



# NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

This week, we take a moment to give thanks for the wonderful gift of the special women in our lives—mothers, grandmothers, aunts and carers—as we celebrate Mother’s Day. It is a meaningful opportunity for us to reflect with gratitude on the love, care and guidance they provide so generously each day. On a personal note, I feel deeply thankful for my own mother, who is a mother of three and a grandmother of seven. I am especially grateful for her compassion, her gift for making others feel valued and her wonderful sense of humour. These qualities continue to inspire and strengthen me every day.



## MOTHER’S DAY CELEBRATIONS

We look forward to celebrating the important women in our students’ lives through these special events:

### Mother’s Day Stall – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Our Parents and Friends Association will host a Mother’s Day Stall, where students can purchase a gift for their mother or special carer. All gifts are \$5 and students are asked to bring this amount on the day.

### Whole School Prayer – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May (2.50pm)

Our prayer gathering will focus on Mother’s Day and families are warmly invited to attend.

### Mother’s Day Breakfast – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May (7:00–8:45am)

Hosted by the Parents and Friends Association, this much-loved event will include egg and bacon rolls and fruit juice. No tickets are required. Please note that the busiest time is typically 8:00 to 8:45am.

## YEARS 3-6 ATHLETICS DAY DETAILS

Our Years 3 – 6 students Athletics Carnival will be held on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**. Students will arrive at school and then be bused to and from Llanberris Athletics Reserve. See the program below. *(Please note that the Foundation/ Years 1 and 2 Athletics Carnival will be held at school on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1:00-3.15pm**).*

Age Group	9:45am	10.15am - 10:40am	10:40- 11:05am	11.05am- 11:30am	11:30am- 11:50am	11.50 - 12.15-	12.15- 12-40	12.40 - 1.05	1.05-1.30	1:30 - 2:00pm
12/13 Boys	800m	Hurdles	200m	Game	Lunch	Sprints 100m	Long Jump	Vortex	Class Relays	Awards and winners announced
12/13 Girls		Vortex	Hurdles	200m		Game	Sprints 100m	Long Jump		
11 Boys		Long Jump	Vortex	Hurdles		200m	Game	Sprints 100m		
11 Girls		Sprints 100m	Long Jump	Vortex		Hurdles	200m	Game		
9/10 Boys		Game	Sprints 100m	Long Jump		Vortex	Hurdles	200m		
9/10 Girls		200m	Game	Sprints 100m		Long Jump	Vortex	Hurdles		

Please contact Melissa Willey, [mwilley@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mwilley@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au) if you are able to assist with any of the events on the day.

## INTER-SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS COMPETITIONS – AFL FOOTBALL

Congratulations to all the senior students who recently represented the school so well in AFL football last Friday. Our boys' and girls' teams positively encouraged each other and showed excellent sporting spirit throughout the whole day. Well done to all three teams! Our sincere thanks to Grant Seater and Jake Whelan who generously gave of their time to coach each of the boys' teams throughout the day.



## STUDENT AGENCY – SCHOOLS THAT LISTEN

Our school is part of *Student Agency – Schools that Listen*, a diocesan initiative focused on strengthening student voice and ensuring that students play an active role in shaping their learning and their overall school experience. This initiative recognises that students are not just participants in education, but important partners in it. By listening to students and creating opportunities for them to contribute, schools can better support engagement, wellbeing and meaningful learning for all.

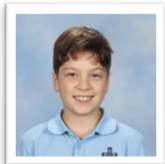
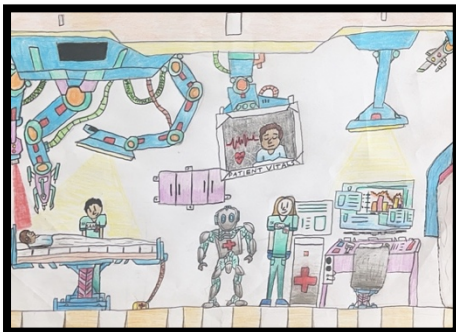
As part of this work, Ava, Noah, Clyde and Evelyn from Year 5 recently took part in a Student Agency Forum, joining peers from across the Diocese. These forums provided an opportunity for participants to share their perspectives, explore what matters most in their school experience and to consider the question: *What makes a great school for all?*

Through hands-on activities and collaboration, participants reflected on their experiences and developed ideas that they will now bring back to our school community. This is part of a *learn, share, do* approach – where students and staff learn together, share their thinking and then take action in their own school.

