

NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope that the holidays provided a great opportunity for families to relax, rest and reset for this final school term of the year. The term is action packed with excursions, camps, Masses, Assemblies, Whole School Prayers, Mission Day, World Teachers Day, Remembrance Day, School Christmas Carols and much more. Please see the calendar attached to page four of this newsletter so that, as a family, you can be involved in as many of these events as possible.

MISSION DAY 2026

Each year in October, as a school, we support Catholic Mission Australia. Catholic Mission Australia works to support children and families in over 160 countries worldwide. This year our school's Mission Fundraising Day will be held on **Friday 23rd October**. All money raised will go directly to Catholic Mission Australia. Students are encouraged to bring along silver coins to spend at the many and various stalls. Our five Year 3/4 classes, as well as groups of students in Years 5 and 6, will be organising and conducting fun activities for all students to enjoy. The price of activities ranges from 10 cents through to \$1, thus the reason why students are encouraged to only bring along silver coins. Please avoid sending money notes as the stalls will not have the capacity to give large amounts of change. For the price of a gold coin donation, students may also wear casual clothes for the day. The activities and stalls will run from 1.45 – 2.45pm.



CLASS GROUPINGS FOR 2027

As we begin planning for the 2027 school year, our staff are currently working through the important process of creating class groupings for next year. This is a thoughtful and collaborative process, with input from classroom teachers and specialist staff who know the students well. Each child has had the opportunity to nominate friends and peers they feel they work well with to help us form balanced, positive learning groups. Again, this year, we will not be seeking additional feedback from families regarding class placements, as we are confident in the professional judgement and care our teachers bring to this process. We look forward to shaping engaging and supportive classes where every child can live, learn and thrive in 2027!

ENROLMENTS 2027

I would ask families who are aware that they will not be returning to St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School next year, to promptly inform the school as we continue to receive frequent enquiries from families who are seeking enrolment positions for 2027.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL 2027

We are currently seeking parent nominations for our School Advisory Council (SAC) for 2027. The SAC acts as an advisory body to the principal on matters relating to the operation of the school. The SAC supports the principal in the directions / policies of the school. It offers advice to assist with planning for the present and the future operation of the school. I encourage those interested to click the link below to find out more and to determine whether such a position is of interest to them.

<https://forms.gle/3mpnXx3MXxJUE3nv6> SAC nominations close on **Friday, 23rd October at 1pm.**

CROSSING CUTHBERTS ROAD SAFELY

Late last term we almost had a pedestrian accident involving a child and parent who were crossing Cuthberts Road at a non- designated crossing area. Fortunately, both the parent and child were uninjured, but it was very unsettling for those who witnessed it, as well as the driver of the vehicle. It is a timely reminder that we ask parents and grandparents to set a good example for the children by crossing either at the supervised school crossing near Alfredton Primary School or at the designated crossing at the intersection of Cuthberts Road and Elaine Ave. We thank you for your support with this important safety request.

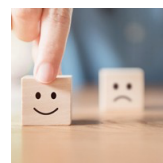
JAPAN DAY

On **Wednesday 14th October** we will be celebrating our bi-annual Japan Day where students will have the opportunity to engage in traditional Japanese cultural activities. Students may dress up in something Japanese over their school uniform or simply add a touch of red and white to signify the Japanese flag.



School TV: Dealing with Disappointment

'As young people learn to navigate through various aspects of their life, they may face disappointment due to unfulfilled expectations, shattered dreams or unexpected setbacks. Yet, with the appropriate tools, strategies and a positive mindset, young people can learn to cope with disappointment and use it as an opportunity for personal growth and success.



SPECIAL REPORT
Dealing with
Disappointment
 schooltv.me

Disappointment can be a tricky emotion to deal with at any age. It is a normal part of growing up. However, children sometimes need reminding that they have a choice in how they respond to disappointment and their response will determine the impact it has on their future happiness. Overall, disappointment is a healthy and positive emotion and plays an integral part in a child's emotional, intellectual and social development. Helping young people manage their disappointment is important in order to avoid stronger emotions such as anxiety and depression. Although a parent's first reaction may be to fix the problem, it is better to encourage your child to find the words to express how they feel.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.'

Here is the link to the special report:

https://stmalfredton.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-dealing-disappointment

Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience (Part III)

Missed the recent SchoolTV webinar?

The replay of **Part III** of SchoolTV's webinar series, **Understanding Anxiety & Depression to Foster Resilience**, is now available for families and staff to watch at any time.

This session explores how parents and carers can help build resilience through strong foundations and everyday wellbeing habits, with practical guidance for supporting neurodivergent children from a strengths-based perspective.

In this session, **Dr Emma Woodward** and **Dr Joe Stammeijer** shared practical insights and strategies across three key areas:

- Building Resilience Foundations
- Everyday Habits for Wellbeing
- Strength-Based Resilience for Neurodivergent Children

The replay can be accessed using the link below or via the **Webinar Series** tile on your SchoolTV homepage. We're also pleased to let you know that the Webinar Series tile now includes **recordings from all our previous webinars**. These will remain permanently available, giving our school community ongoing access to the full webinar series at any time.

Watch the webinar: Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience (Part III)

You can also download the **KEY points Flyer** for practical takeaways to help support conversations at home.

MISSION DAY BOOK STALL

Year 3/4 Hawkes/De Bono will be running a **Book Stall** on **Mission Day!** We are seeking donations of good-quality children's books for our stall. If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off at the **school office** or **Room 12** by **Wednesday 21st October**. All money raised from the book stall will be donated to **Caritas**. Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraising efforts!

