



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St Robert's
Newtown

15th May 2026

NEWSLETTER

www.srnewtown.catholic.edu.au



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

NORTH GEELONG & BELLARINE DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday 19th May
Selected Year 3-6 Students

MACKILLOP DISTRICT AFL & NETBALL LIGHTNING PREMIERSHIP

Friday 22nd May
Selected Year 6 Students

HOODIE UP FOR AUTISM DAY

Friday 29th May
See page 5 for details

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope everyone had a lovely week remembering and celebrating their Mums and the special women in their lives. It was wonderful to see so many Mums, Nans, Aunties and special women at our Mother's Day Breakfast last Thursday. The one rainy day during the week certainly did not dampen the mood, smiles or conversations shared together as a community. Thank you to Mrs Lewis and the Foundation Team for preparing our beautiful Liturgy.

A highlight in our school calendar is always the Mother's Day Stall, and this year certainly did not disappoint. The students absolutely loved shopping and carefully choosing special gifts for their mums and loved ones. Thank you to Suzi for her wonderful organisation of this special event, and to Mel, Prue, Kelley, Verity, Tania, Georgia and Jane for their help on the day.

This week we also celebrated our first Identity, Culture & Inclusion Day. We loved honouring and sharing the history and culture of our land, our school, our Italian language program, and the many histories and cultures represented within our school community. Thank you to Michael from Cucina 112, a past school family who continues to generously support our community, and to all of the mums and dads who helped deliver snack packs and pizza throughout the day, Mel, Ivan, Kristy, Paz, Amy, Marie, Charlotte, Faith and Erin. A special thank you to Logan, who organised and set up the CDF Shop so everyone could order their yummy lunches with ease.

We are excited to officially launch "St Robert's Has Got Talent", which will now be held on the last day of Term 2. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. The change of date for this event has allowed us to make way for a whole school Feast Day Liturgy onsite with Father Jim, as well as a special visit from Stomp Dance Co. Stomp Dance Co will run a full day of high-energy dance sessions with students and staff. These sessions will get everyone moving, learning exciting new routines to upbeat and current music, while also developing important skills such as coordination, teamwork and self-expression. We are very excited to welcome them to St Robert's and know it will be a highlight for many students.

The safety of our students and community continues to be a priority both during the school day and while travelling to and from school. Next week we will share some reminders with families regarding playground supervision, walking safely to school, the correct use of the drive through area, respecting our neighbours, and, following some recent reports of inappropriate bike use, some important reminders around safe riding practices.

Privacy Policy Updates

Over the coming week, the following updated policies and forms will be added to our school website to align with current MACS requirements and support clear communication with families.

Privacy Policy

Updated information outlining how personal information relating to staff, students and families is collected, stored, managed and protected, including individual rights and complaint processes.

Privacy Collection Notice – Students and Parents

This notice explains what personal information schools collect, why it is collected, and how it may be used or disclosed. It also provides greater clarity around consent processes.

Photography and Recording Permission Form

The updated form has been simplified and now includes clearer consent options for the use of student photos and recordings in school communications and publications. Existing permissions remain valid unless families wish to change or withdraw consent.

I hope everyone in our community has a safe, restful and enjoyable weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone again for Week 5.

Warm regards,
Rebecca O'Leary - PRINCIPAL

UPCOMING DATES

St Robert's Feast Day
Friday 5th June - See page 2

King's Birthday Public Holiday
Monday 8th June

School Closure Day - Student Free Day
Tuesday 9th June

Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 9th June from
2:00pm to 6:30pm

MacKillop District Year 6 Girls Netball Competition (TBC)
Thursday 11th June

MacKillop District Year 6 Boys AFL Competition (TBC)
Monday 15th June

Dear Lord,

Give us a courageous heart, one that encourages us to take risks, one that allows us to overcome different obstacles.

We ask this 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
OR submit via Skool Loop App Absences Tab

FAITH IN EDUCATION

Theresa Lewis

On Friday 5th June we will joyfully celebrate our School Feast Day, honouring St Robert of Newminster, who was born around the year 1100 in Gargrave, England.

As a priest and Cistercian abbot, St Robert was known for his deep devotion, humility and commitment to a life of prayer and service. He founded Newminster Abbey in 1138 and led it for 21 years, during which time he was revered for his piety and the miracles attributed to him. His Feast day is celebrated on June 7th, the day of his passing in 1159.

Our celebration will include a visit from Father Jim, for a whole school Liturgy at 9:00am, all are welcome to attend.

This day serves as a reminder of the enduring legacy of our Catholic Faith, passed down through generations, inspiring us to live lives of love, service and kindness.