We look forward to continuing this important work and sharing more with you as student ideas are explored and brought to life in our school.

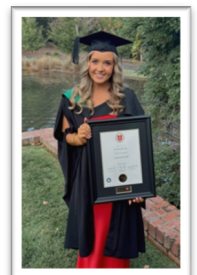


## GREAT ARTWORK



We congratulate Sebastain Mulcair, a Year 5 student, who was one of the winners of the Grampians Health Redevelopment "Student Artwork Initiative" where he created an outstanding 'Hospital of the Future' design. His artwork was chosen as one of the artworks to be

displayed at the new Ballarat Base Hospital redevelopment site. His great work will be acknowledged at a special presentation tomorrow night. We are very proud of Sebastian's achievement.



## MS ELLE HAMMILL GRADUATES

We congratulate Ms Elle Hammill, one of our wonderful Year 1/2 teachers, who recently attended her graduation ceremony for her Bachelor of Education degree at Australian Catholic University (ACU). We are all very proud of Elle and wish her a wonderful career.

## FOUNDATION (PREP) 2027

All Ballarat Catholic Primary Schools are now concluding the 2027 Foundation (Prep) enrolment process. Applications close on **Thursday 14th May at 4pm**. Please note that current families will need to also complete the enrolment process, even if they have siblings currently attending the school. Click [here](#) for the enrolment link.

## SPECIAL PERSONS DAY – THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Some advance notice to let families know that we are, once again, hosting our Special Persons Day; an event that celebrates the important people in our students' lives. The afternoon will run as follows:

**1:30pm:** Special persons arrive and wait in the school yard

**1:45pm:** Students meet their special person(s)

**2:20pm:** Classroom visits, where students share their learning and participate in activities together

**2:45pm:** Whole School Prayer in the Multipurpose Room

**3:15pm:** Event concludes

Families are welcome to bring along a small snack to enjoy during the outdoor portion of the afternoon.



## SCHOOL PASTORAL CARE WORKER

Mrs Kaye Lock has now commenced her role as our school's Pastoral Care Worker. She is working each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. She has already begun working alongside staff, students and families to meet the needs of our school community

Kaye is assisting the school in the following areas:

- Student Wellbeing • School Counselling • Trauma-Informed Practice
- Social & Emotional Learning • Wellbeing Curriculum Development • Child Safe Standards • Family Engagement • Berry Street Education Model • Respectful Relationships • Workshop Facilitation.

If you or your child would like to engage with Kaye please contact the front office.



## School TV: MOTHER'S DAY

Here is the link to your special report: [Celebrating Mother's Day](#)

Mother's Day is a simple tradition to honour mothers. It remains a meaningful opportunity to express gratitude for the care, love and support of mothers and mother figures provide. While often celebrated with small gestures, it is also a time to reflect on their sacrifices and ongoing influence. The SchoolTV article highlights the importance of supporting mothers' wellbeing, particularly mental health, as many place others' needs before their own. It reminds us that caring for mothers is vital not only for families, but for the wellbeing of our wider community.