TOYS AT SCHOOL

We ask that parents assist the school with reducing the excessive number of toys that some students in the Junior years are currently bringing to school each day. We strongly request that students don't bring toys to school as they frequently present as distractions during learning time, and they also run the risk of accidentally becoming damaged or lost.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Families are reminded that students must have a school hat to wear when outside during Terms 1 and 4. The wide-brimmed school hat is available for purchase from Noone, school uniform suppliers, located at 4 Armstrong St North, Ballarat Central. Please check that your child's hat is name labelled.



A reminder of our summer school uniform requirements (Term 1 and Term 4):

Academic Uniform Option 1

Summer school dress, navy blue school jumper, white school socks with black school shoes.

Academic Uniform Option 2

Grey school shorts with school logo (Noone brand), pale blue polo with school logo, navy blue school jumper and grey socks with black school shoes.

Sports uniform

Navy shorts/skirt, pale blue long/short sleeved polo with school logo, school long sleeve half-zip sports top with white school socks and sports shoes.

GREATER WESTERN REGION ATHLETICS COMPETITION

Our students performed very well at the Eureka Athletics Competition on 9th September, with the following wonderful individual and team results being achieved:

9/10yos	11yos	12/13yos
<i>Hurdles G-</i> Evie Grumley 1st, Emily McConville 2nd <i>Hurdles B-</i> Myles Baker 1st <i>Shotput</i> - Vance Kirkpatrick 2nd <i>800m G-</i> Edith Brick 4th <i>800m B-</i> Myles Baker 3rd <i>4x100 Relay</i> - Myles Baker, Jimmy Richardson, Harry Larkin, Jack Cavill 1st	<i>Hurdles</i> - Hamish Bayles 2nd <i>800m</i> - Oliver Piatkov 2nd 	<i>100m</i> - Archer Stevens 1st <i>Triple Jump</i> - Lewis Pascoe 1st <i>4x100 Relay</i> - Archer Stevens, Jed Walsh, Lewis Pascoe, Zach Seater 1st 

All competitors who finished either 1st or 2nd have qualified for the Geater Western Regional Competition to be held this coming **Friday, 9th October**. We wish each of our 13 competitors further success as the competition field becomes increasingly more challenging.



OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The following link will provide you with access to the August 2026 edition of "Our Diocesan Community" <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/ODC-August-2026-web.pdf>. This magazine shares the good news stories of our schools, parishes and agencies across the Ballarat diocese.

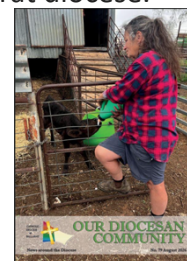
May God bless you all and keep you safe,

Simon Duffy

Mr. Simon Duffy,

Principal

Term 4 Calendar, 2026



Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Oct	5 Term 4 commences	6	7	8	9 Greater Western Region Athletics Competition for qualifying students.
2 Oct	12	13	14 Japan Day	15 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 3/4 Woodhart	16 Yr 5/6 Interschool sport STMCPs & St Columba's
3 Oct	19	20	21	22 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Calleija	23 Mission Market Day
4 Oct	26 Year 3/4 Camp to Cave Hill Creek	27 Year 3/4 Camp to Cave Hill Creek	28	29 World Teacher's Day Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Hammill	30 Foundation Excursion to MOPA
5 Nov	2 School closure day Assessment and reporting	3 Melbourne Cup Day Holiday	4	5 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Cudia	6 Yr 5/6 Interschool Cricket
6 Nov	9 SAC Meeting 5pm	10	11 Remembrance Day Foundation 2027 Transition Session #1 9.15 – 11am	12 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 5/6 Larkin	13 Year 3/4 Mass 9.15am
7 Nov	16	17	18 Foundation 2027 Transition Session #2 9.15 – 11am	19 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 3/4 Martin	20
8 Nov	23	24	25 Foundation 2027 Transition Session #3 9.15 – 1pm	26 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Turkenburg/Bourke	27
9 Nov/ Dec	30	1 Catholic Secondary Schools Transition Day - Yr 6 to Yr 7 Going up day	2 Yr. 6 Adventure Park	3 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Hawkes/De Bono Christmas Carols 5pm – 7pm	4
10 Dec	7	8	9	10 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Allan	11 End of Year Mass and Yr 6 Graduation 9.15am
11 Dec	14	15 Nativity Whole School Prayer 2.30pm	16 Yr 6 Graduation dinner at Golf club 6pm	17 Last day of Term 4 Final Fun Day & Picnic at Vic Park Dismissal 1.45pm	18 Staff Day.



**KELLY
SPORTS**



TERM 4 PROGRAMS

**15%
OFF**

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

Enter code: YKKTR1ZM
Valid until Oct 2nd

**SPECIAL
OFFER**

**STARTS MON
5TH OCT**

SIBLING DISCOUNT!

1ST SIBLING PAYS FULL PRICE,
ADDITIONAL SIBLING(S) 20% off

**STARTS TUE
6TH OCT**

ST THOMAS MORE PS

**10 WEEK PROGRAMS
PREP TO GRADE 6**

MONDAYS

GYM AND CIRCUS

3:20PM - 4:20PM

\$19 + GST PER SESSION

AFTER-SCHOOL PICK-UP:

Front of school at 4.20pm

TUESDAYS

MULTI-SPORT

3:20PM - 4:20PM

\$19 + GST PER SESSION

BASKETBALL | BASEBALL | SOCCER | TENNIS | CRICKET

SIGN UP AT ANY TIME DURING THE TERM!



ENROL ONLINE

WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GREATER-BALLARAT

QUERIES: TEXT SEAN 0411 602 204



