



ST CATHERINE OF SIENA NEWSLETTER

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze"

Term 2, Week 3 8th May 2026

T: 9743 2166 E: principal@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au W: www.scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the month of May! Can you believe we are already in the fifth month of the year?

This past week has been filled with learning, an ANZAC Day service, the celebration of our Patron Saint, St Catherine of Siena and we ended with the celebration of Mother's, grandmothers and special mother-figures.

As we celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, we take the time to reflect on the important role mothers have as a carer, educator, spiritual and emotional guide and role model.

In Catholic tradition, the month of May is dedicated to Mary. Chosen by God above all other women, Mary's faith and obedience teaches us faith, humility and most of all, how to love.

For all mothers, grandmothers and for those who we honour as mothers, we pray this prayer as a blessing for you all.

*May the Lord bless you and keep you –
in times of joy and in times of trial.
May the Lord make his face shine on you –
that you, in turn, may be the face of God to those you mother.
May the Lord be gracious to you –
that you may be the instrument of grace in your families and communities.
And may the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace –
that you might bring peace to your homes, to your families, to your work and to your world.
Amen*

We wish you all a blessed and happy Mother's Day.

Lisa Black

Principal

St Catherine of Siena Primary School

Year 3 – Year 6 Athletics Day

Our Year 3 – Year 6 Athletics Day will be held on **Wednesday, 13 May 2026** at the Melton Athletics Track. Students will travel to and from the venue by bus.

Throughout the day, students will participate in a range of athletic events to earn points for their house colour. Students are encouraged to wear clothing and accessories in their house colours to show their team spirit.

Permission forms and further event information have been sent to all families via the Compass app. Please ensure permission is completed prior to the event. Students without permission will be unable to attend.



Junior School Kaboom Sports Afternoon

On **Wednesday, 13 May 2026**, students in Prep to Year 2 will participate in a fun-filled Kaboom Sports Afternoon at school. Students are asked to wear their sports uniform on the day so they can comfortably take part in all activities.

Throughout the afternoon, students will rotate through a range of exciting games and activities facilitated by the Kaboom Sports team. Kaboom Sports delivers engaging programs that promote teamwork, confidence, participation and healthy, active lifestyles through inclusive and interactive sporting experiences.

We look forward to an energetic and enjoyable afternoon for all students.



Mother's Day Celebration Thank You

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the mums, grandmothers, carers and special guests who attended our Mother's Day celebration. It was wonderful to see so many families come together to celebrate the important people in our students' lives. We hope everyone enjoyed the morning tea and time shared together.

We always value feedback from our school community and would welcome any comments or suggestions about the event to help us continue improving future celebrations. If you would like to provide feedback please [email the school office](#).



A special thank you also goes to the many volunteers who generously gave their time to help organise and run the Mother's Day Stall. Your support, time and effort were greatly appreciated and helped make the experience such a success for our students.

Preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist

Preparations for the Sacrament of First Eucharist are now well underway and we are pleased to see our students engaging thoughtfully in this important stage of their faith journey. The Sacrament of Eucharist is a special milestone as children prepare to receive Holy Communion for the first time.

As part of the preparation process, attendance at all key events is very important. These gatherings help students deepen their understanding of the Eucharist and prepare spiritually for the sacrament.

Important Dates

- Retreat Day: Tuesday, 20 May 2026
- Presentation Mass: Saturday, 23 May 2026 at 6:00pm
- Sacrament of First Eucharist: Saturday 30 May at 11:00am and 1:00pm



We ask all candidates and their families to make every effort to attend these important occasions, as participation forms an essential part of the sacramental program.

Booking Your Sacrament Mass Time

Families are reminded that they will need to book their preferred sacrament Mass time for Saturday 30 May. Two Mass options are available:

- 11:00am
- 1:00pm

Bookings will be made through the [School Interviews](#) platform or via the QR code. Further information regarding how to access bookings has been shared with families through Compass.



We keep all of our First Eucharist candidates and their families in our prayers as they prepare for this joyful celebration of faith.

Assembly Change - Week 4

Please note that there will be a change to our assembly schedule for Week 4.

Due to the Year 3 - Year 6 Athletics Day there will be no assembly on Wednesday of this week. Instead, our assembly will take place on Friday 15th May, beginning at 2:15pm.

Thank you for your understanding regarding this change.



