



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

4 June 2026

olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter-Damien McKinley
Principal: Mrs Caroline Madigan
Parish Mass Times:
English: Saturday 9.00am, 5.30pm, Sunday 9:00am, 10.30am & 5:30pm
Vietnamese: Saturday 7.00pm, Sunday 12.30pm, Friday 7.30pm
Chin Hakha/Burmese: 2.30pm
Tongan: Every 1st Sunday 3.00pm
School Phone: 9312 2230
School website: www.olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady's is a Child Safe School



Christ beside me: Walking in the footsteps of St Patrick

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Fri 5 June No school for the children
- Report Writing for Staff
Mon 8 June King's Birthday Public Holiday
Fri 12 June 9.00am Sacred Heart Mass
Mon 15 June Yr 5 Jawbone Excursion
Wed 17 June Teeth on Wheels
Fri 19 June Reports published on nForma portal
Tues 23 June Teeth on Wheels, Yr 3 Kororoit Creek Excursion
Wed 24-Thur 25 June Three Way Learning Conversations (no classes for the students)
Fri 26 June End of Term at 1.00pm
Mon 13 July Start of Term 3
Wed 15 July 6.30pm Confirmation Parent Meeting
Tues 28 July Yr 6 Confirmation Retreat Day
Fri 31 July 7.00pm Year 6 Confirmation

2026 Professional Development Days for Staff

Term 2
Fri 5 June - Report Writing (Semester 1)
TERM 3 NEW DATES
Mon 10 & Tues 11 August - 2 Day Faith Conference for Staff
Term 4
Mon 2 November - Report Writing Semester 2
Friday 27 November - 2027 Planning

1:00pm finish days at the end of each term

Term 2 - Fri 26 June
Term 3 - Fri 18 September
Term 4 - Tues 15 December (last day of the 2026 school year for students).

Term 2 - Three Way Conversations (First Semester Reports)
Wed 24 and Thur 25 June

SACRAMENT DATES FOR 2026
Year 6 Confirmation
Friday 31 July at 7.00pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although this week has been a short one, it has been filled with wonderful learning experiences across our school. As always, our students and teachers have embraced every opportunity to learn, grow, and contribute to our school community. Thank you to everyone for their efforts and enthusiasm throughout the week.

School Mural

It has been wonderful to see so many students contributing to our school mural. The artwork beautifully tells the story of our learning, our local waterways, the impact of our actions, and the importance of caring for our Earth and local community. As students, staff, and families work side by side on this project, we are reminded that meaningful change happens when people come together and share their gifts for the benefit of others.

This message resonates strongly with Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, which reflects on safeguarding human dignity in an age of artificial intelligence and highlights the importance of authentic human relationships, collaboration, and our shared responsibility for the common good.

In true St Mary MacKillop fashion, the mural reflects our strong sense of community and our commitment to making a difference in the lives and education of children. Thank you to the parents who have generously offered their time and assistance with the painting. It has been a joy to watch the mural continue to grow and come to life.

Extra-Long Weekend Reminder

A friendly reminder that there will be **no school tomorrow, Friday 5 June, and Monday 8 June.**

I wish all of our families a warm and restful long weekend. May it be a wonderful opportunity to relax, recharge, and enjoy time together. Take care, and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on **Tuesday 9 June.**

Kind regards,

Caroline Madigan



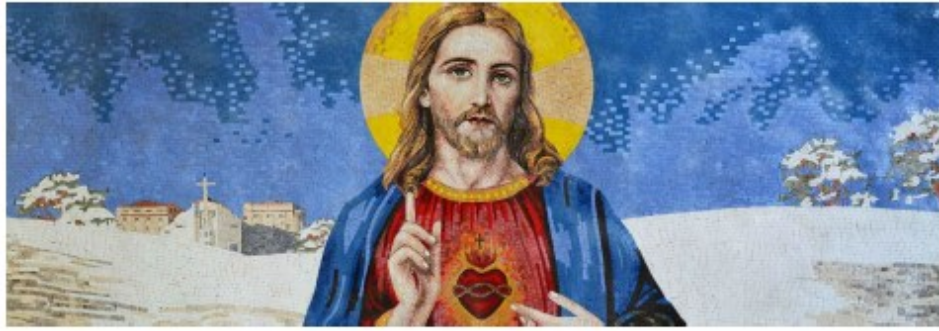
Rainy Days

Pitter, patter on the glass, the rain is wet and comes so fast
Rainy days, they help plants grow, rainy days, they're fun - I know
It falls from clouds up in the air, Big drops, small drops, everywhere
Splashy puddles, drips and drops.
Thank you, God, for rain - a lot!



