



*Laudato Si*  
"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents." N14 Pope Francis

#### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Fri 15 Aug** Feast of the Assumption. Mass for Yrs 3-6 at 11.00am. All welcome  
**Wed 20 Aug** 7.00pm PAB Meeting  
**Mon 25 Aug** Book Week Parade  
**Tues 26 Aug** Yr 3 Traffic School excursion  
**Thur 28 Aug** Author visit Chris Collins  
**Thur 4 Sept** Father's Day Stall  
**Fri 5 Sept** Father's Day Breakfast  
**Sun 7 Sept** Father's Day  
**Mon 8-Thurs 11 Sept** 2.10pm Performance Three Little Birds  
**Mon 15-Thurs 18 Sept** 2.10pm Performance Three Little Birds  
**Fri 19 Sept** End of Term 3 at 1.00pm  
**Mon 6 Oct** Start of Term 4  
**Thur 9 Oct** 9.00am Yr 6 Graduation photo

#### **PAB Meetings**

Wed 20 Aug 7.00pm  
Wed 19 Nov 7.00pm

#### **P&F Meetings**

Wed 5 Nov 7.00pm

**2025 Professional Development**  
**Days for staff - No school for the children**

**Term 4**  
Mon 3rd of November

1:00pm finish days at the end of each term  
Term 3 - Fri 19th September  
Term 4 - Tues 16th December (last day of the 2025 school year for students).

Dear Parents and Families,

Today (August 15), our school community came together to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, a significant day in the Catholic calendar. This feast commemorates the belief that the Virgin Mary was assumed into heaven, body and soul, at the end of her earthly life. It reminds us of Mary's special role in our faith and encourages us to follow her example of devotion and trust in God. Attending Mass on this holy day is an important way for Catholics to honour Mary and reflect on her life of faith and service.



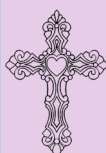
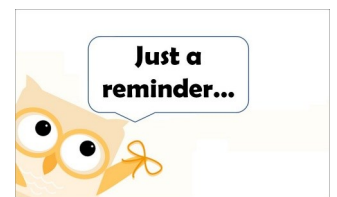
#### **Congratulations**

We would also like to offer our congratulations to our Year 6 students who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was a beautiful evening filled with joy and reverence. We were truly blessed to be joined by Bishop Martin Ashe, along with Fr. Peter-Damien, Fr. Peter Hoang, and Fr. Peter Zin, who each played a special part in making the celebration meaningful. Thank you to the staff, families, and sponsors who supported the students throughout their preparation. May our students continue to reflect on their chosen saints and be inspired by the gifts of the Holy Spirit that each saint embodied.



#### **School Fees Reminder**

Statements have been sent home as a reminder for families to make their next instalment of school fee payments. These fees are vital in supporting the school's ongoing needs, such as purchasing resources for students, maintaining our school grounds, and repaying loans for the new building. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.



#### *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Let us turn to God with our needs and the needs of the world. For the grace to imitate the faithfulness of Mary ... let us pray to the Lord. For the poor and the homeless; that those who have more will be generous in sharing with them ... let us pray to the Lord. For women expecting the birth or adoption of a baby and all who nurture life ... let us pray to the Lord. For the right to live for all God's creation ... let us pray to the Lord. For those who are sick, and the people who care for them ... let us pray to the Lord. For those who have died, and those who mourn them ... Loving God, you show mercy and kindness to all. Hear our prayers and help us to remain faithful disciples following the example of Mary. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Pilgrimage

Recently, our staff had the opportunity to take part in a spiritual formation day, immersing themselves in the charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Led by Sister Rita from the sisters of St Joseph, this day allowed us to reconnect with the mission and values that guide our teaching and service. Each visit brings a renewed appreciation for the tireless work and dedication of the Josephite Sisters.



### Whole School Dress Rehearsal

A heartfelt thank you to Ms Cam Tu for coordinating a successful whole school dress rehearsal. With the support of all staff, the day ran smoothly and the excitement among students was palpable. Their hard work and dedication were evident as their performances came to life. We know they are eagerly anticipating their time on stage during the upcoming performances. Congratulations to all students and staff for your fantastic efforts!



Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Warm regards,

*Caroline Madigan*

**Mrs Caroline Madigan**

**Principal**

[principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au)



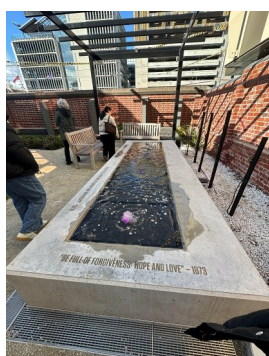
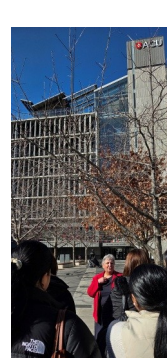
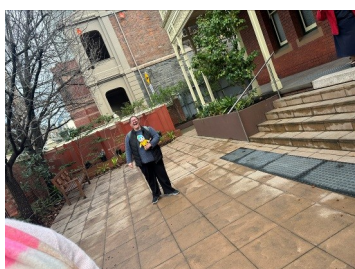
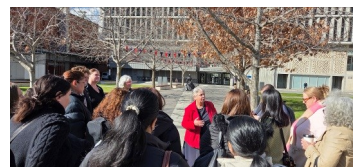
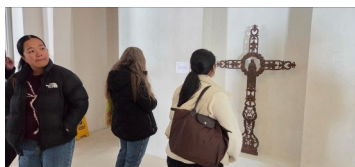
Thank you to everyone that supported Mrs Balbata in purchasing books for our Lamont Book Fair.

Mrs Balbata was very excited to pack up so many books to head home for a weekend full of reading.

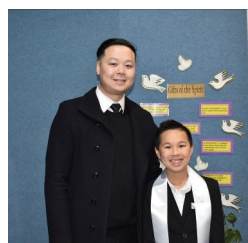
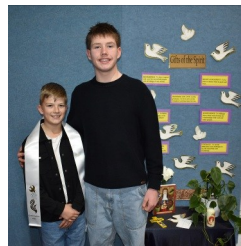
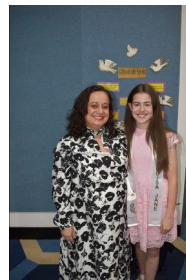
Your support is gratefully appreciated! Happy reading!!



# Our Staff at Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre Melbourne









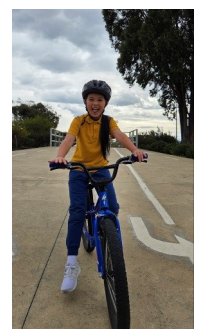
# Confirmation







# Yr 4 at Brimbank Traffic School





# BULLYING. NO WAY!

TAKE A STAND  
TOGETHER

[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

This year, Our Lady's school is once again participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action, 11 to 15 August 2025.

Bullying No Way Week is a commitment being made by thousands of schools and supporters across the country. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to bullying prevention. It gives us an opportunity to connect with students, staff and school communities to implement workable solutions to prevent bullying.

All classes have been engaged in learning sessions to further explore and highlight the importance of understanding what bullying is and what we can do together if it occurs.

**This year's theme across Australia for National Bullying No Way Week has been: Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up.**

It takes courage to spark change. Bullying is everyone's responsibility. It takes a community to be brave and address bullying behaviours, within and beyond the school gate.

Students can be bold, kind and speak up to support others being bullied. Trusted adults are there to support children and young people as they learn how to be kind to each other and report bullying.

This Bullying No Way Week, we're asking students, schools, families and communities to be bold and say something, be kind and support someone, and be proud to speak up against bullying.

As a reminder, the national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term

Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include:

- mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- not liking someone or a single act of social rejection
- one-off acts of meanness or spite
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.

However, these conflicts still need to be addressed and resolved.

Foundation I shared the learning they have been engaged in this week. It would be wonderful to take this opportunity to speak to your child about their learning this week.

