



## NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

Lights, Cameras, Action! Just one day to go until we host "St Thomas More Goes to Broadway".

Below is important information to support your child's involvement in this special event:

### Rehearsals

Tomorrow all classes will visit the Civic Hall for their rehearsal. Students will travel to and from the Civic Hall by bus with their classroom teachers and classmates. Students are able to wear their sports uniform for rehearsals.

### Program for the night

Scan this QR code to access the program for the production.



### Pre-ordering tickets

All prebooked tickets should now be paid for and collected from the school office. No tickets will be available at the door on the night. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### Pre-ordering a copy of the filming of the school production.

The school production is being professionally filmed by an external company. Parents are requested to not take pictures or videos during the show. If you have not already ordered a copy and you would now like to, please contact the front office.

### Costumes

Students are required to wear basic black clothing as their base costume. This includes black school shoes or runners, black pants and a black t-shirt (short or long sleeve). Please avoid logos where possible. A coloured costume piece will be provided by the classroom teacher upon arrival on the night.

### Makeup and Hair

There are no makeup requirements for students. Hair should be neat and presented to the same standard as school photo day.

### Food and Drink

No food or drink is required to be brought by students to the venue. Water will be provided to the students.

### Evening Drop-Off Procedures

On Thursday evening students are to be dropped off at 5:15pm via the side entrance to Civic Hall (Doveton Street entrance near the Ballarat Library). Parents should park nearby and walk their child/ren to the Civic Hall. Staff will be present to greet, sign in and supervise students for the duration of the event. The hall will be open from approximately 5:30pm for guests to take their seats and the show will commence at 6:00pm promptly.

### Pick up procedure

At the conclusion of the evening, approximately 7.30pm, students are to be collected from the main foyer of the Civic Hall. Students must notify their teacher before departing with their parents or guardians.



## ST THOMAS MORE FEAST DAY

As a school we celebrate the Feast Day of our school's patron saint, St Thomas More, on **Monday 22nd June**. Our patron saint's actions remind us that we must stand up to others when faced with injustice, discrimination and inequity, even if it may cause us to be challenged or questioned. Each day, as a school community, we are called to live out our school motto; *"With God First, We Will Live, Learn and Thrive"*. On **Monday 22nd June** we will be celebrating the Feast Day with a whole school Mass led by Father Ed at **9.15am**. Parents are most welcome to attend.



## SEMESTER 1 STUDENT REPORTS

Our teachers are currently in the process of writing student reports for Semester One. Your child's school report will be available via the Parent Access Module (PAM) on **Wednesday 24th July** from 2:00pm. If you need any assistance accessing this, please contact the front office. I encourage you to take the time to discuss the academic report and Seesaw posts with your child/ren, as it is most beneficial for students to reflect on their work and identify areas for future focus. If you have any questions about your child's report, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation will commence next term. The sacrament of Confirmation is open to children who have been baptised in the Catholic faith and are in Year 3 and above. Parents who would like their child to undertake this sacrament are asked to attend the parent information session either on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 9am** at St Thomas More or on **Thursday 23rd July at 5.30pm** at the Glowrey room at the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall and to complete the attached form: <https://forms.gle/SZdixF2t3ZpxpBXz9>



## FULLNESS OF LIFE FOR ALL

The area of *Relationships and Sexuality Education* will be covered at school early next term. The Diocese of Ballarat, Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL), has developed a curriculum scope and sequence that sets out what is to be taught in primary schools from Foundation to Year 6. The document, titled *"Fullness of Life for All"*, will be used by our staff, to develop learning for our students in covering the **My Body** and **Life Cycles** themes. To honour the partnership of families and our school working together in this important area, there is a parent information session organised on **Monday 22nd June** at 2.30pm – 3.15pm. To register your intention to attend this session please use the following link: <https://forms.gle/55uDxCTmWcsEhKzEA>



## LAST DAY OF TERM - PYJAMA DAY

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June** is a pyjama day/casual clothes day for staff and students. We will be collecting a gold coin. The money will be put towards purchasing student resources for the Pastoral Care Office. A reminder that the students finish that last day of term at 1.45pm.



