



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St Robert's
Newtown

7th March 2025

NEWSLETTER

www.srnewtown.catholic.edu.au



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

PUBLIC HOLIDAY - LABOUR DAY

Monday 10th March

No school today

NAPLAN YEARS 3 & 5

Begins Wednesday 12th March

Ends Monday 24th March

YEAR 6 SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Thursday 13th March at 7:00pm

See Skool Loop App for details

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a wonderful and eventful past two weeks we have had at St Robert's! Our students, staff, and wider school community continue to show teamwork and generosity in all they do. Here are some highlights from recent events:

Our Year 6 Confirmation Students had the privilege of meeting with Bishop Martin Ashe. This was a special and reflective opportunity for them to deepen their understanding of their Faith and Confirmation journey. Thank you to our staff for preparing the students so well.

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who represented our school at the MacKillop District Soccer event. Their teamwork, athletic integrity, and determination were on full display. Well done to all involved!

A huge thank you to the Year 5 girls Poppy A, Sacci L, Niamh B and Ivy M who coordinated the Icy Pole fundraiser for Greenpeace. Their initiative & commitment to making a difference was inspiring, and their efforts raised valuable funds for an important cause. We raised \$403.70!

Our Whole School Athletics Day was a fantastic success! A big thank you to Kelly Williams and Lisa Cain for their superb organisation, as well as to our dedicated staff and resilient students. These events could not happen without the incredible support of our parent volunteers - whether it was timekeeping, scoring, handing out ribbons, or resetting hurdles, your help made all the difference. Teamwork truly makes the dream work!

The delicious aroma of pancakes filled the halls on Shrove Tuesday! A big thank you to Belinda, Verity, and Amy who cooked over 263 pancakes and helped make this day special for our students. It was a wonderful way to prepare for the season of Lent.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, with all students participating in a Liturgy or attending Mass. This sacred time invites us to reflect, renew, and grow in our faith. My hope for this Lenten season is that our students take time to be kind, thoughtful, and giving to those around them.

Last Friday, families were notified by email of changes to 'Out of Hours School Care'. Our new provider, MACSEYE will start in Term 2. Enrolment information will be emailed today, see page 6 for flyer.

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to the community spirit of our school. It was lovely to speak to so many parents at Athletics Day or at the gate over the past two weeks. I appreciate your support and look forward to the weeks ahead.

Warm regards,

Rebecca O'Leary - Acting Principal

UPCOMING DATES

Cross Country - Years 3 to 6

Monday 17th March from 9:00am to 1:00pm - See Skool Loop App for details

Lots of Socks Day - World Down Syndrome Day

Friday 21st March - See Skool Loop App & page 4 of Newsletter

2025 Foundation Parents Social Gathering

Friday 21st March - Details to come

MacKillop Cross Country - Selected year 6 students

Friday 28th March - Details to come

Last Day of Term 1 - 1:00pm dismissal

Friday 4th April

Italian Day & Special Pizza Lunch

Friday 4th April - Details to come

Easter Raffle - Drawn at final assembly

Friday 4th April - 12:25pm - Details to come

Loving God,

Sometimes my heart turns in every direction except towards you.

Please help me to turn my heart toward you, to gaze upon you in trust and to seek your kingdom with all of my heart.

Soften my hardened heart so that I might love others as a way to glorify and worship you.

Grant me this with the ever-present guidance of your spirit.

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

OR submit via Skool Loop App Absences Tab

FAITH IN EDUCATION

Theresa Lewis

Lent begins this week with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Our students from Years 3 to 6 had the privilege of attending Mass, whilst our junior students celebrated a liturgy here at school. They were very prayerful celebrations reminding us of the need to turn to God and follow the Gospel.

Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation

Students from our Grade Six cohort will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next Thursday 13th March at 7:00pm. They met with Bishop Martin Ashe last week and their questions for him showed great maturity and depth. **We pray for our students as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

Luca A	Greta G	Samuel L	Sophie P	Sonny T
Xavier B	Mia G	Sebastian M	Charlie P	Archie T
Mason C	Mia H	Freddy M	Georgia R	Rose V
Aiden D	Samuel H	Nate M	Henry R	Frankie V
Cruze D	Sophie K	Emily M	Sid S	
Joel D	Leonard K	Eddie O	Xavier S	
Maks F	Mila K	Finn P	Max T	



WHOLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY

Kelly Williams

Our Whole School Athletics Day was held Monday!

