



EPISCOPAL VISIT – ARCHBISHOP PETER A. COMENSOLI

St Paul's & St Oliver's Parishes



FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER – (Venue: St Paul's Church)
MINISTERS & COMMITTEES

3.45pm • Meeting with ALL parish ministers and parish committees from both parishes



SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER –
ST OLIVER'S PARISH PASCOE VALE



9.30-11.30am • Both Parishes Forum
(Lunch in St Oliver's Parish Centre, (Register via QR Code)
no 10am confessions

4.30pm • Youth & Young Adults Meeting
5.00pm • Archbishop celebrates Vigil Mass



SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER –
ARCHBISHOP PARISH MASSES

9.00am Mass • **St Paul's**
Light refreshments in Parish Hall afterwards

10.30am Mass • **St Oliver's**
Light lunch in Parish Centre afterwards



All parishioners are warmly encouraged to participate in these special gatherings with Archbishop Peter during his pastoral visit. You are welcome to bring a plate on Saturday or Sunday to share. (not compulsory)



ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

St Paul's Primary School is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community



A PRAYER FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES



May the Holy Spirit Fill our students with wisdom and understanding.

May they be strengthened with courage to follow God's will.

May they be blessed with knowledge and reverence in all that they do.

May the Spirit of wonder and awe in God's presence guide their hearts each day.

May their faith grow strong and may God's love surround and guide them always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Term 4 - 2026 Dates - Monday, 5 October - Tuesday, 15 December

OCTOBER

Friday, 30	Australian Teachers' Day
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NOVEMBER

Monday, 2	School closure day
Tuesday, 3	Melbourne Cup Day public holiday
Wednesday, 4	Sausage sizzle Wednesday
Thursday, 5	Year 1/2 Excursion - Botanical Gardens
Thursday, 5	Prep Excursion - ACMI
Thursday, 12	Prep 2027 orientation - session 1
Tuesday 17 - Friday 20	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday, 19	Prep Orientation - session 2
Thursday, 26	Prep Orientation - session 3
Friday, 27	Senior excursion - Melbourne Museum

DECEMBER

Tuesday, 1	ABC School Concert
Wednesday, 2	Year 6 graduation speeches - church
Thursday, 3	Year 6 graduation speeches - church
Monday, 7	Year 6 graduation speeches - church
Tuesday 8	Year 6 Graduation
Friday, 11	End of Year mass Whole School picnic @ Coburg Lake
Tuesday, 15	LAST DAY TERM 4 - 12:00PM FINISH



St Paul's acknowledges that our school is on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and future.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MARIA MERCURI

We wish our Year 6 Confirmation candidates and their families all the very best as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this evening. This year Archbishop Peter Comensoli will celebrate the Sacrament Of Confirmation mass with our parish priest, Father James Puppady. Archbishop Peter Comensoli visited our Year 6 Confirmation candidates this morning as part of their final preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. He spent time with the students, speaking with them about their learning journey and the deep significance of this important Sacrament of Initiation.

We keep these students in our prayers, as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this evening.

**Alexandra Anica Annabel Aoibheann Caitlin
Chelsea Christopher Dara Elyssa Gwen Harrison
Isaac Isabella Matteo Meghna Ramon
Santiago Valentino Lachlan Chante**



Fill the hearts of these candidates with the power of Your love.

Episcopal Visit

Archbishop Comensoli is visiting St Paul's and St Oliver's parishes this weekend 23-25 October. St Paul's families are invited to attend some special gatherings to meet Archbishop Comensoli [See further details](#)

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Next **Friday, October 30** is a day to thank our teachers for their dedication and the wonderful work they do with our students. Each child has been given an envelope to write a special message to their teacher. Parents received a message via Nforma parents portal on Wednesday. Please check your email. Please return the envelope with your child's message in the envelope, to school by Wednesday, 28 October.

Production Video - It's ready!

Thank you to Video Essentials who did a great job filming our production. We will send families a link next week. The video link will be active for three months and can be shared with family members.

Ryan from Video Essentials sent us a message - *Congrats on the great show, it was entertaining and the crowd was really into it.*

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS - coming up...

