



Christ beside me: Walking in the footsteps of St Patrick

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Mon 7 Sept Yr 6 Museum, Yr 1 Botanic Gardens
Thur 10 Sept Yrs 1/2 Camp Afternoon 3.00-4.30pm
Wed 16 6.00pm SAC Meeting
Fri 18 Sept 1.00 End of Term 3
Mon 5 Oct Start of Term 4
Thur 8 Oct Yr 6 Graduation Photo
Fri 16 Oct Colour Run
Thurs 22 Oct Yr 3/4 Camp 3.00pm-7.00pm
Mon 2 Nov Report Writing Semester 2
Tues 3 Nov Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

2026 Professional Development Days 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 3 - Fri 18 September
Term 4 - Tues 15 December (last day of the 2026 school year for students).

Dear Parents and Families,

A Wonderful Week of Celebration and Community

As we come to the end of another eventful week, I would like to sincerely thank our wonderful staff, students and families for the many ways you continue to contribute to the life of our school. It has certainly been a busy and joyful week, filled with opportunities to celebrate our community and the special people within it.

Thank You to Our Parents and Friends Group

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our **Parents and Friends Group**, who organised the wonderful opportunity for students to purchase a small gift for their significant father figure at our **Father's Day Stall on Thursday**.



A great deal of careful planning and organisation went into getting the stall up and running, and we are incredibly grateful for the time and effort that went into making the day such a success. It was particularly wonderful to see the number of volunteers who graciously put their hands up to help on the day.

Many of our students walked away with a carefully selected gift, excited to have something special to give to their father figure as part of Sunday's Father's Day celebrations. Thank you to everyone who helped create such a memorable experience for our students.

Happy Father's Day!

This morning, we were overwhelmed by the wonderful number of significant father figures who attended our Father's Day Breakfast. It was lovely to see everyone catching up, sharing conversations and enjoying the hospitality provided by our school community.



A very special thank you goes to our **Year 6 students, including our Faith Leaders**, who led us in prayer this morning. They worked closely with **Mrs Tania Cuni** to

Father's Day Prayer



Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.

Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience. Support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you.

Lord, we thank You for the gift of fathers. May they feel appreciated, valued, and loved. Fill their hearts with Your peace and joy. Amen.

prepare and share some beautiful words, helping us to reflect on the important role father figures play in the lives of our children.

To all our fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, uncles, and other significant father figures, we wish you a very **Happy Father's Day**. Thank you for the love, guidance, encouragement and support you provide each and every day.

We hope you enjoy a special day with your families and take the time to cherish those small moments that become treasured memories.

Father's Day Prayer

We pray that today, all the wonderful fathers get the praise they deserve.

Thank you to all the fathers that have given it all for their children.

Thank you to all our grandfathers, step parents, uncles, brothers and other male figures in our life, especially those who have stepped up in this role.

Thank you for being in our lives. We appreciate and love you so much.

May the Lord bless you and keep you in times of joy and in times of trial. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and give you peace in your home, your work, and your world. Amen.

Let us pray the Our Father together...

Year 6 Faith Leaders Prayer

Spring and Allergies

There is a hint of warmth in the air, and our gardens are beginning to respond to the changing seasons. As we welcome the arrival of spring, we are also reminded that this time of year can trigger a range of allergies.



We have noticed a number of students experiencing itchy eyes, sneezing and sniffles. If your child has an allergy action plan or is susceptible to allergic reactions, now is a helpful time to review their needs and address any known allergies.

The school will always do our best to support students who require assistance in managing allergy symptoms while they are at school. If your child becomes unwell, parents and carers will be contacted as appropriate.

Thank you for helping us keep our students safe, comfortable and well as we move into the warmer months.

Year 1 Staffing Update

It is with great excitement and pleasure that I announce that **Miss Rachel Wilson** will be the replacement teacher for **Mrs Rochelle Kumar** in Year 1L. We have been very fortunate to have Miss Rachel working closely with the Year 1 team throughout this term while she covered Mrs Granata's position. During this time, Miss Rachel has developed strong and positive relationships with the students across the year level and has become a familiar and valued member of the Year 1 team.



Miss Rachel has been fully involved in the **planning, assessment and delivery of the curriculum** throughout the term. Her knowledge of the students, understanding of their learning needs and involvement in the Year 1 program will support a smooth and successful transition.