Term 2, 2026

Monday

Tuesday


Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

11 Week 4 RACV Road Safety Incursion - Prep	12	13 Year 3 - 6 Athletics Day Kaboom Sports Prep - Year 2	14	15 Assembly @ 2:15pm	16	17
18 Week 5 Year 3 Excursion to Melbourne Museum School Advisory Meeting @ 6pm	19	20 Year 4 attending Parish Mass @ 9:15am First Eucharist Retreat Day	21	22	23 First Eucharist Presentation & Commitment Mass @ 6:00pm	24
25 Week 6	26	27 Year 3 attending Parish Mass @ 9:15am Assembly @ 2:15pm	28	28	30 Sacrament of First Eucharist 	31
1 June Week 7	2 Prep Excursion to Sovereign Hill	3 Year 2 attending Parish Mass @ 9:15am	4	5 School Closure Day	6	7
8 Week 8 King's Birthday Day	9 School Closure Day	10 Year 1 attending Parish Mass @ 9:15am Whole School Assembly @ 2:15pm	11	12	13	14
15 Week 9	16	17 Year 6 & Prep attending Parish Mass @ 9:15am	18	19 Semester 1 Reports released to parents	20	21
22 Week 10	23 Parent Teacher Conversations 3:30pm - 7:00pm	24 Whole school Mass - Feast of Sacred Heart @ 9:15am	25 End of Term 2 Parent Teacher Conversations 3:30pm - 7:00pm	26 School Closure Day	27	28
29	30	1 July	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Child Safe Standard 4

Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission-driven and legal responsibility to uphold and actively promote the wellbeing and safety of every student entrusted in our care. Our commitment to the protection of students ensures they have agency and voice about all matters that impact their safety. Our Catholic communities ensure systems, processes, policies and cultures encourage and respect the voices of children and young people.

This newsletter series provides an overview of what the Child Safe Standards are, how they are designed to help keep children and young people safe and what school governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) are doing to prioritise and achieve this.

Overview of Child Safe Standard 4:

To be aligned, schools must support the following:

- Families participate in decisions affecting their child
- The organisation engages and openly communicates with families and the community about its child safe approach and relevant information is accessible.
- Families and communities have a say in the development and review of the organisation's policies
- Families, carers and the community are informed about the organisation's operations and governance.

The Child Safe Standards

The Child Safe Standards are a set of guidelines that help organisations create safe environments for children and young people.

They make sure that children are protected from harm, listened to, and respected. These standards require organisations to have strong leadership, clear policies, and a culture that puts children first.

As a parent or carer, you can expect organisations to involve families, empower children, train staff properly, and respond to concerns quickly and respectfully.

"The role of the family in building a culture of life is decisive and irreplaceable" This quote comes in the greater context of Pope John Paul's message about the family being at the heart of the **"civilization of love"**.

What does this look like in a school environment?

- **Keeping families informed:** We provide parents, carers and the community with regular updates about child safety and wellbeing so everyone knows what is being done to keep children safe and so parents and carers can continue the conversation at home.
- **Inviting parent, carer and community involvement:** We create varied opportunities for families, carers and community members to participate in surveys, forums or school events that focus on child safety and wellbeing, and seek their feedback
- **Working together:** We build trust and open communication with families, carers and the wider community. We ensure families, carers and members of the community have access to a variety communication channels.
- **Welcoming different perspectives:** We are always open and welcoming of ideas that help keep children safe. We create varied ways for people to provide us with their feedback and share their ideas. We also actively seek to go beyond the school gate to meet families and the wider community at different places of learning, so we are all walking together.



How Parents, Carers and Guardians can get involved!

Child Safe Standard 4 is about making sure schools, families, carers and the wider community work together to keep children safe. Here are some simple ways families can help:

- **Stay informed:** Read school updates about safety and wellbeing
- **Keep talking:** Have regular, open conversations with your child about what safety feels like for them and how they feel when they are at school or other places away from home. Ensure they know they have trusted adults they can speak to if they are concerned. Make sure they know who these adults are.
- **Get involved:** Attend school events, take part in surveys or forums that seek your feedback. Let your children see that you prioritise this connection with the school.
- **Share your perspective:** Contact the school with any ideas or thoughts you have that will help everyone to keep children safe. You may be able to offer a unique perspective or idea that the school has not considered.

Want to know more?

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how we're supporting child safety, please get in touch.

More information on the Child Safe Standards can be found via the [Commission for Children and Young People \(CCYP\) website](#).

Check out these additional resources from below to learn more:

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AFIS): [Parents' Involvement in their Children's Education Community Engagement](#)

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL): [Strengthening Parent Engagement to Improve Student Outcomes](#)