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER - SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER - MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MARIA MERCURI

Planning is underway for the 2027 school year. As you may have heard, all catholic schools need to carefully consider the financial levers within our control, including staffing, class sizes, school fees and enrolment numbers. In 2027 there will be some increase to school fees however, we are committed to keeping them as low as possible. These decisions will be made carefully and responsibly to ensure catholic education remains affordable to our families while continuing to provide high quality teaching, learning and wellbeing of all our students. We will be working with the School Advisory Council to discuss our school budget and planning priorities. We are working closely with Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) as operational budgets are finalised. Like all Catholic schools, we are responding to increased operational costs associated with the new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA), alongside the level of government funding available to Catholic schools.

Class Groupings for 2027 - In the coming weeks, staff will begin the process of creating 2027 class lists. If you have any information we need to be aware of, that may impact your child's learning, or a request regarding your child's class placement for wellbeing or academic reasons, please email me, mmercuri@spcoburg.catholic.edu.au by Friday, 30 October. Please understand that there are many factors that need to be considered when we group students. Requests will be considered in line with staff recommendations, however please understand that they cannot be guaranteed.

Summer Uniform

All students will be expected to wear full summer uniform.

Please remember **'No Hat, No Play.'**

Please see [uniform page](#) for ordering details.

It is wonderful to see our students wearing their uniforms with pride. Our school uniform is an important part of our identity, fostering a sense of belonging for every child. To ensure we all maintain these high standards, please take a moment to review our current [guidelines](#).

Sunscreen - We are a Sun Safe school

We encourage parents to apply sunscreen on their children each morning before coming to school. Parents can provide SPF 30+ for their child to apply during the day. The school will also have sunscreen available in each classroom area. Students can apply sunscreen themselves during the day. Staff are not able to apply sunscreen.



Congratulations to Miki

for completing the family ride.
Miki rode three laps and did approximately
20 kms.



Student of the Week

We will continue to present our Student of the Week certificates at our Friday Morning Gathering each week. Next week, we will present the Week 2 and Week 3 awards.



*Have a fabulous weekend,
Maria Mercuri.*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MARIA MERCURI

Dr Edward Simons, Executive Director of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools
has a written letter for our families.

Message from Dr Edward Simons

For school newsletters



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

A special message from Dr Edward Simons Executive Director, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS)

As schools communicate their fees for the coming year, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic education and to reaffirm our commitment to keeping Catholic schooling accessible and affordable for families.

Thank you for choosing to be part of our Catholic education community of more than 120,000 young people across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Today, one in five Victorian families choose a Catholic education, and in the past year alone almost 2,000 additional students have enrolled in a MACS school. Together, we share a commitment to providing an education grounded in faith, where every child is known, valued and inspired to flourish.

I would also like to acknowledge the significant work undertaken by principals and school leadership teams across MACS as they finalise plans and budgets for the year ahead. Their careful stewardship helps ensure our schools continue to provide outstanding learning opportunities, strong wellbeing support and vibrant faith communities for every student.

Like many families, our schools continue to face rising costs. We know that cost-of-living pressures continue to place strain on household budgets, and we remain committed to keeping school fees as affordable as possible. At the same time, we have a responsibility to attract, support and fairly reward the teachers and staff who make such a profound difference in the lives of our students each day, including maintaining pay parity with their colleagues in government schools.

Across MACS, we continue to review the way we operate, seeking efficiencies and making thoughtful decisions so that resources are directed where they matter most: teaching and learning, student wellbeing and the faith formation of young people.

Thank you for the trust you place in your school and in Catholic education. The continued growth in enrolments across our system is a sign of the confidence families place in Catholic education and the outstanding work of our principals, teachers and staff. As we continue to grow, our focus will remain on responsible stewardship, strong partnerships with families and a shared commitment to excellence. In doing so, we can ensure that Catholic education remains strong, sustainable and accessible, offering thriving communities of faith and learning for generations to come.

macs.vic.edu.au

Student of the Week

Student of the Week awards will be presented at our Friday Morning Gathering at 8:45am. Be sure to check our Friday newsletter each week to see if your child's name is featured. Families are welcome to attend the Friday Morning Gathering at 8:45am.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS WEEK'S CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS	
Class	Name
Prep P	Katie M
Prep T	Esme W
1/2C	Zane M
1/2E	Harryson P
1/2F	Eddie C
3/4MH	Alannah F
3/4B	George C
3/4D	Eva B
5/6J	Matteo V
5/6T	Henry V
5/6H	Ava D

