



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



St Robert's  
Newtown

21st June 2024

# NEWSLETTER

[www.srnewtown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.srnewtown.catholic.edu.au)



At St Robert's, taking Jesus as our model, we **INCLUDE**, we **CONNECT**, we act with **PURPOSE**.

**REPORTS GO LIVE ON  
COMMUNITY PORTAL**  
Monday 24th June

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**  
Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th  
& Friday 28th June  
from 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**LAST DAY OF TERM 2**  
Thursday 27th June  
Student dismissal time 2:30pm  
Friday 28th June - Pupil Free Day

Dear Families,

As the semester draws to a close, our teachers have reflected on a productive term of learning. They have completed progression reports for their classes and look forward to meeting with you next Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for Parent/Teacher interviews.

Our final assembly for the term was run by 1CH on Monday afternoon and taught our school all about the Arctic tundra. Every student spoke with confidence.

Last Thursday, I attended the AGE Schools Summit where the Minister for Education announced a change to teaching practices across Victorian Department schools. As a school, we adjusted our practices to include phonics and phonemic awareness in 2021. Here is a summary from the Ministerial report:

*Minister for Education Ben Carroll today announced the updated Victorian Teaching and Learning Model, which will be implemented in all Government schools across the state from 2025 with explicit teaching at its core.*

*All students from Prep to Grade 2 will be taught using a systematic synthetic phonics approach as part of their reading programs, with a minimum of 25 minutes daily explicit teaching of phonics and phonemic awareness.*

*This will be a core component of a comprehensive reading program that also includes explicit teaching of oral language, vocabulary, reading fluency and comprehension.*

*Systematic synthetic phonics is a structured approach that explicitly teaches the relationship between sounds and letters to read words.*

Our Senior Boys did an outstanding job of representing us on Tuesday at Barwon Reserve and although we did not win the Final on the day, the boys should be very proud of their efforts.

We hope the holidays are a time to reset and relax as winter sets in.

In partnership,  
Sarah

## Upcoming Events

### Year 6 Aviation Presentation

Thursday 27th June - 9:10am to 11:10am - Parents are welcome

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 28th June - 8:30am to 2:30pm

### Term 3 Begins - For all Students

Monday 15th July - Welcome Back Morning Tea at 8:30am - Multipurpose Space

### Carmel Feast Day - Carmel Students wear Green

Tuesday 16th July

### 2025 Foundation Meet the Principal

Wednesday 17th, Friday 19th and Wednesday 24th July - By appt.

### Type 1 Diabetes Jellybean Dress Day

Monday 22nd July

### Year 4 Eucharist Preparation Day

Tuesday 23rd July

### Grandparents Morning & Feast Day of Saint Anne & Saint Joachim

Friday 26th July - See page 2 for details

Loving God,

Of whom holds a special place in our hearts, we thank you for your unwavering support and the strong foundation on which we build our faith.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



## REPORT STUDENT ABSENCES BY 9:15AM ON THE DAY OF THE ABSENCE

Please call 5221 1075, press 1 & leave details of absence OR email: [attendance@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au](mailto:attendance@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au)  
OR submit via Skool Loop App Absences Tab

# LEARNING AND TEACHING

Rebecca O'Leary & Jenny Coverdale



**SPOTLIGHT ON  
LEARNING & TEACHING**

## ENGLISH UNITS IN THE JUNIOR YEARS

Throughout their primary years, students delve into a diverse array of topics, including ancient civilisations, modern history, politics, and Greek mythology. These rich knowledge units and literature studies are intended to equip students with a broad understanding of the world, enabling them to draw upon this knowledge when engaging with complex texts and topics in High School and beyond. In our Junior School students are introduced to novels and stories through whole class read alouds.

Foundation




Year One




Year Two




Year Three







# SPORT NEWS

Kelly Williams

The St Robert's boys Football team made it through to the Geelong North AFL Lightning Premiership held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

The quality of opposition was high and in the first game we matched up against Montpellier. They got off to a hot start and it was a big win for Montpellier.

The Second and Third group games were against Flinders and St Mary's. Both resulting in wins to St Robert's, the team played together and moved the ball really well.

This meant we finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the group and progressed to the finals.