Year F - 2 Junior Students participated in 8 events, these included Hurdles, Egg and Spoon Race, Sack Race, Vortex Throw, Long Jump, High Jump, Sprints and the House Relay Races. Congratulations to **Carmel House** on winning the F - 2 Junior Athletics House Points.

Year 3 - 6 Senior Students participated in their Athletics Trials to see who would get to represent St Robert's at the MacKillop District Athletics Championships. Events that the senior students participated in included 100m, 200m, Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Discus and Shot Put. Results for our Senior Students will be shared in our next newsletter on Friday 21st March 2025.

Everyone who participated played a part for their House on the day, well done!



STEM NEWS

Emma Rayson

MINECRAFT CLUB

Miss Emma & Mrs Barry run Minecraft Club every Tuesday, second break for students in Years 3 to 6.

Students work together to build something that has been proposed to them while being supervised by the teachers, who are also in the world. So far students have been exploring the various worlds they have been entering and constructing houses for themselves.



ITALIAN LANGUAGE

Rosie Scollo

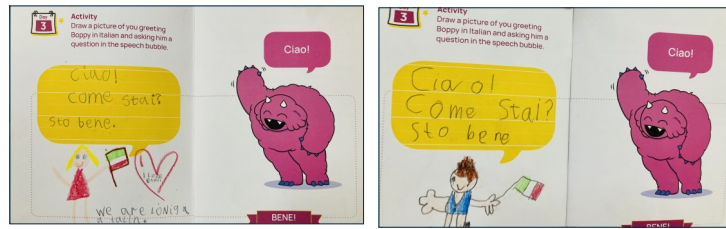
Year 4 Students - Italian & STEM Activity

What an amazing job our Year 4 students did in their combined Italian & STEM activity. They have learned how to write an email and the content is entirely Italian. We are looking forward to using more Italian when learning in other Specialist subjects. Bravi Ragazzi!

<p>Ciao, mi chamo Amelia e ho 9 anni. Mi piace puppys e arts and craft . E tu& Quanti anni hai? cosa si piace fare?</p> <p>Arrivederci, Amelia 🇮🇹🇮🇹🇮🇹</p>	<p>Ciao, Mi chiamo Milla e ho 9 anni Mi piace arts and craft. E tu? Quanti anni hai? Cosa si piace fare?</p> <p>Arrivederci, Milla 🇮🇹🇮🇹🇮🇹</p>
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Year 1 Students - First Unit of Term 1

Bravissimi Bambini! Amazing job Year 1 students for completing our very first unit. Greeting and Asking Questions. Everyone has been so excited to learn Italian.



SCHOOL PHOTO REMINDER

Families are reminded to order school photos taken by Arthur Reed Photos.

Go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter your child's 2025 image code (sent home with students on photo day). When photos are ready to order you will receive a notification by email and SMS.

If you have misplaced your child's flyer with image code please email office@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au to request.

Please refer to email sent 28/02/2025

YEAR 5 CAMP SOVEREIGN HILL

A RECOUNT FROM OUR YEAR 5 STUDENTS

Sovereign Hill Camp, held on the 20th and 21st of February, was an opportunity to see history brought to life. When we first got there we did candle dipping. It was very fun. I made my candle purple and pink. We also went panning and a lot of people found a lot of Gold, but I didn't. At night we went to the night Aura show which was so fun. My favourite show was probably the 3D one. Because that was my first time watching a 3D movie. The next morning we went to see a man make lollies and we got a free sample! The camp experience at Sovereign Hill was amazing and so interesting I recommend it - **By Kayla H 5RR**

Sovereign Hill Camp, held on the 20th and 21st of February, was amazing We arrived there at about 10:30 and went panning for gold. Since gold is heavy, when you shake the pan the gold falls to the bottom and the rocks come to the surface. After that, we went candle dipping. We dipped the candles in warm coloured wax and then put them in cool water. For dinner and breakfast, we dined at the New York Bakery and let's just say the food wasn't the highlight of camp. My personal favourite bit of Sovereign Hill was the AURA light show. It was made up of three parts: the first part was with 3D glasses in a movie theatre and the second part was projected onto a hill. The third part was in a room and the doors opened up to show the Eureka hotel burned down. The camp experience at Sovereign Hill was amazing and we formed lots of fantastic and exciting memories that we will always remember - **By Martha G 5JB**



Register online now to be notified when images are ready to view!