The poster for St Robert's Feast Day features the school's crest at the top, which includes a shield with a cross and a figure. Below the crest, the text reads: "St Robert's Feast Day Friday June 5th". It then lists the activities: "Students are invited to wear their sport uniform.", "Our community are invited to join us for our Liturgy with Father Jim at 9:00am.", and "Families are welcome to join us at 2:40pm for a Stomp Dance performance." At the bottom, there are three illustrations: a pair of hands in prayer, a purple circle with the text "Stomp Dance Co.", and a hand holding a paintbrush. The tagline at the bottom is "A Day of Prayer, Dance, Creativity, Fun and Cooperation".

MOTHER'S DAY

MUFFINS WITH MUM

Last Thursday 7th we celebrated Mother's Day by sharing Muffins with Mum at our Mother's Day Breakfast and morning Liturgy. Let us remind ourselves that nothing can be more strengthening than a Mother's love for her child. And no love could be greater than Mary's love for her son Jesus.

P & F MOTHER'S DAY STALL

A HUGE thank you and shout out to Suzi McLeod for doing such a wonderful job of organising the Mother's Day Stall! Another thank you to our beautiful volunteers, Mel, Prue, Kelley, Verity, Tania, Georgia and Jane for their assistance on the day. It was a great success and so lovely to see the children excited to choose gifts for their mum or special person!



THE ST ROBERT'S RAINBOW

WHAT IS REGULATION?



MYTH VS REALITY

Myth: They're overreacting

Reality: Their nervous system is overwhelmed, not in control

WHERE EVERY MIND MATTERS.

The Basics

- Regulation = ability to manage emotions, energy, and attention
- Dysregulation can look like withdrawal, silliness, anger, or avoidance
- Students need support to return to a learning-ready state
- Regulation is the ability to manage your energy, emotions, and attention to match the situation you are in.

What Regulation Looks Like

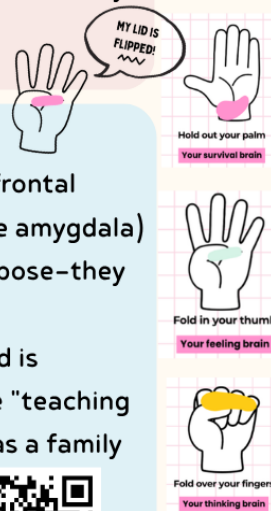
It isn't just "being good." A child who is regulated is someone who can:

- Pause before reacting (the "gap" between a feeling and an action).
- Recover from a disappointment (like losing a game) without a total shutdown.
- Focus on a task even when there are distractions in the room.
- Adjust their energy level to suit the environment (quiet in a library, high energy on the playground).

The "Flipped Lid"

When a child is dysregulated, their "thinking brain" (the prefrontal cortex) essentially goes offline, and their "feeling brain" (the amygdala) takes over. In this state, a child isn't being "naughty" on purpose—they are physically unable to access logic or reason.

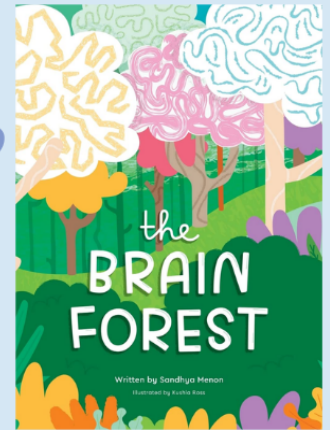
Parent Tip: You cannot reason with a flipped lid! When a child is dysregulated, *focus on connection and safety first*. Save the "teaching moment" for later when everyone is calm. Watch this video as a family to learn more- [The Hand Model of the Brain](#)



Regulation is a skill that is caught, not taught.

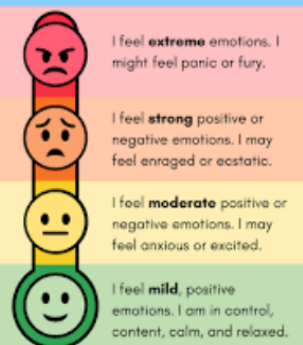


BOOK SPOTLIGHT



Come explore 'The Brain Forest', which follows a mother and her son down the path of understanding the different ways brains can be. Brains that go fast, brains that go slow, brains that do what they're told, brains that say NO! Borrow it from your local Library.

HOW AM I FEELING?

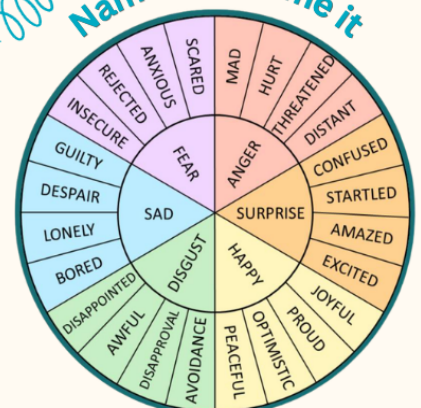


How We Can Help

1. Co-Regulation: Our kids rely on our calm to find their own. If we stay steady, it acts as an anchor for them. Check this very relatable [Podcast Episode by Dr Billy Garvey](#) focusing on connecting and co-regulating when your child is rapidly becoming upset.
2. Name It to Tame It: Helping a child label their feeling ("It looks like you're feeling frustrated that the tower fell") helps shift the brain back into a thinking state.
3. Sensory Breaks: Sometimes regulation looks like a heavy hug, five deep breaths, or a quick run around the yard to reset the nervous system.