First round of finals we matched up with St Anthony's. In a hard fought match we kicked the last few goals of the game to win our way into the Grand Final.

In the Grand Final we matched up against Montpellier again. We gave it our best effort all day and unfortunately Montpellier were again too strong, but the students should be proud of the way they played and the sportsmanship displayed.

Making the final for the Geelong North Region is a great achievement and a fantastic reward for all the effort the players put in on the day.



# STEM NEWS

Emma Rayson



**St Robert's  
Newtown**



**YEAR 6  
AVIATION PRESENTATION**

**MORNING**

**DATE: THURSDAY 27TH JUNE**  
**TIME: 9:10 - 11:10AM**  
**LOCATION: MULTI-PURPOSE SPACE**

Please check the schedule sent via Seesaw to see your child's flight time.



**St Robert's  
Grandparent's & Special Person Day!**

Celebrating the Feast Day of Saint Anne & Saint Joachim,  
Jesus' Grandparents

**Friday 26th July**  
**9:00am-11:20am**

We invite you to join us for a morning of prayer and activities in  
our house teams.

At 11:00 all visitors are welcome to join us for a morning tea.





# STUDENT WELLBEING

Margot Champion

## THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™ Emotional Literacy

In our last Resilience Project video, Hugh speaks about how we help to build resilience in our children.

**27** is the number of the main human emotions.



We experience at least one emotion **90% of the time**  
And frequently experience **positive and negative emotions** at the same time.

He speaks about the importance of letting students feel uncomfortable emotions, he also explains the importance of helping your child learn to problem-solve rather than fighting their battles for them.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about the importance of emotional literacy

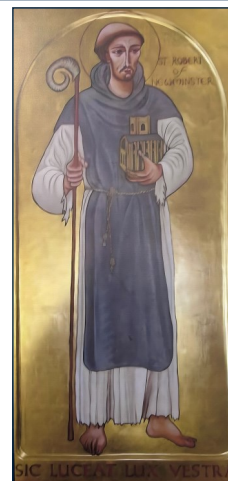


# FAITH IN EDUCATION

Theresa Lewis

Our new images of St Robert have arrived and will be displayed around the School in the coming weeks.

Next week families will also receive information about the Religious Iconography that has been purchased for our classrooms and corridors.

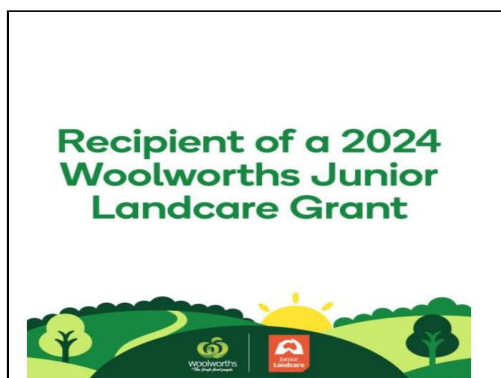


## 2024 Woolworths Junior Landcare Grants Program



### St Robert's Junior Landcare Grant Announcement

We're thrilled to announce that we have received a 2024 Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant for our project, Sensory Escape and Garden.



Our Sustainability Leaders Henry and Alex put together a grant application with the help of Miss Champion and have already begun working on rejuvenating our existing Garden Bed. In the April School Holidays, Henry and Alex, together with their families, volunteered their time to replace and prepare the soil, attend to weeds and plant a variety of vegetables. They will work with the school leadership team to design and create a 'Sensory Garden' in our yard for all students to utilise.

St Robert's is one of 1,041 primary schools and early learning centres across Australia to receive a Woolworths Junior Landcare grant to help grow our next generation of environmental champions.

The children and teachers are looking forward to getting their hands dirty and learning from this project – we'll keep you updated!

Click on the [Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant map](#) to read more about our project and others\*.



# PAPUA NEW GUINEA LANDSLIDE APPEAL

Prayer Loving God, we carry in our hearts all who suffer. At this time, we especially plead on behalf of the people of Papua New Guinea who are suffering grief and loss in the wake of landslides. We hold out to you all who have died, their families and communities, and all who have been left homeless. We ask that the Australian community will respond to the crisis of our close neighbours and friends. At the time of the feast of Corpus Christi we remember that Jesus puts his body and blood on the line for us. May we too respond body and soul to the needs of God's family throughout the world. May we be living bread for all. Amen. Written by Michael McGirr.



**PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
LANDSLIDE APPEAL**

Thousands of people are affected. Your urgent support is needed now.

**DONATE**  
[www.caritas.org.au/png](http://www.caritas.org.au/png)  
 1800 024 413






**TERM 3, 2024 - REGISTER NOW @**  
[CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU)

**SPECIALISED CHESS COACHING**  
*Since 2002, we have been providing our popular Chess For Schools program in schools throughout Melbourne and Greater Geelong*





'I am thrilled with the tremendous success of the chess program run by Chess for Schools. The students' adoration for the program is evident as they eagerly anticipate lunchtime on Tuesdays, bursting with excitement. The instructors' dedication, patience and attentiveness foster an engaging and nurturing learning environment, igniting the children's passion for chess as their skills flourish'.  
**Jessica Ward, Teacher - Loreto Toorak.**

**HOW CAN CHESS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD?**

**Educational:** Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.  
**Social:** Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.  
**Emotional:** Confidence, self-esteem, resilience through winning and losing games.

**CLASS STRUCTURE:**  
 Different lessons are taught each week from a structured syllabus ranging from tactics, strategies, master openings, traps & special moves. After the lesson children are paired up in a fun tournament play off. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

**BOOK HERE** ➡ [CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU)

**CLASS DETAILS - ST ROBERT'S PRIMARY**

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Wednesdays	11:20am - 12:10pm	Chapel	24 July to 11 September	\$138 per child per term

"Alex loves chess club and gets very upset if he misses a session. His chess has definitely improved and his teacher, Anita feels that it helps with his math in class in terms of concept and thinking. Keep up the great work!"  
**Katherine Lambert: Hampton Primary School**



**All our school news in one place!**

Download Skool Loop today

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search "Skool Loop" and choose our school once installed.



## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Week 9

<b>FMC</b>	Violet	Owen
<b>FJB</b>	Sam A	Banjo
<b>Gr 1 CH</b>	Emily B	Henry D
<b>Gr 2 IW</b>	Charlotte P	Xavier M
<b>Gr 2 LB</b>	Harlow D	Leila D
<b>Gr 3 LS</b>	Abe S	Daisy M
<b>Gr 3 SB</b>	Arlo	Grace
<b>Gr 4 CL</b>	Clementine M	Winnie F
<b>Gr 4 KR</b>	Kayla H	Caitlin C
<b>Gr 5 MR</b>	Nate M	Max T
<b>Gr 5 RR</b>	Max P	Jemma C
<b>Gr 6 EG</b>	Mason B	Lola S
<b>Gr 6 PB</b>	Mason D	Jimmy S

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Week 10

<b>FMC</b>	Tom	Otto
<b>FJB</b>	Kyle	Archie
<b>Gr 1 CH</b>	Albie C	Marlowe R
<b>Gr 2 IW</b>	Reid M	Ciara C
<b>Gr 2 LB</b>	Bowie S	Sadie P
<b>Gr 3 LS</b>	Gus W	Fern W
<b>Gr 3 SB</b>	Olive	Jack P
<b>Gr 4 CL</b>	Lewy S	Finn R
<b>Gr 4 KR</b>	Lily B	Lincoln D
<b>Gr 5 MR</b>	Cruze D	Eddie O
<b>Gr 5 RR</b>	Mia G	Xavier
<b>Gr 6 EG</b>	Ivy B	Mitchell L
<b>Gr 6 PB</b>	Zoe B	Alex W

St Robert's acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land, the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders both past, present and emerging.



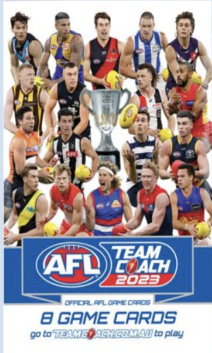


## St Robert's Footy Card Trading

Footy Card Trading will not run in Week 11, therefore all footy cards must stay at home.