Regards

*Mrs Christine Carabott*

Deputy Principal & Student Wellbeing Leader







### Reach your savings goals while supporting the community

Accounts with CDF Community Fund help fund loans for capital development works across Australia; from hospital wings for the sick, to safe havens for the homeless, classrooms for students and parish halls for community gatherings; CDF supports Catholic organisations in fulfilling their mission.

With online access, no fees for active accounts and bonus interest rates available on select accounts\*, saving with CDF Community Fund provides a way for you to contribute back to the community – it's a higher return than money alone.

A variety of accounts options:

- **Mission Saver Student:** A great way for young people to earn a bonus interest rate\* and build good saving habits while supporting local communities.
- **Mission Saver Plus:** Employees of Catholic organisations can earn up to 5.20% p.a.\* simply by saving more than they withdraw each month.
- **Term Investments:** Select the terms and timeframes that are right for you with competitive rates locked in for your chosen term.

To open an account and view current rates, visit [catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund](https://catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund) or call 1800 134 135.



\*Interest rates subject to change. Bonus rates apply only on Mission Saver Student and Mission Saver Plus account only when monthly deposits exceed withdrawals by at least \$1. View current rates, information statements and disclosures on the CDF website.



# BOOK WEEK IS COMING!!



## BOOK PARADE

MONDAY 25 AUGUST 8.45am in the Hall

Are you ready to dress up as your favourite book character?

If you could choose to be anybody from a book, who would it be?

You could be a superhero, a princess or a cat.

Who will you choose? Will it be a mask, a wig, a hat? Crazy socks look great as well!

Who will you be? What will you wear?  
We can't wait to see!!





**OUR LADY'S SCHOOL PRESENTS**



# **THREE LITTLE BIRDS**

**TICKETS ON SALE VIA TRY BOOKING**

**MONDAY 21 JULY 9.00am**

**Tickets \$10.00 per person**

**No ticket needed for performers**

## **SESSION TIMES**

**Monday 8 September 2.00pm Group 1**

**Tuesday 9 September 2.00pm Group 2**

**Wednesday 10 September 2.00pm Group 1**

**Thursday 11 September 2.00pm Group 2**

**Monday 15 September 2.00pm Group 2**

**Tuesday 16 September 2.00pm Group 1**

**Wednesday 17 September 2.00pm Group 2**

**Thursday 18 September 2.00pm Group 1**



<https://www.trybooking.com/DCMJ1>

**ALL SESSIONS IN THE FR JOHN MAHER AUDITORIUM AT  
OUR LADY'S SCHOOL**

**The performance is repeated for each session.**

**GROUP 1 - FI, 1K, 2M, 3E, 4G, 5C & 6A**

**GROUP 2 - FJ, 1L, 2N, 3F, 4H, 5D & 6B**



# GRAND UNITED CRICKET CLUB

## JR PARSONS RESERVE, SUNSHINE



### NOW RECRUITING JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS!



**Woolworths  
Cricket Blast**

FREE FOR SEASON 2025/26  
Ages 4 to 9 years old  
Saturday 18th October @ 9:30am

**Under  
10's**

**Under  
11's**

**Under  
13's**

**Under  
15's**

**Under  
17.5's**



**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST VIA THE QR CODE**

Junior Cricket Training EVERY Thursday Night  
Starting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 @ 4.30pm



**If you have any questions, please call:**

**Cameron Howitt**



**0412 642 526**

**Jack Hale**



**0421 526 500**



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Activities!**

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**Rhythmic  
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**Fun!**



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Activities!**



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Book 14 days in advance to secure the Early Bird Rate!





# Bullying: A Calm, Practical Guide for Parents

The reality is sobering: Australian children face some of the highest bullying rates in the developed world, with 7 out of 10 kids aged 12–13 experiencing harassment within a year—worse than nearly every other English-speaking country we're compared to.

International studies rank us among the worst performers alongside only a handful of nations. And evidence shows bullying starts in Early Learning Centres and continues right through school. It's not isolated to one age group, or one identity. Bullying is a huge challenge in every learning context throughout this country.