I am also pleased to confirm the following staffing arrangements:

- **Mr Anthony Paladino** will take full responsibility for **1K**.
- **Miss Rachel Wilson** will take full responsibility for **1L**.

Both teachers will continue to work closely together as part of the Year 1 team for the remainder of the year, ensuring consistency and continuity across the year level.

We are confident that these arrangements will provide our students with a smooth transition and allow them to continue to thrive in their learning.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank **Mrs Rochelle Kumar** for her wonderful contribution to our school and to the Year 1 students. While we are not formally farewelling Mrs Kumar just yet, we look forward to celebrating her contribution and farewelling her appropriately towards the end of the term.

Please join me in congratulating **Miss Rachel Wilson** on her appointment and welcoming her into her new role within our Year 1 team. We are very excited to have her continue working with our students and look forward to the wonderful things she will bring to the remainder of the school year.

  **GET READY FOR OUR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!**  

 **We're Calling on Our Wonderful School Community!**

The festive season is just around the corner, and we're getting ready to make our **Christmas Raffle bigger and better than ever!**



We're inviting families and local businesses to get involved by donating a **prize, product, voucher or experience**. No contribution is too big or too small!

 **WHAT COULD YOU DONATE?**

-  • Gift vouchers
-  • Dinner for two
-  • Electrical items
-  • Movie tickets
-  • Experiences
-  • Gift hampers
-  • Products or services

 **SUPPORT LOCAL. GIVE LOCAL. WIN LOCAL.**

By donating to our Christmas Raffle, you are helping us bring our school community together while also **supporting and promoting businesses within our school community**.

All businesses that generously donate will be **promoted in our school newsletter throughout Term 4** as a special thank you for supporting our school.

 **Ready to donate?**

Please contact the **school office** to arrange your contribution

Email us on enquiries@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au or come in to see us.

 **LET'S MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE ONE TO REMEMBER!** 

Every donation makes a difference — and every prize brings a little more Christmas cheer!

Warm regards,

Caroline Madigan

Mrs Caroline Madigan

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au

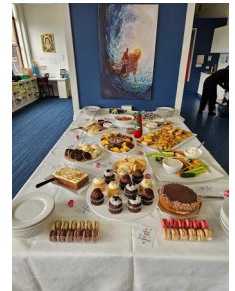


LSO *week* APPRECIATION



*There are some very special people in our school who we must congratulate
And for all their hard work, we must stop and celebrate
To thank them for everything is one mighty task
Because they bring so much care and support to each class.
With kindness and compassion and patience and care
Our wonderful LSOs are always right there.
They're part of the classrooms, the laughter and fun too
The learning, the friendships and the excursions they go to.
They know all our children and all their unique ways
And bring something special to each of their days.*

*They listen to stories, watch dances and songs
They laugh at their jokes and help the children belong.
They celebrate moments, help students be great
And greet all of our families at our school gates.
They work beside teachers and help students feel seen
Teach students to be independent and how to work in a team.
They know our children and they help them to grow
They help them see 'yet' when they say they "can't" or "don't know".
The children may not remember all the work that they've done
The lessons, the learning, the writing and fun.
But long after their primary school days are through
They'll remember the people who cared like our LSOs do.
They'll remember the chats, the laughter and care
The feeling of knowing that someone was there.
The LSOs who saw them and knew them by name
And made them feel happy each day that they came.
To all our LSOs, thank you for everything.
For the joy and the kindness and the compassion you bring
And we hope that you always know (and not just once a year)
That our school is so much richer because you are here.
You're valued and appreciated for all that you do
And we're incredibly lucky to have each of you.*



Ms Connie D'orazio, Mrs Toni Balbata, Mrs Lynda Gardy, Mrs Frances Mafodda, Mrs Nora Tomelty, Mrs Catherine Elarmaly, Mrs Gina Callanan, Ms Jess Ferguson, Mrs Lorraine Bugeja, Ms Kathleen Caruana, Mr Angus Hamilton, Mr Rocco Di Torro



North Melbourne AFLW All-Girls Auskick & Superkick Clinic at Arden Street Oval

AFL Victoria and North Melbourne Football Club are excited to offer an **All-Girls Auskick & Superkick Program** held at the home of the Kangaroos, **Arden Street Oval**! This unique experience gives girls the opportunity to develop their AFL skills, make new friends, and be part of the excitement of the AFLW season.



