



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 19 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 19 June Reports published on nForma portal
Mon 22 June Teeth on Wheels,
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 Casual Day for donation for St Vinnie's, Assembly 12.30pm, 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
Fri 7 Aug 9.00am St Mary MacKillop Mass in the Church
Sat 8 Aug St Mary of the Cross McKillop Feast Day
Sat 15 Aug Feast of the Assumption of Mary
Mon 17-Fri 21 Aug Bullying No Way Week
Fri 28 Aug Book Week Parade
Fri 18 Sept 1.00 End of Term

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 Families,

As we move closer to the end of Term 2, there is a growing sense of anticipation for a well-deserved break after a busy and productive semester. This week has been filled with many exciting moments across our school community, including the nearing completion of our beautiful school mural. It has been wonderful to see students, staff, and family members working together and contributing to this special project. The mural is a reflection of our vibrant community, and we look forward to celebrating its completion in the coming weeks.

School Reports

We are pleased to advise that Semester 1 Reports will be available to families from today. Parents and carers can access their child's report through the nForma Portal.

You will NOT receive an email from NFORMA. You need to log into the nPortal and view your child's report in there.

You can log into the app via the NFORMA for Parents APP or you can log into the nPortal via this link: <https://portal.nforma.com.au/login>
Reports provide an opportunity to celebrate each student's achievements, growth, and progress throughout the semester. We encourage families to take the time to read through the report together and acknowledge the effort and learning that has taken place over the term.

Parent-Teacher Learning Conversations

Parent-Teacher Conversations will be held next week and provide an important opportunity to discuss your child's learning journey, celebrate successes, and explore ways we can continue to support their growth together. Please refer to your family bookings given to each child to take home at the start of the week. If you are unsure of the time of your meeting, please call the office.

The main blue gate on Station Place will be open at 9.50am on Wednesday and 8.10am on Thursday. Parents will be able to access the grounds through this entrance.



Prayer for Courage and Knowing I Am Loved

Dear God,
Sometimes I feel afraid or worried about what others think.
Thank You for reminding me that I never need to be scared.
You know every single detail about me—even the hairs on my head are counted!
If You care so much for the tiny sparrows, I know You care even more for me.
Please give me a brave and kind heart. Help me to always shine Your light and share Your love and to remember how incredibly valuable I am to You.
In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Conversation Times:

- **Wednesday, 24 June:** 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- **Thursday, 25 June:** 8:20 am – 3:20 pm

Please note that **no formal classes will be operating on these days**. The school office will remain open throughout both days to assist families as needed.

We look forward to these valuable conversations and thank families for their ongoing partnership in supporting student learning and wellbeing.

Remembrance Mass, Celebrating the Life and Service of Nubia

On Wednesday, 16 June, we were honoured to welcome Nubia's family, former staff members, past Principals, and members of our wider school community to a special Remembrance Mass dedicated to celebrating Nubia's life and service.

The Mass was a beautiful and heartfelt celebration of a person who touched so many lives through her kindness, generosity, and love. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together in prayer, reflection, and gratitude for the lasting impact Nubia made on our school.



We extend our sincere thanks to the staff who contributed to the preparation of the service and to Father Peter Damien for leading such a meaningful celebration.

The gathering was a testament to the remarkable person Nubia was, and it was deeply moving to see so many people whose lives had been enriched by her care and friendship.

We continue to keep Salvador, Maria, Natasha, and their family in our thoughts and prayers as they navigate this difficult time. May they find comfort in the love and support of those around them, and in the many cherished memories of Nubia.

End of Term 2

Next **Friday, 26 June**, marks the final day of Term 2. The school day will conclude at **1:00pm**. Remember that your child will still need lunch for next Friday.

To celebrate the end of term, students are encouraged to wear their warm winter woollies and bring a donation to St Vincent de Paul. We thank families for supporting this initiative and invite you to refer to the accompanying flyer for further details.



As we approach the end of another busy term, I would like to thank all members of our school community for their continued support, encouragement, and commitment to our students. We wish everyone a safe, restful, and enjoyable holiday break and look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for Term 3.

God bless,

Warm regards,

Caroline Madigan

Mrs Caroline Madigan

Principal

principal@olsunshine.catholic.edu.au



OUR LADY'S SUNSHINE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

WINTER WOOLIES DAY!



♡ Dress in Your Favourite Winter Woolies ♡

📅 Friday 26 June 2026

Bring a Small Donation to Support the **Vinnies Winter Appeal** ♡

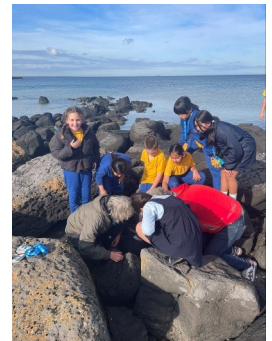


♡ Help keep Australians warm this winter.
Every donation makes a difference!



♡ Together we can make a big difference in our community.





Yr 5 at Jawbone Sanctuary



Yr 6 at Port Philip Eco Centre



Teeth On Wheels Visits - Monday 22 & Tuesday 23 June

Teeth On Wheels will be visiting our School for dental check-ups next week.

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.



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

BOOK AHEAD FOR TERM 3 WITH EXTEND



PLAN AHEAD FOR TERM 3!

The new school term is approaching, and Extend is ready to help you prepare with premium Outside School Hours Care!

Get ready for a fun-packed Term 3 at Extend with lots of activities, games for all ages and a safe, enriching environment built for learning and play!