(Note. Many behaviours are unkind, but not all are bullying. Teasing, conflict, being left out, or one-off nasty or unthoughtful incidents—while hurtful—don't meet the definition of bullying.)

Bullying is:

- **Repeated**
- **Intentional**
- Aimed at causing distress or harm
- Involves a **power imbalance**

There are four types:

1. **Physical** – pushing, hitting, intimidating
2. **Verbal** – name-calling, mocking, insults
3. **Social** – exclusion, rumours, reputation damage
4. **Cyber** – online harassment via messages, posts, or apps

## Is Your Child Being Bullied?

Children often don't speak up about bullying. They might feel embarrassed or fear making things worse. They often feel that when parents and teachers get involved, things blow up.

You can ask your child if they're being bullied. Sometimes they'll say yes. But it can be easier to start broadly with questions like this:

- "Bullying happens at every school—do you see much of it at yours?"
- "Has anyone in your year been picked on or left out?"

This non-confrontational approach helps your child feel safe to talk. If they do open up, stay calm and listen. Bring it closer to home as the conversation progresses. "Have you or your friends been bullied?"

## The Best Response

**1. Stay Calm:** As hard as it is, take a breath. Your child needs your emotional steadiness.

**2. Explore Gently:** If your child discloses bullying, recognise their courage. Ask gentle questions to obtain more information. Don't offer solutions. Just listen, understand, and explore.

**3. Obtain Evidence:** If bullying is leading to damage to your child or their property, document it with photos, explanations, and time/date information. If bullying is occurring online, take screenshots as evidence.

**4. Speak With the Responsible Adults:** Bullying will usually be happening at school (or a sport club, church, or other structured context). Approach the teacher, year advisor, wellbeing staff, or responsible adult. Share what your child has told you and ask:

- “Were you aware that this was occurring?”
- “What support can we put in place?”
- “How can we help all the children involved learn from this?”

Aim to work *with* the school or organisation, not against it.

**5. Support and Coach Your Child:** Help them problem-solve. Role-play responses or safe ways to seek help. Older kids might value more autonomy; younger ones may need more scaffolding. Use questions like:

- “What do you think would help?”
- “Is there someone at school you trust?”
- “What would you like me to do?”

**6. Don’t Rush to Confront the Other Parent:** Even if you know them, approaching another parent rarely goes well. It can become defensive or combative, and it rarely solves the problem.

## When to Escalate

If bullying continues or the school isn’t responding, it’s okay to push for more action. Keep records of communication and meetings. Go to [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au), contact the board, go to the education department. Agitate for a response. Protect your child.

If the environment remains unsafe and you have the resources and options, consider other schooling alternatives. Your child’s mental and emotional safety comes first.

## If Your Child Is the One Bullying

It can be confronting, but it’s also a valuable learning moment. Stay calm. Focus on **teaching**, not punishing. Guide them towards empathy and responsibility. Ask:

- “What happened?”
- “How do you think the other person felt?”
- “What can we do to make this right?”

Handled well, bullying doesn’t have to define a child’s school experience. With calm, supportive adults guiding the way, kids can learn resilience, boundaries, and compassion. Step in when needed. Step back when it’s safe. Most importantly, stay connected.

For more resources, go to [Bullying No Way](#) – a national week of action uniting schools across Australia.



Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine’s Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia’s #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit [happyfamilies.com.au](https://happyfamilies.com.au).





# Commitment and Conflict



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



Jesus made it clear to his disciples that believing in him would lead to division. Circle the words below that can help us to deal with conflict in a positive way

Respect  
Forgive  
Blame  
Shout  
Listen  
Ignore  
Courage  
Argue

## Gospel

**Luke 12:49-53**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

Draw a picture of Jesus from one of the following bible stories where he was in conflict with others...

**Jesus Cleanses the Temple**

*Jesus drives out all who were selling and buying in the temple*

**Matthew 21:12-17**

**Jesus is rejected in his home town of Nazareth**

**Luke 4:16-4:30**

**Jesus Before the High Priest**

*Jesus is arrested and questioned by the High Priest, Caiaphas*

**Matthew 26:57-26:68**