

NEWSLETTER

"TO LIVE, TO LOVE, TO GROW IN CHRIST"



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Project Compassion - A Lenten Prayer

*God of our journey we are all pilgrims of hope brought together by your love and your wish that we may all be one.
We pray that in this Year of Jubilee when we are called to greater justice and care for our common home that we may
Unite Against Poverty.
May we work in unity for the freedom of the oppressed and the renewal of creation. May our compassionate mind and
generous hearts help bring about a world where all can live in peace.
May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting, almsgiving and prayer bring us closer to our loving heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
Amen*

Dear Families,

I begin our newsletter today with the words Live with Kindness, Learn with Kindness and Lead with Kindness. Today, students, staff and family came to school dressed in blue to recognise and acknowledge World Autism Awareness Day. Thank you to all our families in your support around this.



Our Lenten journey continues as we prepare for Easter. During Lent, our school contributes to Project Compassion through fundraising and prayer. We are calling on Project Compassion boxes to be returned to school starting this week. If of course you wish to hold onto yours for the holidays, this is fine. We ask please that it be returned at the beginning of Term 2.

Recently our Year 5 students were invited to nominate their interest in our Youth Ministry. Over the past week, we have received some great nominations from our students. Our Youth Ministers shall be announced and presented to our school community at the beginning of Term 2.

We farewell Mr Connor Schiller this week as he will be leaving the territory to be with his family in South Australia. We thank Connor for all that he has contributed here at our school as our former Physical Education teacher and regular relief. Connor built strong relationships across our school community and will be missed. All the very best Mr Connor, keep in touch.



We have our final Awards Assembly tomorrow in our Multipurpose Room. This will be led by staff and children from Transition. Khoda Patel, our local member for Casuarina will be presenting an additional award this week called the 'All Rounder'. This is for two students at our school. This award is for a student who works hard in class, participates in all school activities and events, and assists those around them without being asked.

Our Easter raffle is underway. We have many a great hamper to win. All proceeds from our raffle go towards purchasing resources for our children. Raffle winners will be announced on Wednesday 16th April. Follow the link provided to find out how you can purchase tickets : [Easter Raffle Tickets](#)

Welcome Ethan and Zoe Jennings and Isiah Heggerty who joined our school recently. We are excited that you have joined our school community recently .



Tomorrow is Reward Afternoon. A chance for us to celebrate and acknowledge the fantastic work of our students. Your child's classroom teacher shall inform you of what they have planned for Reward Afternoon.

Our swimming program begins on Monday 28 May. An Operoo permission form has been sent home with all the details. Our swimming program supports our Physical Education program here at school so there is an expectation for all children to participate.

A reminder of our whole school closure this Friday for the purpose of staff professional development in Catholic Identity. OSHC and COL are also closed on this day, so that all staff from across the school can gather for important faith formation.

As the school holidays approach, I want to take a moment to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership this term. Holidays are a great time for everyone to slow down and re-connect. Be sure to take the time for yourself during these holidays.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 14th April for the beginning of Term 2.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Sellars".

Mrs Paula Sellars

Principal





Jubilee Prayer of Hope

God, our loving Father

In this Jubilee year, you remind us of our call to love creation.

Help us to work together to replant, repair and renew.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Amen

Sacrament of Confirmation - Sunday 1st June

On Sunday morning, Fr Dave met with parents and children for those making the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. If your child is in Year 6, and you are yet to register, I have provided the link below.

Link: <https://forms.gle/FqgEGGWtYdjvWp7>

Preparations for the sacrament will be a little different this year. We will be using a program from the Melbourne Archdiocese called 'Journeying Together -Online Sacrament Series. This resource will complement your child's sacrament preparation at our school and in the parish. This will allow you to journey with your child as they continue in their sacramental journey. Fr Dave is asking for a commitment to attend mass each Sunday at either 9:30am or 5:00pm service here in our parish.

<https://sacraments.melbournecatholic.org/>

For more information about the Sacrament of Confirmation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Project Compassion

Thank you for your generosity in your donations towards Project Compassion, helping those less fortunate here in Australia and overseas. I am asking for all donation boxes to be returned beginning this week. If you wish to hold onto these over the holidays to fill up with a few more coins, then please do. Every little bit helps.

Upcoming Events:

Stations of the Cross reflection - Thursday 17th April

This will take place in our church from 1:45pm. Families are welcome and encouraged to come along.

Anzac Day Service - Thursday 24th April

This will be led by our Defence students from 1:45pm in our Multipurpose Room

Mother's Day breakfast, liturgy and stall - Monday 12th May

A beautiful morning for us to gather as we celebrate our mum's and the significant female carers in our school. More details to follow as the date gets closer.

Sacramental Programs 2025

- ***Sacrament of Confirmation – Sunday 1st June at 9:30am mass***
- ***Sacrament of Reconciliation – Thursday 11th September at 6:00pm in our church***
- ***Sacrament of First Holy Communion – Sunday 14th September at 9:30am mass***

Where you have any questions please come and see Mrs Sellars for school events, and for parish, Fr Dave Callaghan.