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ROCKSTAR READERS

25 nights

Emily Li - 1/2E
Aikam K - Prep T

75 nights

Esme W - Prep T



OCTOBER

Jack F - 22nd

Destin D - 23rd

Orlando L G - 23rd



LITERACY

Each week we congratulate students for their reading achievements. **Archer** and **Florence** have reached 200+ nights of reading. What an accomplishment!
This week I asked them **why they love reading.**
Find out about their passion for reading and their latest **SHELF** recommendations.

WHY DO YOU LOVE READING?

I think reading is fun and exciting. I read a combination of fiction and nonfiction. I am reading **Wings of Fire 12**. The best part is the plot because it makes you feel excited.

Archer Useli - Year 3/4D



I love reading because it is interesting and the books I read take me to another world (in my imagination). When I start reading, I can't stop and my mind is filled with ideas! I am reading **Detective Thinga Majiggy**. Mia is the main character with a special skill - she can talk to clues. She is a very interesting character.

Florence Tabet - Year 1/2C

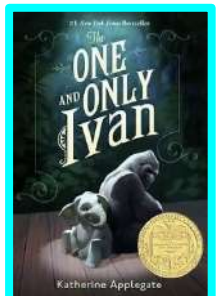


I always read before bed. It helps me to wind down and it is one of the quietest parts of my day.

During the school holidays I read the Year 3/4 mentor text, **The One and Only Ivan** and also the text the Year 5/6 students will be reading this term, **The Last Bear**.

I enjoyed the 5/6 text so much, that Sadhbh (5/6J) has been kind enough to lend me **Turtle Moon**, which is written by the same author as **The Last Bear**.

Ms Rubini - Literacy Leader



VISUAL ARTS



Our Year 3 and 4 students have been exploring the repetitive marks used by artist Vincent van Gogh. They have been experimenting with different materials, including paint, pens and fineliners, to practise his unique techniques. Students are discovering how repeated lines and marks can create texture and detail in their artwork.

Our Prep students have been exploring the artwork of Piet Mondrian, discovering how he used lines, shapes and primary colours in his artwork. They have been experimenting with lines and shapes to create their own artworks inspired by Mondrian, while exploring primary and secondary colours.



Seniors are exploring the art of textiles, discovering how yarn can be manipulated to create artworks. Students applied their understanding of colour, pattern and repetition to create their own God's Eye using yarn.

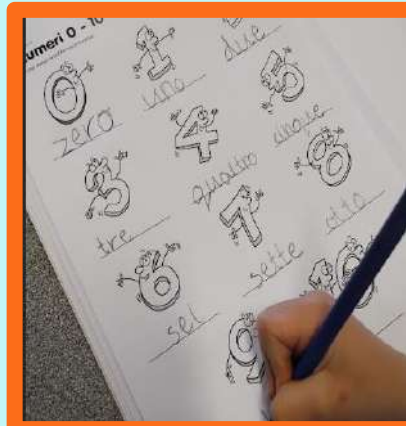


Year 1 and 2 students have been stepping back in time to explore prehistoric cave art! They have been investigating the simple lines, shapes and marks used by early artists, before experimenting with charcoal and oil to make their own drawing pigment. Using sticks instead of pencils and paintbrushes, students created animal drawings.

In ART CLUB this week we made the most of the beautiful weather by taking art outdoors! Using chalk, students coloured in the drawings on the pillars in the Peppercorn Yard. It was a lovely opportunity to enjoy the sunshine while having fun and getting creative together.