## NATIONAL CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA (NCCD)

Early next term, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School (and all schools across Australia) will be completing the National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) about students with a disability. The NCCD collects data about school students with disability who are receiving adjustments across Australia in a consistent, reliable and systemic way. The data counts the number of students at St Thomas More who receive additional adjustments or "help" at school due of their individual learning needs. The NCCD survey enables schools, education authorities and governments to better understand the needs of students with disability and how they can be supported at school. The NCCD data also helps the government plan for the needs of students with disabilities. More information about NCCD can be found at the end of this newsletter on pages 6 and 7.

## INTER-SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS COMPETITIONS - NETBALL

Congratulations to all the senior students who recently represented the school so well in netball. Our teams positively encouraged each other and showed excellent sporting spirit throughout both days.



## JAPANESE LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE SEEKING A HOMESTAY

During the month of August, our school will have a Japanese language assistant. She will be working alongside our Japanese teacher. She will arrive on Saturday 8th August and depart on Saturday 29th August. We are currently looking for one family who would like to host the Japanese language assistant for the 3-week period or two families who could share the hosting (approximately ten days each). The assistant is in her early 20's and has English language skills. A payment of \$330 per week would be made to host families to contribute to hosting costs including the provision of 3 meals daily and transport to/from school each day. If you are interested in hosting, can you please contact the office by **Monday 22nd June**.

## School TV: Update Week 9, 2026:

### CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 5th-12th July

Here is the link to your special report: [Naidoc Week - A Special Report](#)

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and provides an opportunity for all Australians to learn from and engage with the world's oldest continuing cultures.

Its origins trace back to the Aboriginal rights movement and the 1938 Day of Mourning, one of Australia's earliest civil rights movements advocating for recognition and equality. This year's theme, 50 Years of Deadly, celebrates 50 years of NAIDOC Week as a national week-long celebration, recognising generations of strength, resilience, leadership and cultural pride.

Today, NAIDOC Week brings communities together through traditional and contemporary celebrations that foster understanding, respect and connection. For children and young people, it provides an opportunity to appreciate diverse perspectives, strengthen cultural understanding and recognise that our differences enrich communities. This Special Report offers caregivers practical suggestions for celebrating NAIDOC Week together and continuing these important conversations at home. (SchoolTV, 2026)



SPECIAL REPORT

Celebrating  
NAIDOC  
Week



## SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS IN 2026 (STUDENT FREE)

Date	Purpose
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,

Mr Simon Duffy  
Principal

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR PATRON SAINT - ST THOMAS MORE

### Patronage of St Thomas More

St. Thomas More is the patron saint of adopted children, civil servants, court clerks, lawyers, politicians, stepparents, and widowers. These patronages reflect his dedication to both family and the service of the government.



### St Thomas More in Art

Artwork of St. Thomas More shows him dressed in the clothing typical of the Renaissance, the time period in which he lived. He wears a hat, robes, and a type of chain around his neck called a “livery collar,” which marks his position in King Henry VIII’s courts. He also holds paper (sometimes in a scroll) in his hands, symbolic of his education and writings.

### St Thomas More – famous quotes

“Nobody owns anything, but everyone is rich - for what greater wealth can there be than cheerfulness, peace of mind and freedom from anxiety?”

“Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.”

“One of the greatest problems of our time is that many are schooled but few are educated.”

“You wouldn't abandon ship in a storm just because you couldn't control the winds.”

“It is part of the business of life to be affable and pleasing to those whom either nature, chance or circumstance has made our companions.”