Program Dates & Times:

Sunday, 13 September 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Sunday, 11 October 10:30am - 11:30am

Sunday, 4 October 11:00am - 12:00pm
Saturday, 31 October 1:00pm - 2:00pm (AFLW Match at Windy Hill)

The last session begins **two hours before the AFLW match**, allowing participants to enjoy a fun clinic before watching North Melbourne AFLW in action.



Cost: \$55 per participant



Special Offer: Use discount code **BA23CF29** to receive **\$20 OFF** your registration.

Auskick (Ages 4-7) Registration Link: <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/31023d>

A fun and inclusive introduction to AFL, helping girls build confidence while learning fundamental football skills.

Superkick (Ages 8-12) Registration Link: <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/928569>

Perfect for girls looking to further develop their skills, play games, and build teamwork in a supportive environment.



Why Participate?

- Train at the iconic **Arden Street Oval**
- Learn from AFL Victoria staff
- Enjoy an all-girls football environment
- Develop new skills and confidence
- Make new friends and be active
- Experience the excitement of AFLW match day



To register, simply scan the QR code on the flyer or use the registration links provided.

If you have any questions, please contact **Marlon Carub** at marlon.carub@afl.com.au.

We look forward to seeing you at Arden Street for a fantastic AFLW experience!



ALL-GIRLS AUSKICK & SUPERKICK

Each session begins two hours before the AFLW game commences!

Sessions:
 Sunday, September 13 | 1pm-2pm | Arden Street Oval
 Sunday, October 4 | 11am-12pm | Arden Street Oval
 Sunday, October 11 | 10.30am-11.30am | Arden Street Oval
 Saturday, October 31 | 1pm-2pm | Arden Street Oval (Match at Windy Hill)

Secure a spot for **\$55**
 Use voucher code **BA23CF29** and receive \$20 off!

Register for Auskick

Register for Superkick

SIMONDS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Part of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools

Shaping Men of the Future Begin his journey today.

2028 application process now open!

Click or scan for tour bookings and more!

Still weighing your options for 2028? You're not alone, **and it's not too late.** Join us for a Talk & Tour this Term 4, and see where his story begins.

SCHOOL ZONES



Following the rules together and keeping our children safe

School Zones operate between 8:00am—9:30am and 2:30 pm—4:00 pm during school terms. A speed limit of 40km/h must be followed. Council Officers can issue fines when they are on patrol.

Working together to keep our children safe

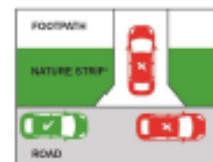
DROP OFF & PICK UP ZONE

- This area is a drop off and pick up children only.
- Drivers need to stay in their car and not leave vehicles unattended.
- It is a 2 minute parking zone during pick up and drop off times.
- By everyone following the 2-minute time span, it allows a lot of parents to pick up their child and ease traffic congestion.



DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

- It is illegal to park on or across a driveway, footpath or any other vehicle access.



PEDESTRIANS FIRST!

- Please watch for children and adults crossing the road. Hold hands when crossing.
- Drive slowly on the roads around Our Lady's School.



PARK SAFELY. PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE ROAD OR DOUBLE PARK

- Park safely near the Church on Ryder Pl, or opposite the Pick up/Drop off zone or park near the surrounding streets and walk to the school.
- Please DO NOT stop in the middle of the street to let your child get in or out of the car.
- Stopping next to legally parked cars is not permitted.
- Dropping off or picking up passengers is not permitted.



Talking to Kids About Sexual Assault in the News

The most important thing in this article - and the thing our children need most to understand - is the following sentence:

Healthy masculinity means helping the people around you feel (and be) safer and stronger.

In recent weeks, accusations of atrocious actions by boys and men that have resulted in terrible, and possibly lifelong, impacts on the girls and women who are victims of these alleged crimes. And I've been inundated with requests from media outlets, all asking the same questions:

How do we talk to our kids about this? And

How do we keep our boys from causing harm and our girls safe?