ITALIAN



Preps enjoyed unjumbling and writing their numbers in Italian. Many number games and songs were enjoyed and they are always excited to speak in Italian. *Che bravi!!*

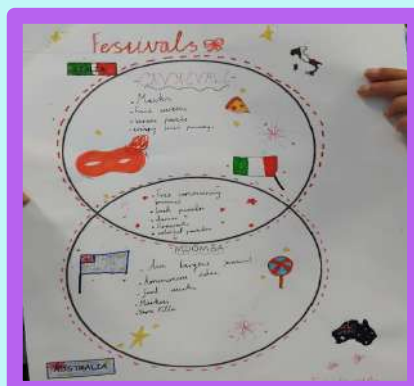
Year 1/2 are reading 'La Macchinetta Rossa' and exploring the sights of Italy. *Bravissimi!*



Year 3/4 shared differences between Italian and Australian celebrations and explained the reasons why festivals are celebrated. *Fantastico!*



Year 5/6 have presented their Venn diagram to their class, identifying similarities and differences between Italian and Australian celebrations and festivals. *Ottimo lavoro ragazzi!*



PERFORMING ARTS

ONE

Lights, camera, ONE!

What a night! On Thursday 15 October, the lights were shining, the music was playing and our St Paul's superstars took to the stage! After months of rehearsals and hard work, our very first whole-school production of *One*, based on the beautiful book by Kathryn Otoshi, came to life!

Throughout the journey, our students have been busy learning lines, rehearsing choreography, developing characters and working together. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow and see them shine on stage!

At the heart of *One* is a simple but powerful message: everyone deserves to feel included and even one voice can make a difference. Our students brought this message to life beautifully through their performances.

A **huge thank you to our families** for supporting the children, helping with preparations and coming along to cheer them on. Your encouragement made the evening even more special.

A **very special thank you to our incredible St Paul's staff!** From rehearsals and costumes to organising students, managing backstage and all the little jobs in between, everyone played their part. Thank you also to Paige Burney for her guidance, creativity and support throughout the journey.

I couldn't be prouder of what our students achieved. What a wonderful celebration of creativity, courage and teamwork and a reminder that together, we can make a difference — **it only takes ONE!**



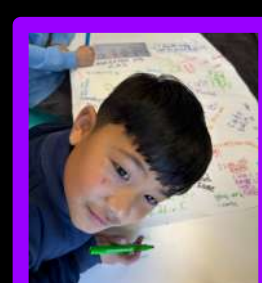
STEM

What an exciting start to Term 4 in STEM!

Our students have jumped straight into a term full of exploring, creating and problem solving! From hands on investigations in Prep to designing in 3D, there's been plenty of curiosity and creativity across the school. Our Year 1/2 students have been building their Chromebook skills, Year 3/4 have been finding new ways to reuse discarded materials and think more sustainably, while Year 5/6 have been bringing their ideas to life through 3D design using Tinkercad.

There's lots happening in STEM, and the photos say it all!

Take a look at what our budding investigators, designers and problem-solvers have been up to.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Term 4 is bringing plenty of energy, movement and teamwork to our PE sessions! It's great to share a glimpse of students challenging themselves, supporting one another and enjoying being active together.

Our prep students have been participating in novelty events such as: the egg and spoon race, sack races, tug of war and tunnel ball; with a key focus on teamwork. There has also been an emphasis on hand eye coordination skill drills with tennis balls, with students throwing/catching them with various challenging ways of performing the actions (ie. adding claps, one hand only etc.)

Our grade 1/2 students have been participating in novelty events such as: the egg and spoon race, sack races, tug of war and tunnel ball; with a key focus on teamwork and winning strategies. Students have also engaged in relays and how to run relays, focusing on the baton transition, when to run and how to setup a relay team.



Our 3/4 students have been engaging in a European Handball unit, learning about the rules and skills required to play the sport. These skills were also implemented in matches. Students have also had the opportunity to learn about lacrosse. Coaches from Brunswick Lacrosse taught skills across numerous drills and then umpired games of "Number Lacrosse".



In recent weeks, our 5/6 students have been learning about European Handball and the rules and skills required to play the sport. They have participated in passing and shooting drills and have implemented these skills in matches. There has been a focus on attacking and defending plays and what they may look in a game, in different scenarios.



LIBRARY



ST PAUL'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL
COBURG

St Paul's & Scholastic Book Fair!