## Term 2 Calendar, 2026

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 June	15 Year 5/6 Excursion to Melbourne Museum and Imax. 9:00-4:15pm	16	17	18 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Edwards  School production 'St Thomas More Goes to Broadway' @6pm at 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 Pyjama Day/Casual Clothes Day – Gold Coin Donation  Last day of Term 2 – 1:45pm dismissal

# Term 3 Calendar, 2026

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 July	13	14	15	16 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 5/6 Davis</i>	17
2 July	20	21 <i>Sacrament of Confirmation parent info session 9am at St Thomas More</i>	22	23 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Stacey</i>	24
3 July	27	28	29	30 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 5/6 Baker</i>	31 <i>School closure day Staff Religious education Professional development day</i>
4 Aug	3	4 <i>Learning Support Officers Appreciation Day</i>	5	6 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 5/6 Dodd</i>	7 <i>Catholic School Athletics selected students</i>
5 Aug	10 <i>School Advisory council meeting 5pm</i>	11	12	13 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 5/6 Smith</i>	14 <i>Yr 5/6 Interschool Basketball selected students</i>
<i>Swimming Program: 11:30-12:15pm Foundation Gannon &amp; 1/2 Hammill 12:15-1:00pm Foundation Edwards and 1/2 Stacey 1:00-1:45pm Foundation Cudia and 1/2 Turkenburg/Bourke</i>					
6 Aug	17	18	19	20 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Gittings/Willey</i>	21 <i>Year 1/2 Mass 9.15am</i>
<i>Swimming Program: 11:30-12:15pm 1/2 Allan and 1/2 Edmends 12:15-1:00pm 3/4 Hawkes/DeBono and 5/6 Dodd 1:00-1:45pm 3/4 Martin and 5/6 Smith</i>					
7 Sept	24	25	26	27 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Gannon</i>	28
<i>Swimming Program: 11:30-12:15pm 3/4 Calleija and 5/6 Baker 12:15-1:00pm 3/4 Woodhart and 5/6 Larkin 1:00-1:45pm 3/4 Gittings/Willey and 5/6 Davis</i>					
8 Sept	31 <i>Parent/ Teacher student learning conference 3.00 – 6.45pm</i>	1 <i>School Closure Day- Literacy staff professional development</i>	2 <i>Parent/ Teacher student learning conference 3.00 – 6.45pm</i>	3 <i>Father's Day stall  Whole School Prayer @ 2:45pm led by 3/4 classes</i>	4 <i>Yr 5/6 interschool sport Father's Day breakfast 7am – 8.30am</i>
9 Sept	7	8	9 <i>Eureka Athletics selected students</i>	10 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2 Edmends</i>	11 <i>Book Week Parade 9am</i>
10 September	14	15	16	17 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:45pm led by Foundation Edwards</i>	18 <i>Last day of Term 3 -1.45pm dismissal</i>

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

### What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

### Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

### What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

### **What sort of help does the school give students?**

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

### **How will the NCCD be different this year?**

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

### **What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?**

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

### **What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?**

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

### **Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?**

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

### **Where can I find out more?**

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).



## ALFREDTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

# OSHC

## Outside School Hours Care

Before & After School Care for Our School Community

We are excited to offer a safe, supportive and engaging environment where children can relax, play, connect with friends and take part in fun and enriching experiences before and after school.

### OUR PROGRAM TIMES



#### BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

6:30am – 8:45am  
\$30.00 per session

A calm start to the day with breakfast, games and activities to get ready for learning.



#### AFTER SCHOOL CARE

3:30pm – 6:30pm  
\$35.00 per session

A fun afternoon of play, learning experiences, outdoor time and time to relax with friends.

**Fruit and a snack will be provided each afternoon.**

### WHAT WE OFFER



Caring & qualified educators



Safe, inclusive & supportive environment



Fun & engaging activities



Healthy breakfast (BSC) and fruit & snack (ASC)



Strong partnerships with families and our school community

### FEES

Before School Care \$30.00 per session

After School Care \$35.00 per session

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

School Days Only

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Bookings are essential.
- Child Care Subsidy (CCS) is available.
- All staff hold current WWCC, First Aid, Anaphylaxis & Asthma training.

### VACATION CARE

VACATION CARE DETAILS TO COME!

More information about our vacation care program will be shared soon.

**Please note: There will be no VAC for Term 2.**

### ENROL HERE

Scan the QR code to enrol your child in OSHC today!



### HAVE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help!



Ph. (03) 5334 1572



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Alfredton Primary School