Paula Sellars
Mrs Sellars

Dear Families,

As we wrap up this term, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible efforts of our students who have participated in NAPLAN this year. Their hard work and perseverance during the assessments were commendable, and we are very proud of their dedication. We look forward to receiving the results later in the year, which will provide valuable insights into their learning progress.

Exciting Events in Term 2

Term 2 is shaping up to be a busy and exciting time for our students. One of the key activities on our calendar is swimming lessons, where students will have the opportunity to build confidence and develop essential water safety skills. Further details, including dates and requirements have been shared through Operoo.

We will also be recognising National Reconciliation Week, which runs from May 27 to June 3. This is a significant time for us as a school community to reflect on our shared history and take meaningful steps towards reconciliation. We encourage families to engage in conversations at home and support the events and learning experiences that will take place during this important week.

For our Year 6 families, we are pleased to share information about upcoming Open Days at St John's Catholic College and O'Loughlin Catholic College. These visits provide a fantastic opportunity for students to explore their Middle School options and gain an insight into the next stage of their educational journey. More details on dates and times will be provided soon.

School Photos – June 3

A date saver that school photos are scheduled for Monday, June 3. Further information regarding ordering processes will be sent home early next term.



Semester Reports & Toddle

At the end of Term 2, families will receive student reports, celebrating all the wonderful learning that has taken place throughout the semester. This year, we are excited to introduce Toddle, our new platform designed to streamline communication and move towards real-time reporting. Keep an eye out for further information as we transition to this new system.

We appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to another fantastic term ahead. Wishing all our students and families a restful and enjoyable break!

Kind Regards,

Heidi van Bodegraven
Deputy Principal

Our School Celebrates World Autism Understanding Day!

Have you ever wondered what autism is? Or what to say if a friend tells you they're Autistic? We're learning all about it!

What is World Autism Understanding Day?

Every year, on April 2nd, we celebrate World Autism Understanding Day! It's a special day to learn more about autism and how we can be good friends to everyone. Instead of just knowing *about* autism, we want to really *understand* it!

What is Autism?

Autism is a way some people's brains work. It means they might think and learn in a different way, and that can be a real strength! It can change how someone talks, plays, and learns. Everyone with autism is different, just like everyone else.

How Can We Be Autism Friendly?

- **Celebrate Differences** Let's remember that everyone is special in their own way. We can learn so much from each other.
- **Focus on the Person.** Get to know your friend! We all have amazing talents and interests, just like you. Listen carefully and be a good friend.
- **Use Pictures and Guides.** Sometimes, pictures and step-by-step guides can help everyone understand things better.
- **Learn Together.** We can learn about autism together in class and during special activities. This helps us be good friends to everyone.

"If you learn I'm Autistic, I want you to... know, say, do"

This year, we're learning what Autistic people want us to know, say, and do to be good friends. We'll be sharing stories and learning how to make our school a friendly place for everyone!

Let's make our school a place where everyone feels happy and included!

Warmest Regards



Claire Dekuyer
Inclusion Support Coordinator



TERM ONE CALENDAR, 2025

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY
Week 10 March/April 4 th Sunday in Lent	31	1	2 World Autism Awareness Day	3 Awards Assembly REWARD AFTERNOON	4 SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY	Transition Room 8 Room 9

TERM TWO CALENDAR, 2025

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY
Week 1 April Holy Week	14 Morning Assembly @ 8:15am	15	16 Newsletter Easter Raffle Drawn	17 Holy Week presentation at 1::45pm in our Church	18 Good Friday	No Assembly
Week 2 April 1 st Sunday Easter	21 Easter Monday	22	23 Awards Assembly	24 Anzac Ceremony @ 1:45pm - MPR	25 Anzac Day	Student Leadership
Week 3 April/May 2 nd Sunday Easter	Swimming programme				2	No Friday Assembly
	28	29	30 O'Loughlin Catholic College Open Day (Year 6)	1 P&F Meeting @ 2:00pm		
Week 4 May 3 rd Sunday Easter	5 MAY DAY HOLIDAY	Swimming programme				Year 3/4 Room 14 Room 15 Room 17
		6 No morning Assembly	7	8	9 Awards Assembly	
Week 5 May 4 th Sunday Easter	12 No Monday Morning Assembly Mother's Day breakfast, liturgy and stall	13	14	15 School Board (AGM) Meeting @ 4:45pm	16 Beach Volleyball Gala REWARD AFTERNOON	No Friday Assembly

TERM CALENDAR

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today

2 Spend as much time as possible outdoors today

3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do

4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

6 Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels

7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

8 Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh

9 Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise

10 Have a day with less screen time and more movement

11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

17 Be active outside. Plant some seeds and encourage growth

18 Try out a new exercise, activity or dance class

19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today

21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting

25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

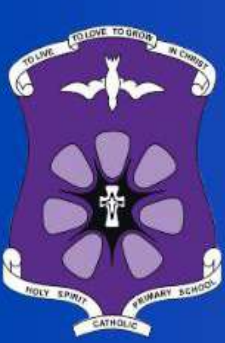
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is very important for all our children.