'You take care of the earth and send rain to help the soil grow all kinds of crops. Your rivers never run dry, and you prepare the earth to produce much grain.' Psalm 65:9

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Whole School Mass

Friday 12th June 2026 9.00am in Our Lady's Church

Please Join US

As we prepare for the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we will be collecting **new and used clean quality blankets, beanies, gloves and scarves**. Please drop them off to your child's classroom or to Mrs Cuni's Planning Room, downstairs in the St Joseph of the Sacred Heart building.



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

2026 WINTER APPEAL



BUY A HEART FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL

We have launched our FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART fundraiser on the QKR app where you can buy a heart to help those in our Sunshine community. All money raised will be given to St Vincent De Paul who will help those in need.

You can buy a SMALL individual heart for \$2 with your child's name or a BIG family heart for \$5 with your family name. All hearts will be made by our Year 6 Faith Leaders and will be displayed in the hall. We hope you will support this wonderful initiative. We look forward to seeing our hall filled with hearts and showing our love for one another!




AUSKICK NEWS




Come down and join us for the WFNL All Girls Come & Play Auskick & Superkick FREE Clinic!

Held at Arden Street, North Melbourne between the Interleague Under 14 & Under 15 games, this is a great opportunity for girls of all skill levels to get involved, have fun, make new friends and experience AFL in a welcoming environment.

 Arden Street, North Melbourne

 Saturday 6th June

 12:00pm

For ages 4-12 years old!

Register your interest here: [Register Here](#)

We can't wait to see you there!



WFNL ALL GIRLS AUSKICK & SUPERKICK FREE CLINIC

ARDEN STREET, NORTH MELBOURNE
SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 12PM



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



Twilight Discovery Tour

Thursday July 16 5:00-7:30pm

**SECURE
YOUR PLACE
TODAY**



SCAN OR CLICK CODE

Accepting Enrolments for 2028. Applications Close 14 August.

**** LIMITED NUMBER OF 2027 ENROLMENT SPACES REMAIN! ****



Last chance
to register
your child!



TeethOnWheels®
a positive dental experience

Sign Up Today!



Learning Can Be Fun with Teeth On Wheels!

At Teeth On Wheels, we believe fostering healthy habits should be fun and engaging for children. Our program brings a vibrant, interactive dental experience to your child's school, teaching them the importance of oral health in an enjoyable way. Good oral hygiene doesn't just mean a sparkling smile, it sets the foundation for lifelong health, boosting confidence, communication, and overall well-being. By making dental care accessible and enjoyable, we help children develop positive habits that benefit them for years to come.

Phone : (03) 93381191

Email: info@teethonwheels.com.au

Final Reminder – Teeth On Wheels Visit

Teeth On Wheels will be visiting our School for dental check-ups starting on June 17th 2026.

We understand that dental visits can feel intimidating for children, which is why Teeth On Wheels makes oral health education both fun and engaging. When children enjoy their experience with the dentist, it sets a foundation for positive oral health habits that last a lifetime. Fun, hands-on activities help children develop good habits like regular brushing, flossing, and understanding the importance of healthy teeth. This enjoyable approach not only reduces fear but empowers children to take ownership of their oral health. By creating a positive experience at an early age, we are setting the stage for healthier smiles and stronger habits throughout their life.

The cut-off date for completing your child's form is June 10th 2026.

For any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Teeth On Wheels team at (03) 9338 1191.



OUR TERM 2 THEME ACTIVITIES FOR EXTEND IN ACTION!

It has been wonderful to see the children in our services engaging with our Term 2 theme activities for,

LEARN, GROW, BUILD!



You may have noticed the children engaging in one of our Term 2 theme-based activities, **Future Self Portraits**, along with working as a team to create the **“Small Wins” board**. It’s so inspiring to see what careers the children aspire to pursue in their futures. By nurturing their big dreams and celebrating their daily progress, we are helping them build the confidence they need to succeed in whatever they do next!



WE'RE LOOKING FOR OUR NEXT STAR!

If you're ready for a rewarding career in Outside School Hours Care, we want to meet you!