Also attached at the end of our Newsletter is a flyer regarding our Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationship program (RRRR) school wide topic for Term 2: Topic 2 'Personal and Cultural Strengths'



## School Closure days in 2026 (Student free)

Date	Purpose
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Mental Health- Staff Professional Development
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Religious Education - Staff Professional Development
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	FLARE Literacy - Staff Professional Development
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Curriculum -Planning and Reporting

May God bless you all and keep you safe,

Simon Duffy  
Principal

# Term 2 Calendar, 2026

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 May	4	5	6	7 Mother's Day Stall  Mother's Day Liturgy Prayer @ 2:50pm led by our 1/2 Classes	8 Mother's Day Breakfast 7-8.30am
4 May	11 Interschool Cross country	12 Year 5 Secondary Education Experience Day (SEED) 9:00-1:30pm St Pat's & Loreto College	13	14 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by Foundation Cudia	15 School Athletics Day Years 3-6 at Llanberris
5 May	18	19	20	21 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 5/6 Larkin	22 Junior F-2 Athletics Carnival at St Thomas More School
6 May	25 Catholic Education Week	26	27	28 Special Persons Day 1:30 - 3:15pm  Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Martin	29 Year 5/6 interschool Soccer  Year 3/4 Mass 9.15am
7 May/June	1	2	3	4 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2 Turkenburg/Bourke	5 School closure day Staff PD - Mental Health training day
8 June	8 King's Birthday- Public Holiday	9	10	11 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by Foundation Gannon	12 Yr 5/6 Interschool Netball
9 June	15	16	17	18 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Edwards  School production @6pm at Ballarat Civic Hall	19 Yr 5/6 Interschool sport STM versing Emmaus
10 June	22 St Thomas More Feast Day Mass 9.15am	23	24	25 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2 Hammill	26

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING @ STM

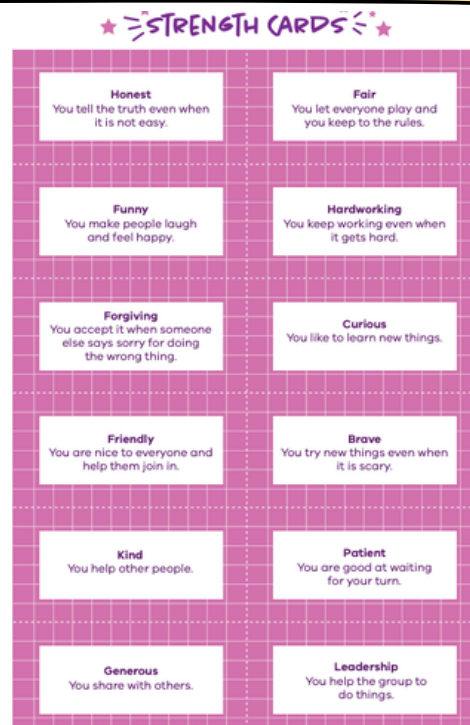
## Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships

### Term 2 Topic 2: Personal & Cultural Strengths

This term our whole school RRRR learning focuses on identifying the strengths and qualities of ourselves and others. We look to role models within our family, school and broader communities to help us develop our own strengths and respectful relationship skill building.

### Example Activity: Yr 1/2: Building a 'strengths' display.

Using the 'Strengths Cards', discuss as whole class how we might see each strength either in our class, on the playground or at home and how it makes us happier and feel safer. Each student chooses a personal strength and draws/writes how they can show this strength. These images then create a classroom display.





**KELLY  
SPORTS**

# TERM 2 PROGRAMS

afterpay

AVAILABLE  
**NOW**

**PREP -  
GRADE 6**



**9 WEEK  
PROGRAM**

**STARTS MON - APR 20TH**



**10 WEEK  
PROGRAM**

**STARTS TUE - APR 21ST**

**MONDAYS  
FUN & CRAZY GAMES  
3:20PM - 4.20PM**

**TUESDAYS  
MULTI-SPORT  
3:20PM - 4.20PM**

**BASKETBALL | FOOTBALL | SOCCER | FRISBEE | NETBALL**

## **ST THOMAS MORE PS**

**PICK UP  
4.20PM FRONT  
OF SCHOOL**

**SIGN UP AT ANY  
TIME DURING THE  
TERM!**

**\$19  
+ GST  
PER SESSION**



**ENROL ONLINE**

**WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT**

**QUERIES: TEXT SEAN 0411 602 204**



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