Every day at school counts!

Please refer to the table below as an indicator of how repeated absences can have an impact on student learning.

	<p>Your child's attendance is above 95%</p> <p>They are likely to be a 'Star Performer' as well as an excellent attendee. They will almost certainly achieve the best grades for their ability and have real opportunity in further education, or in the world of work.</p>
	<p>Your child's attendance is 90 – 94%</p> <p>'GREEN for Go' for good attendance, they are likely to achieve grades that will give them real opportunities to continue their studies, or in the world of work.</p>
10 days missed = 2 weeks absence	
	<p>Your child's attendance is 85 – 89%</p> <p>'AMBER – Take care' as students will be missing up to 20 days each year and this will make it very difficult for them to achieve their best.</p>
	<p>Your child's attendance is 80 – 84%</p> <p>'RED light – Be alert' as students are missing so much school that it will be very difficult for them to keep in touch with lessons or with work.</p>
	<p>Your child's attendance is below 80%</p> <p>'AT RISK – Immediate Action Needed' as students are missing so much time from school that it will be almost impossible for them to keep in touch with lessons or work.</p>



Enrol
now

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School's Community of Learners

-Early Learning Centre -

With a team of passionate educators,
we create an unforgettable learning experience for your child.

* Caters for 3-5 year olds

* Book a tour :

<http://www.holyspiritnt.catholic.edu.au/contact-us/book-a-tour>

* Open 7:00am - 5:30pm

*closed- public holidays & two weeks over Christmas

* Enrol Now:

<http://www.holyspiritnt.catholic.edu.au/early-learning-centre>

ABSENCES AND LATE STUDENTS

Holiday?

If your child/ren are going to be away during the school term please notify the front office by e-mail, phone, Operoo, or the [school website](#).

Leaving?

If your child is leaving the school, please notify the office in writing (email accepted) or by completing a '[Termination of Enrolment](#)' form on Operoo

Late?

If your child arrives to school after the first bell (8:10am), please send them to the front office to be signed in. If they are not signed in they will be recorded as an unexplained absence.

Sick?

If your child is sick please notify the front office by e-mail, phone, operoo or the school website. Your child's absence will only be recorded as a notified absence if you advise the school on the day of absence or provide a medical certificate.



SCHOOL FEES

Families are advised the following school fees for 2025 apply. These fees have been recommended by the CEC Finance, Facilities & Resources Committee and endorsed by the Bishop. If the level of increase creates any hardship for you, please make an appointment with the Principal to discuss the circumstances.

Levies break down (these are included in the amounts in table below)

\$492.00	Books & Services (per child/per year)
\$160.00	Excursion (per child/per year)
\$300.00	Operational (per child/per year)

Family	Per Term (Inc. levies)	Per Year (Inc. levies)
1 child	\$625.50	\$2502.00
2 children	\$1212.25	\$4849.00
3 children	\$1760.25	\$7041.00
4 children	\$1998.25	\$7993.00

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE & OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

ELC - Community of Learners (fees subject to change)		
One Child	\$500.00 per week	\$130.00 per day
<i>Effective January, 2025</i>		
OSHC - After School Care (fees subject to change)		
One Child	\$40.00 - booked rate	\$50.00 - casual rate
<i>Effective January 30, 2025</i>		
OSHC - Before School Care (fees subject to change)		
One Child	\$16 - booked rate	\$20.00 - casual rate
<i>Effective January 30, 2025</i>		
OSHC - Vacation Care (fees subject to change)		
One Child	\$360.00 per week	\$100 per day
<i>Effective April 2025</i>		
<i>Child Care Subsidy (CCS) apply</i>		

If you would like to pay your account through internet banking please see the school account details below:

National Australia Bank
Account Name: Holy Spirit School
BSB No. 085 933
Account No. 39 895 1673
Ref: (Child's First Initial) . (Last Name) FEES/COL/OSHC
Example: J Smith FEES

Please contact the [Finance Officer](#) as soon as possible if there are any difficulties meeting payment commitments.

RUGBY UNION & LEAGUE

[Rugby Union Junior programme](#)

[Eels Holiday Clinic \(League\)](#)

[Nightcliff Dragons sign on \(League\)](#)



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

[Minecraft Camp](#)

[City of Darwin School Holiday Programme](#)

[Darwin Adult Short Courses—Kids Holiday Programme](#)



OTHER NOTICES

[St Patrick's Day Mass—in Gaelic](#)

[City of Darwin Youth Territory Author Awards](#)

[K-Pop Festival](#)



**Mrs Sellars
& Staff**
**Wish you all a happy
and safe school
holidays**

Students return to
school:
Monday 14 April. 2025