Check for local opportunities and apply today:

theextendgroup.com.au/careers/

**FUTURE SELF
PORTRAITS, SMALL
WINS BOARD &
YUMMY FOOD!**

**ENROL AND BOOK NOW FOR TERM 2 WITH EXTEND!
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT EXTEND.COM.AU TO BOOK**



Friendship is a Skill

By Dr Justin Coulson

Speak to any school leader, psychologist, teacher, or person involved with children in a kindergarten or school and ask them what the most common challenge they confront is when dealing with students - and the answer will almost always be the same:

Friendships.

Friendships are at the very heart of our wellbeing - or our distress. The quality of our relationships is core to our happiness. Researchers have found that [“school belonging”](#) is a predictor of everything from grades to life satisfaction - [even a decade after school has ended](#). Academic achievement, self-concept, behaviour, and thinking all improve when kids feel they “belong”. And they’re less likely to drop out of school (or have sick days). Friendships are core to that sense of belonging.

If friendship and belonging matter so much, why are they such ongoing sources of challenge for children and the adults who try to support them?

During the 1980s, influential British social psychologist Michael Argyle, and his collaborator, Monika Henderson, conducted a [series of studies](#) on what makes a friendship flourish or fail. They identified six rules essential for maintaining a stable relationship. These were:

1. Standing up for the friend in their absence

Loyalty is a powerful relationship builder. We teach this (at any age, including for those of us over 18) by explaining that it means not laughing along when someone makes fun of your mate, and not staying silent when gossip is spreading.

A child who says “Actually, that’s not fair, she wasn’t even there” is being a friend - and the courage and loyalty it requires is what builds a strong friendship. Teach kids that real friendship happens when the person isn’t in the room.

2. Sharing important news with the friend

Friends keep each other in the loop. If your child hears that the whole group is going to the movies and someone is being left out, they’ll stand up for their friend, encourage others to include them, and make sure they include them in things.

Good friends share. They don’t share everything, but they do share the things that matter. And they also know what *not* to share. (Like: “everyone was talking about you at lunch today and said you have stinky breath.”) Encourage your child to think: *Would I want to know this if the roles were reversed?*

3. Providing emotional support when it's needed

This doesn't require a twelve-year-old to become a therapist. It mostly just means showing up. Providing emotional support isn't knowing how to "emotion coach". It's sitting with a friend who's had a rough day, texting to check in after something hard happened, and not brushing it off with "you'll be fine" or changing the subject to talk about "me".

Kids who learn to notice when someone's not okay - and know how to say something caring and kind - are building friendships that last.

4. Trusting and confiding in each other

Friendship deepens when people share something real about themselves. That feels risky, and for a lot of kids it is. Vulnerability leaves you open to being hurt, but it's also the key that unlocks deeper commitment and relationship.

If your child tells you a friend shared something personal, help them understand that holding that confidence is one of the most important things a friend can do. Breaking it is one of the fastest ways to destroy a friendship.

5. Volunteering help when it's required

The key word here is *volunteering* rather than waiting to be asked. A good friend notices when someone is struggling and offers before being prompted. A child who sees a classmate trying to carry too many things and just picks some up, or who asks "do you want help with that?" without being told to, is practising one of friendship's core skills.

6. Making an effort to make the other person happy

This is about small, intentional kindness. Remembering a friend's birthday. Saving them a seat. Saying "I thought of you when I saw this." Children who grow up understanding that friendships require active maintenance are far better equipped to keep them.

None of this is complicated, but none of it is automatic either. Children don't arrive knowing how to be good friends. They learn it, mostly by watching the adults around them, and occasionally by being taught directly.

The good news is that the rules Argyle and Henderson identified forty years ago are still the right ones. They haven't been disrupted by social media or complicated by AI or made obsolete by any generational shift. Loyalty, support, trust, and kindness are still what friendship runs on.

If your child is struggling socially, ask which of these six they're finding hardest and start there. Friendship is a skill. And like every other skill, it improves with practice and a little guidance from someone who cares.



Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. Justin travels all around the country, speaking at schools to students, educators and parents about wellbeing and relationships. He is also 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. Justin has written 11 books about families and parenting - with the latest about [raising boys](#) out now! For further details visit happyfamilies.com.au.



Whoever eats this bread will live forever



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Year A

Gospel Jn 6:51-58

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another:

'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life,

and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food

and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me

and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father,

myself draw life from the Father,

so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven;

not like the bread our ancestors ate:

they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Can you work out which two of these pictures are the same?



Dear Lord,

_____ Amen.

Write a prayer of thanksgiving to God that you can say before every meal.