In this article I want to briefly respond to both of these questions to help you have age-appropriate discussions with your children - because these questions matter for kids of all ages.

Talking to our Children About These Stories

It's natural to want to cocoon your kids from these topics, *and at a younger age you probably can.*

But as they mature, silence will not be protective. They'll be on the bus or in the playground and they'll hear about their favourite footballers in the news. Someone will speak about the alleged assault involving young teens in an alleyway. If you're not open to a conversation, they'll build the story (and their attitudes) without you.

Once your children are at Grade 4 or beyond, it's a discussion *you* could start with a simple, "What have you heard about this?" Alternatively you could ask, "Are the kids at school talking about that news story where...?"

Your children are going to read your face as they talk with you about these tricky topics. If they see that you are in control, regulated, and capable of having a considered conversation, they'll be more likely to disclose to you than if you have a head full of steam and launch into a lecture.

The developmental framework for how to talk about these stories goes like this:

ELC to Year 3 - don't raise the topic unprompted. They're young enough to not want to know and not need to know. If they ask, describe it simply: someone hurt someone, adults are helping. At every age - and irrespective of whether stories such as this are in the news, your job is to let them know that if anything ever feels wrong in their lives - and particularly if anyone ever wants to touch them anywhere that swimsuits cover - they should tell you or another trusted adult right away. Discussions about [protective behaviours](#) are helpful. And please, [use correct names for body parts](#).

Years 4–6: If the story comes up - or if you choose to raise it - be honest, but keep details low-level and developmentally appropriate. Get curious to understand what your child knows. Introduce the idea that people can be hurt by someone they know. Again, emphasise your child's safety and that they should talk to you if they are ever uncomfortable or if someone tries to touch them without consent.

Years 7–9: At this age, it's likely they've seen the memes and the comment sections (even though they're supposedly not on social media). They've got their huge WhatsApp groups. Ask what people are saying online and in their grade.

Discuss [consent](#), which means freely given, informed, ongoing, able to be withdrawn at any moment, and impossible under pressure, intoxication, or a power imbalance.

Discuss coercion, which means someone is doing what they want *at the expense of someone else's wishes* (so they're making them).

And discuss pressure, which means someone is being influenced in a way that does not take into consideration their best interests or preferences.

Years 10–12: With children 16 and above, treat them as thinkers. Ask what they'd do if they saw something like this occurring. How would they engage, intervene, or move away? How could they help someone who might otherwise be a victim? And talk with them about what they think drives these harmful choices.

Keeping Our Children Safe From Harm (or From Harming)

Our children must know that people are responsible for their own actions. That means a girl is not responsible for what a boy does to her. Sometimes boys are victims too, and they disclose far less often.

Every parent must know this though: based on statistics, boys and men are significantly more likely to do harm, and the harm they cause is disproportionately high. Therefore, we must acknowledge that the culture boys grow up in shapes what they think is normal. Parents of sons have work to do.

As I said at the start, the *most important thing we must teach our sons and our daughters* is what *healthy masculinity* looks like:

A healthy man is one who helps the people around him feel - and be - safer and stronger.

Boys need to hear the following ideas and wrestle with them:

- [Consent matters](#). When someone says no, they mean it. When someone is not sure, that's *NOT* a 'yes'. That applies to tickling and wrestling as much as it applies to physical closeness and intimacy.



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.



Talk to those who do wrong by you



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'



How did Jesus treat sinners?

Matthew was a tax collector and was disliked by many people. Jesus shared a meal with him and other sinners.

Matthew became a disciple of Jesus. *Mt 9:9-13*

Draw Jesus sharing a meal with Matthew and his friends

A woman who had sinned was brought before Jesus.

The pharisees wanted Jesus to condemn her, but instead Jesus forgave her sins. *Jn 8:2-11*

Write a short prayer asking God to forgive our sins

Dear Lord, _____

_____ Amen.

Jesus wants us to be peacemakers

When someone does wrong things against me,
I can be a peacemaker by....

When I do wrong things against someone,
I can be a peacemaker by....

A rich man named Zaccheus climbed a tree to get a better view of Jesus. People became upset when Jesus decided to be a guest at Zaccheus' house, but Zaccheus was so happy he gave half his possessions to the poor.

Lk 19:1-10

Draw Zaccheus in the sycamore tree