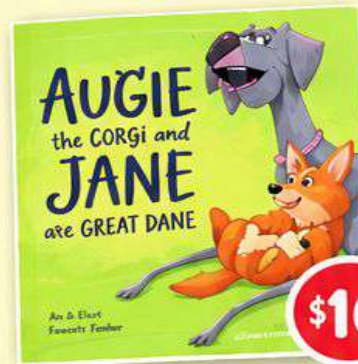
Save the date:
17-19 November



\$12



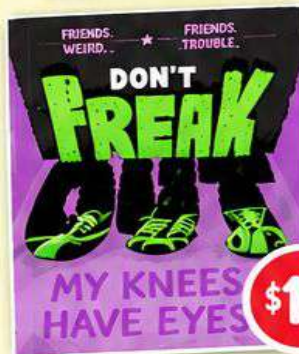
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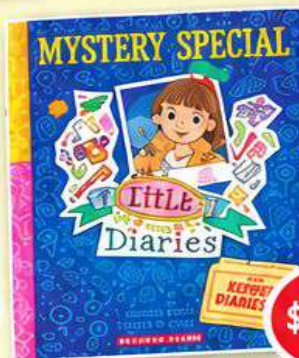
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\$10



\$10



\$10



\$10

Find these books & much more
at the Fair!



Volunteers needed!

Contact Ms Angela -
agangi@spcoburg.catholic.edu.au



SCHOLASTIC

WELLBEING



Save the date!

Day for
Daniel



Our school is supporting Day for Daniel on Friday 30th October.

We invite students to wear a red shirt or accessory to show their support. Day for Daniel is Australia's largest child safety education and day.

Keeping Children Safe

Talking with children about safety helps them recognise when something doesn't feel right, understand what they can do and know how to seek help when they need it.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation has released two new educational resources as part of **Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson (ABC SL)**. These resources help students learn to:

- **Recognise** – notice what feels safe or unsafe and recognise when something doesn't feel right;
- **React** – know what to do when something doesn't feel right, including seeking help from a safe adult;
- **Report** – know who they can talk to, how to ask for help and to keep telling until someone listens.

Families can support this learning by talking about safety at home. Here are some questions you might like to ask your child:

- What helps you feel safe in a place or space?
- What might your body tell you when something doesn't feel right?
- What can you do if you feel unsafe?
- Who are your safe adults?
- What can you do if the first person you tell doesn't listen or help?

To explore the videos and family guides, visit the [Daniel Morcombe Foundation – Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson](https://www.danielmorcombe.org.au/australias-biggest-child-safety-lesson).



SUSTAINABILITY



BIKETOBER SCHOOLS CHALLENGE



It's the **last** week of Biketober!

Next Friday is '**Bling your bike day**'. We encourage all students to dress up their bike or scooter and we'll select a winner for the most creative & bedazzled wheels!

So get creative and colourful! We can't wait to see some dazzling bikes next Friday morning!



Remember, we are competing for the top school prize - an ice cream bike for the most engaged school!

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to this week's winners, Johnny and Miki in prep for encouraging each other and riding to school together!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is wonderful to see our students wearing their uniforms with pride. Our school uniform is an important part of our identity, fostering a sense of belonging for every child.

To ensure we all maintain these high standards, please take a moment to review our current guidelines:

School Shoes: Black shoes - all black soles - are part of the St Paul's uniform. Children can wear runners on their sports day. Some black school shoes examples include:



Jewellery - Only stud earrings can be worn. For safety reasons no dangling earrings to be worn. Necklace that displays religious symbols eg: crucifix, etc.

Watches - Smart watches must have connectivity switched off.

Hair - Hair of shoulder, or longer length must be tied back with hair accessories in school colours - black or blue hair ties. Hair should not cover eyes.

Hair colour must be of natural colouring - no extreme hair colours.

All hair accessories (eg. clips, ribbons, headbands) are to be blue, black or white in colour.

Decorative hair accessories must not be worn.

**NEW UNIFORMS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM
SPARTAN WORLD UNIFORM SUPPLIER**

To place an order, please visit: [Spartan School World](#)



SECONDHAND UNIFORMS - \$10 an item - Packed & processed on Wednesday only

Email - office@spcoburg.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for supporting our uniform policy.

St Paul's & St Oliver Plunkett's Family, Ministers & Volunteers Parish Picnic



Saturday October 31st



11-2pm



Games & Prizes



**St Paul's Parish Hall,
562 Sydney Road
Coburg 3058**

Everyone welcome!

Bring a plate to share

RSVP