School Photos - easy as 1 2 3

1 Go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter your child's 2025 image code

2 Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings

3 Fill in your contact details & review before confirming your registration*

That's it! You'll receive an email and/or SMS when images are ready to view in our secure webshop

Registration is required each year to link student images for the current year with your contact details.

• View photos online & customise your photo package • Any layout, pose or image • Multi Image Digital Downloads

TO ENSURE YOU ARE ORDERING 2025 PHOTO PACKAGES, please wait to receive notifications to view 2025 images before placing

orders Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.
A.B.N 48 528 494 590

Telephone: (03) 5243 4390 Enquiries: customerservice@arphotos.com.au

LOTS OF SOCKS DAY!

Down Syndrome Day



Friday 21st March

- Wear bright and colourful socks with your school uniform to raise awareness for World Down Syndrome Day.

TRAVELLING SAFELY

Neighbourhood Watch 4 Kids

IS YOUR CHILD READY?

If your child thinks they're big enough to get to school by themselves, without you, but you're not entirely sure, then the Travelling Safely interactive learning journey might just be the answer you need.

Neighbourhood Watch 4 Kids will take you on an interactive learning journey to improve safety knowledge, increase confidence and empower your child to trust their instincts and react appropriately to unsafe situations.

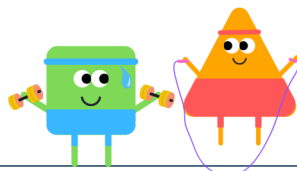
For information and resources to help parents visit:
www.nhw4kidsvic.com.au



JOKE OF THE WEEK!

Q. Why did the square and triangle go to the gym?

A. To stay in shape!



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 5

FMC	Sadie P	Jimmy O
FCH	Sadie P	Charlie S
Gr 1 LB	Ted F	George P
Gr 1 MP	Sonny V	Jack T
Gr 2 IW	Louis C	Emily B
Gr 3 EG	Bruin S	Eve P
Gr 3 SB	Bowie S	Eddie V
Gr 4 CG	Pippy D	Julian P
Gr 4 SM	Rhys P	Milla C
Gr 5 JB	Duke B	Lily B
Gr 5 RR	Chiara M	Lucy P
Gr 6 CL	Sid S	
Gr 6 KR	Leo K	
GR 6 PB	Max T	

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 6

FMC	Constance P	Ted H
FCH	Emily J	Francesco T
Gr 1 LB	Birdie S	Oakley B
Gr 1 MP	Louis P	Ella S
Gr 2 IW	Hugo B	Elke M
Gr 3 EG	Lindy M	Kai H
Gr 3 SB	Ciara C	Reid M
Gr 4 CG	Daisy M	Leo P
Gr 4 SM	Annie J	Owen D
Gr 5 JB	James B	Benji L
Gr 5 RR	Ari C	Charlotte P
Gr 6 CL	Sonny T	
Gr 6 KR	Xavier S	
GR 6 PB	Georgia R	

In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school per year. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6.**



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



Education and Training

Department of Education and Training

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St Robert's OSHC
Newtown

Ensuring every child can flourish and achieve their fullest potential.

MACSEYE is a new approved provider, established by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools to offer a high quality Outside Schools Hours Care (OSHC) service, with a strong link to your school.

We believe in providing a safe and inclusive environment where every child can thrive. Our dedicated educators will support your child to explore their interests and choose how they spend their play time. Children can choose from a range of resources, including art and craft, games, and outdoor sports activities. We also have cozy, quiet spaces for anyone needing some down time.

There's also always a range of healthy foods available to help kids stay energised, and active.

Request for Bookings are now open, so contact our friendly team today!

Enrol now at
enrolments@macseye.vic.edu.au