SAVE WITH OUR EARLY BIRD RATE

Book 14 days in advance on all sessions to receive the best price!

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

Rest easy knowing your child is thriving in Extend's expert care, staying fully engaged and supported every day!



**BOOK AHEAD FOR TERM 3 TODAY
SCAN THE QR CODE TO ENROL & BOOK NOW!**





JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINICS



BALLARAT SESSIONS

Wednesday 1 July
Marty Busch Reserve,
Sebastopol

WEEK 1

Wednesday 8 July
MARS Stadium

WEEK 2

Friday 10 July
Alfredton Recreation
Reserve

ALL GIRLS

MELBOURNE SESSIONS

Wed 1 July | 9am - 3pm
Kindersmith Reserve, Braybrook

Mon 6 July | 9am - 3pm
McIvor Reserve, Yarraville

**TRAIN LIKE A
BULLDOG THESE
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!**

Suitable for ages 4 - 12

REGISTER NOW



Are Boys in Crisis?

By Dr Justin Coulson

Something is happening with boys. You can feel it in the conversations parents are having, in the questions teachers are raising, in the data that keeps arriving from researchers and health departments. The question is whether we're willing to look at it clearly... and do something about it.

A recent feature in [Nature](#) put the question plainly: are boys in crisis, and is the manosphere playing a part?

The data the author reviewed pointed to boys falling behind in education globally, higher rates of injury and death by suicide, and growing mental health pressures on young men. The article's conclusion was careful but honest: it's important to understand the challenges facing all young people, even when those conversations feel uncomfortable, but boys are facing some unique challenges that mean the world feels hard for them right now.

In researching my new book, [Boys: Building Strong Young Men From the Inside Out](#), I found just how challenging things are for our boys and young men today.

- Boys are suspended from primary school at roughly six times the rate of girls (57 boys for every 10 girls)
- For every ten girls who complete a university degree, only 6.4 boys do.
- In 2024, 240 boys and young men under 25 died by suicide - that's five families a week being torn apart by a pain that is indescribable.

My friend, Bec Sparrow, suggested to me that "boys are hurting girls, they're hurting each other, and they're hurting themselves." Former US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said: "The data is actually quite clear - young men and boys are falling behind on many metrics."

One of the biggest challenges for our boys today? Identity.

They hear awful things about themselves everywhere they look. And in the absence of a compelling, healthy picture of what it means to be a man, boys are searching for one online.

When boys are told that masculinity is a problem to be managed rather than a strength to be developed, some of them will find someone who tells them otherwise. That's not a defence of unhealthy manosphere influencers but it is an explanation for why he has an audience.

So what's actually going on? Four domains keep surfacing in the research.

Education:

Boys are disengaging earlier and in greater numbers, and the downstream effects on employment, purpose, and identity are significant. Boys score lower on most, if not all academic measures. By Grade 9 they're a full year behind the girls in reading. One in eight boys is functionally illiterate at age 15. One in 5 students (mostly boys) leave school before the end of Year 12. Of Australia's 44 universities, only two have more men than women. A lack of educational success - fairly or unfairly - can make boys appear economically unviable to potential mates. They earn less, have fewer career prospects, and may experience social stigma too.

Mental health:

Boys are struggling, but in ways that often go unnoticed because they don't ask for help in the same way girls do. ADHD is the most diagnosed psychological challenge in primary school. Boys outnumber girls with ADHD diagnosis by *at least* two to one. Autism, it's a ratio of six boys to every girl. This affects their school experience, their social success (and to some extent their later economic outcomes downstream of school). In high school, mental health challenges can take a darker turn. I've already outlined the worst of that above with Australian youth suicide statistics.

Crime:

Boys are disproportionately both perpetrators and victims of violence. In fact, crime of all kinds hits and hurts boys most (with the exception of intimate partner and sexual violence), and is also perpetrated by boys and men most.

Identity:

in a culture that has rightly challenged outdated masculinity but hasn't offered much to replace it, many boys are rudderless. They need to know what it means to be a healthy man. And they need healthy male role models.

None of this means boys are beyond help. It means they need help - the right kind, delivered by people who understand what's actually going on.

Here is what I mean:

Healthy Masculinity means helping the people around you feel - and be - safer and stronger. That's the message they need to hear. Not toxic masculinity. That challenges their identity unhelpfully. Healthy masculinity is about adding value, being the one who sees a need and uses his strength to offer support and help. If we could drip feed that into boys brains every day, they'd get the message.

But to be a healthy man a boy needs to see a healthy man. That's where great role models come in.

Boys don't need the Internet to find someone to look up to. Most boys will acknowledge that their dad is their exemplar. When I ask them why, they tell me that "he teaches me stuff" and "he listens to me". And if Dad isn't in the picture, other good men who coach, teach, support, and show up in their lives can be wonderful supports.

Healthy masculinity and good men are what my new book, *Boys*, is built around. Not panic, and not politics. Just a clear-eyed look at what boys are facing, and a practical framework for the parents, teachers, and mentors who want to raise them well.

We need to stop looking at boys and accusing them of being 'the problem'. Instead, we need to show them a vision of healthy masculinity and help them see that they are 'the solution'.

If you have a son, or a student, or a young man in your life — this book is for you. *'Boys'* is available now wherever you buy your books.



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.



Don't be afraid!

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



God watches over us and protects us because we are precious to him. Draw a picture of something that is precious to you.



What are some things that people are afraid of?



How does God help us to overcome our fears?

Gospel

Mt 10:26-31

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.