Footy Card Trading will start again in Week 1 of Term 3

TIME: First break  
LOCATION: Library

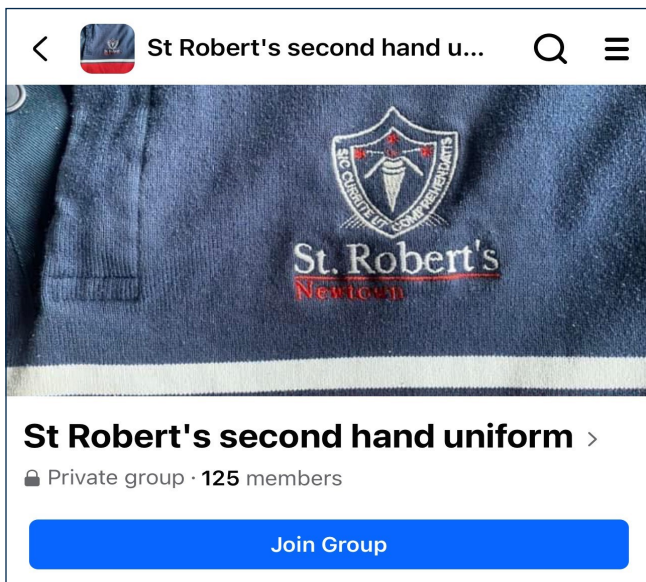


## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Parent run Facebook Page

A parent operated Facebook group is available for parents wishing to access second hand uniform items.

The School also has a number of second hand uniform items available. Parents please contact the Office if you wish!



## EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance



Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

### Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

### What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

**"Day off"** – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)

Department of Education and Training



Education and Training

# St Robert's Family Calendar 2024

## TERM 3

WK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat & Sun
1	15.7 CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 1st Day Term 3 WELCOME BACK MORNING TEA-8:30am Multipurpose Space	16.7 CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK <b>CARMEL FEAST DAY</b> Carmel students wear a touch of green.	17.7 CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 2025 Foundation Interviews	18.7 CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK	19.7 CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 2025 Foundation Interviews	20.7/21.7
2	22.7 Assembly #7 Presented by FMC <b>TYPE 1 DIABETES</b> <b>JELLYBEAN DRESS DAY</b>	23.7 YEAR 4 EUCHARIST PREPARATION DAY Mass & Activities	24.7 2025 Foundation Interviews	25.7 Year 6- The Stand Up Project- Student session	26.7 <b>Grandparents Morning</b> Feast Day of Saint Anne & Saint Joachim	27.7/28.7
3	29.7 MacKillop Basketball- Year 6	30.7 P & F MEETING STAFFROOM 7-8:30	31.7	1.8	2.8 RoboCup Junior Selected students	3.8/ 4.8 Celebration of First Eucharist- 2:30pm St Mary's of the Angels Basilica
4	5.8	6.8	7.8 2025 Foundation Interviews	8.8 <b>YEAR 4 EXCURSION</b> Polly Woodside	9.8 <b>MACKILLOP FEAST DAY</b> MacKillop students wear a touch of yellow	10.8/11.8
5	12.8 SCIENCE WEEK  Assembly #8 Presented by 6PB	13.8 SCIENCE WEEK  The Stand-Up Project- Parent Session 3:30-4:30 pm	14.8 SCIENCE WEEK	15.8 SCIENCE WEEK	16.8 SCIENCE WEEK  <b>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY</b> <b>Flourishing Learners</b>	17.8/18.8
6	19.8 BOOK WEEK 2024 BEGINS 'Reading is Magic'  Book Week Parade 9:00am	20.9	21.8	22.8	23.8	24.8/25.8
7	26.8	27.8	28.8	29.8 Father's Day Breakfast & Liturgy	30.8 Father's Day Stall	31.8/1.9 Happy Father's Day
8	2.9 Assembly #9 Presented by 5MR	3.9 P & F MEETING STAFFROOM 7-8:30	4.9	5.9	6.9	7.9/8.9
9	9.9 <b>PRAYERS IN PYJAMAS</b> Foundation to Year 2 5:45-6:45pm	10.9 STEM MAD showcase Selected Year 6 students	11.9	12.9	13.9	14.9/15.9
10	16.9	17.9	18.9	19.9	20.9 LAST DAY TERM 3 2:30pm FINISH  Sport Colours and Special Lunch Day	 <b>St Robert's</b> Newtown