Name it to Tame it






ST ROBERT'S HAS GOT

TALENT

**Friday June
26th**




**GRADES
3-6**

**Get ready
to unleash
your talent!**

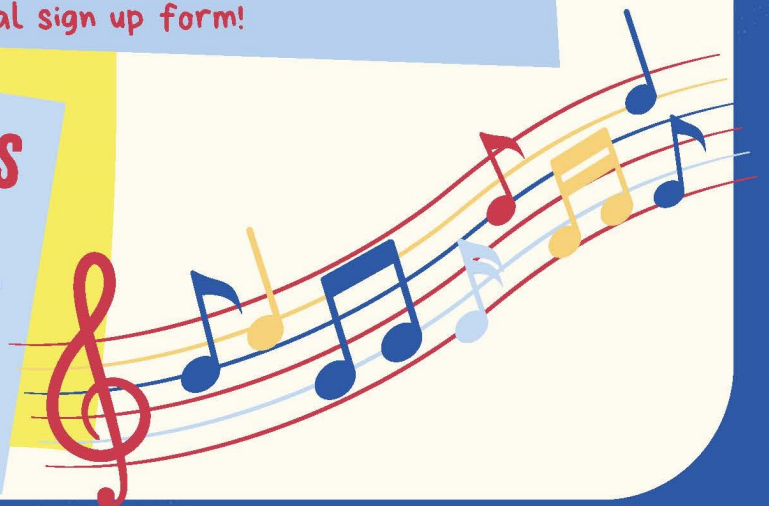
Registrations are now open

Don't miss the chance to be part of this
dazzling showcase of creativity and skill!
Sign up by asking your teacher to add you to
the digital sign up form!



AUDITIONS

**Begin Week 8
June 8th**



THE ST ROBERT'S RAINBOW



WHERE
EVERY MIND
MATTERS.

HOODIE UP FOR AUTISM

FRIDAY 29TH MAY



On Friday 29th May, students are invited to wear their favourite hoodie over their school uniform to raise awareness and acceptance of Autism.

This simple but powerful gesture celebrates neurodiversity and reminds us that every mind matters.



Students will also participate in laps for Autism, walking together around the school oval to support the national Walk for Autism initiative.



CHANGES TO IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 11th May at 2:55pm - Presented by 2SC - **RESCHEDULED TO MONDAY 18TH MAY**

Monday 25th May at 2:55pm - Presented by 1LB - **RESCHEDULED TO MONDAY 1ST JUNE**

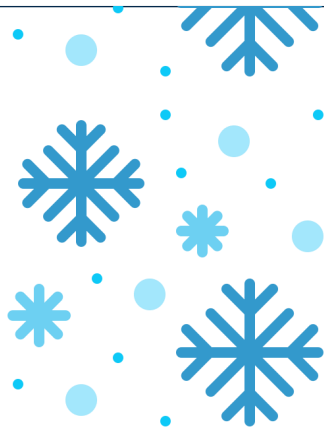
Grandparents & Special Persons Morning
Monday 27th July
RESCHEDULED TO MONDAY 20TH JULY



MACSEYE JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

MACSEYE School Holiday Program is coming soon, packed with creative activities, active fun, themed experiences and memorable excursions for primary school-aged children.

Full program and booking details coming soon.



MACseye
Winter School Holiday Program
29 June - 10 July

Coming soon!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 3

FCH	Pippa	Stella
FMC	London	Eliza
Gr 1 LB	Matilda	Chase
Gr 2 RM	Sebastian	Sonny
Gr 2 SC	Hugo	Emilia
Gr 3 MP	Maisie	Ziggy
Gr 3 SB	Polly	Johnny
Gr 4 EG	Scarlet	Mila
Gr 4 KR	Ciara	Louis
Gr 5 JB	Annie, Arlo & Dante	
Gr 5 RR	Frankie	Oscar
Gr 6 CL	Phoebe	Imogen
Gr 6 PB	Martha	Jack S

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 4

FCH	Sam	Aria
FMC	Freddie	Maverick
Gr 1 LB	Mila	Sadie P
Gr 2 RM	Frankie	Henry
Gr 2 SC	Sid	Pippa
Gr 3 MP	Miller	Karlo
Gr 3 SB	Lenny	Amelie
Gr 4 EG	Ivy	Clara
Gr 4 KR	Ailish	Lindy
Gr 5 JB	Javi	James
Gr 5 RR	Indi	Julian
Gr 6 CL	Jack B	Lucy
Gr 6 PB	Lily	Charlotte