effort and excitement for learning make you a true math star!

Year 2C

Mathew P - For achieving excellent results in our operations unit. Keep up the great problem solving, Mathew.

Jayden Z - For impressive growth in decoding and reading comprehension this semester. Miss Gill and Miss Nesci are so proud of you.

Year 3A

Zakai T - For being ready to learn and showing a fantastic attitude in the classroom! You consistently ask thoughtful questions to deepen your understanding and make the most of every learning opportunity.

Ben T - For showing great progress in learning! You consistently get your work done in a timely manner and have shown improvement in your focus during lessons.

Year 3B

Malual M - For demonstrating a great readiness to learn and a positive attitude in class! You consistently ask insightful questions that deepen your understanding and help you make the most of every learning opportunity.

Jairus - Leonard R - For being an excellent role model of the PBL values. You always demonstrate the four values of being kind, respectful, responsible and safe. What a star!

Year 3C

Sabrina S - For showing strong improvement in your multiplication tests. Keep up the great work.

Alexander Z - For consistently helping your teacher throughout the day, your reliability and thoughtful assistance are truly appreciated.

Year 4A

Guak D - For your great efforts and growth in your Writing and Math tasks this week. Awesome!

Gurnaaz K - For showing responsibility for your learning during independent activities this week. Amazing!

Year 4B

Rose L - For your contributions and insightful connections during our Literacy study of the bases 'rupt' and 'tract'. Excellent work!

Ivan D - For your dedication and efforts in learning time, showing focus and responsibility in your independent work. Great example!

Year 4C

Bunny M - For showing great effort and determination while demonstrating your understanding of division with regrouping. Amazing work!

Heath P - For your excellent work on your reflection about the Joyful Mysteries, showing amazing detail and deep understanding. Well done!

Year 5A

Jayden R - For showing awesome progress in your post location assessment. You have demonstrated an understanding of the first quadrant on the Cartesian plane and confidently read and plotted coordinates. Well done!

Riley D - For absolutely acing your post location assessment! You showed amazing understanding of Cartesian planes and nailed reading and plotting coordinates with confidence. Outstanding effort!

Year 5B

Alexander K - For the fantastic growth in your location post-assessment, showing a clear

understanding of Cartesian planes and coordinates. Keep up the fantastic work

Isabel R - For the impressive improvement shown in your location post-assessment, you demonstrated a strong understanding of Cartesian planes and coordinates. Well done!

Year 5C

Annabell G - For always having a positive attitude and giving your full effort every day!

Alison S - For consistently demonstrating excellence in learning. Your approach every lesson with determination and curiosity. Keep up the good work!

Year 6A

Charlie P - For working efficiently on your Rosary assignment - you are showing great commitment and enthusiasm and hope you continue to demonstrate such amazing effort.

Ira G - For your fantastic work on your novel study assignment - you demonstrated a deep understanding of the text and used a variety of sentence structures and grammar with skill.

Year 6B

Chadhor M - For showing excellent participation and enthusiasm during our Maths lessons on Cartesian planes. You have shown great focus, curiosity and effort in understanding coordinates and plotting points!

Majok M - For enthusiastically participating in all activities during the Life Saving excursion. You showed great teamwork, effort and a positive attitude throughout the day!

Year 6C

Aaliyah F - For putting in a great deal of time and dedication and for demonstrating the greatest growth on our post-test for measurement. Well done!

Liam M - For outstanding participation and exemplary behaviour during our Life Saving Excursion last week. Thank you for setting a positive example for others.

2025 ART SHOW

Please join us in celebrating the Arts at St Catherine
of Siena

The Theme For This Year's **ART SHOW** is
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

When: Wednesday, 5th November

Where: Artworks to be displayed throughout the main
building.

Time: 4:30pm - 6:00pm



Official Opening Presentation in the School Hall at 4.30pm!

Tea and coffee will be served in the Atrium.

Term 4 Dates for the Diary

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27 Week 4 *Year 2 Swimming Program Parent Support Group Meetings	28 *Year 2 Swimming Program Parent Support Group Meetings	29 *Year 2 Swimming Program Class Mass – Year 3 Parent Support Group Meetings Whole School Assembly 2:15pm *2026 Sacrament Enrolment Night 7pm	30 *Year 2 Swimming Program *Year 3 Camp Information Night 6pm Parent Support Group Meetings	31 *Year 2 Swimming Program Parent Support Group Meetings
3 November – Week 5 School Closure	4 Melbourne Cup Day	5 Whole School Mass 9:15am *Year 5 Life Saving Day - Altona Whole School Assembly 2:15pm *Art Show Opening Night 4:30pm -6pm	6 *Year 6 Camp Information Night 6:00pm	7 *Year 6 Transition Program with Melton Council
10 Week 6 *Prep 2026 Transition Session 1 9am - 10am	11 Remembrance Day	12 Class Mass – Year 2 Whole School Assembly 2:15pm	13 *Year 5 ASPIRE Incursion *Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones	14 *Year 3 Camp – Sunnystones
17 Week 7 *Prep 2026 Transition Session 2 9am - 10am	18	19 Class Mass – Year 1 Whole School Assembly 2:15pm	20 *Whole School Colour Fun Run	21 School Closure Day
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	3 Class Mass – Year 4 Whole School Assembly 2:15pm	4	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