

The Season of Lent

"Do small things with great love" - St Therese of Lisieux

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians,



Welcome to 2023

We have had a fantastic start to our school year. Our recent start of year Mass and Ash Wednesday celebrations were wonderful ways for us to start the year. The grade 6 students were given their house badges and commissioned as leaders of our school for 2023.

Compass

The new communication platform for Christ the Priest - Compass, has been launched this year. Thank you to all the families who have connected with Compass. This platform can be viewed via the app or online and will be where you will give permission for your child to attend excursions, sporting events, camps etc, read news items about goings on at school, find your child's mid-year report, report absences and communicate with your child's teacher. If you haven't already done so, please ensure that you log into Compass and are able to access it so that you don't miss any of the goings on at school.

School Photos

On Monday the 6th of March, we will be having our annual school photos. Please see your Compass notifications for information about the day, how to order and payment methods. All students need to wear their full school uniform.

IMPORTANT DATES



School Photos:

Mon 6 March

Division Swimming:

Thurs 9 March

Cross Country School Trial:

Fri 10 March

Public Holiday - Labour Day (NO SCHOOL):

Mon 13 March

Multicultural Day:

Fri 24 March

Bullying NO WAY Day:

Mon 27 March

Holy Thursday / Last Day of Term 1 (Finish at 1pm):

Thurs 6 April

School Closure Day:

Mon 24 April

Public Holiday - ANZAC Day (No SCHOOL):

Tues 25 April

First Day of Term 2:

Wed 26 April

2024 Prep Enrolments Now Open

Enrolments are now open for Prep 2024. If you have a child who will be ready for school in 2024 (born between 01/05/2018 - 30/04/2019), then please visit our [school website](#) or the front office to access the relevant enrolment forms. We will be having our first Prep 2024 Information Night on Wednesday the 10th of May, 6.30pm - 7.30pm. School tours can be booked on the [website](#).

Multicultural Day - March 24

On Friday, March 24, we will celebrate the many cultures of our school. Students are invited to wear clothes that represent their cultural heritage and bring food for lunch from their culture. There will be many activities and celebrations throughout the day involving activities, story time in various languages, cultural dance and a whole school parade.

Bullying NO WAY Day - March 27

Following multicultural day, Monday March 27, CtP will acknowledge 'Bullying NO WAY Day'. Throughout 2023 students will be encouraged to call out bullying behaviours, using the 'It's not OK' language. At CtP we recognise all behaviours as a form of communication. As a community, we work with students displaying these behaviours to correct these and restore relationships that may have been damaged.

Traffic concerns on Caroline Springs Blvd

Already this year I have had communication from Melton Council and the Caroline Springs Police regarding traffic issues at the front of the school. Please be reminded that it is illegal to remain stationary on the road outside of the school while you are waiting for the school day to finish. The police have indicated that they will be making visits and issuing fines. If you do receive a fine, there is nothing that the school can do on your behalf. Parents who use the pickup lane, please do not block the entry and driveway of the school. This is an issue in the event of an emergency. Cars should not begin to line up in the pickup lane until 3pm and after. If you wish to come earlier and wait for your child, please park your car.

Congratulations!

On a happy note, I would like to announce that our Student Diversity Leader, Courtney Chalmers and her husband are expecting their first child later this year. Many blessings to Courtney as she begins her journey of motherhood.

God bless.

Regards,
Adele Vesty.
Principal

Well done and congratulations to our

Supernovas

We aim to be Stars...



★ Prep Blue
Hunter



★ Prep Green
Noah



★ Prep Red
Christian



★ 1 Blue
Ava



★ 1 Green
Jayleen



★ 1 Red
Ava



★ 2 Blue
Indiana



★ 2 Green
Shanel



★ 2 Red
Sara



★ 3 Blue
Jennifer



★ 3 Green
Jeleyna



★ 3 Red
Benjamin



★ 4 Blue
Ana



★ 4 Green
Goch



★ 4 Red
Xavier



★ 5 Blue
Scarlett



★ 5 Green
Noah



★ 5 Red
Marvn



★ 6 Green
Vincent



★ 6 Blue
Nikita



★ Digital Technology
Virajvansh



★ Drama
Matilda



★ Italian
Arjun



★ Music
Ethan



★ Physical Education
Zaid



★ Visual Art
Jasmine

WELCOME NOTE FROM MICHELLE CASSAR

Dear Families,

I hope you all have had a positive start to the year. It is hard to believe we are already in March! It has been a pleasure meeting the community, particularly spending time with students and getting to know them personally. I am excited to be a part of such a caring and vibrant school community.



As it is important for me to get to know the students, I believe it is equally important that the families of Christ the Priest know more about me and my past experiences.

I have been in Catholic Education for the past 15 years. Previously, I worked as a Division 1 Nurse at the Royal Children's Hospital for 5 years, working in the Cardiac and Renal unit. I loved every part of my nursing career however I always had a strong passion for teaching.

I have taught many levels and I have been in Leadership for the past 5 years, leading in the areas of Religious Education and Student Wellbeing. After completing a Master of Education in Student Wellbeing, I have been very proactive in advocating for teaching to the 'holistic child'. I have strong beliefs that support teaching approaches which cater for all aspects of a child's development; the academic, social, emotional, mental, intellectual, spiritual, and particularly the wellbeing of a child.

I am very passionate about ensuring children have a positive sense of wellbeing, so they are able to flourish in all areas of school life and beyond. Being in Catholic Education, I feel blessed to be able to nurture children's spiritual self, their relationship with God and with others.

I believe that working in partnership with families is imperative to ensuring student success. For this reason, please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing.

I am looking forward to fulfilling my role as Deputy Principal and Student Wellbeing Leader and having a positive influence on the students and families of Christ the Priest.

Kind Regards,
Michelle Cassar

Staying safe from mosquitoes

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain, with children, particularly at risk.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.

In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- Using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- Wearing long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if mosquitoes are around and cover exposed skin as much as possible. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active
- Limiting outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

Further information:

- View a [handy guide](#) to help protect you and your family from mosquito-borne disease
- View the [Better Health Channel](#) information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases.

Screen time for your child – 7 tips

There is a lot of conflicting advice and emerging research around screen time. But, the right amount of screen time can depend on a range of factors like your child's age and maturity, the kind of content they are consuming, their learning needs and your family routine. It can be easy to focus only on the clock and how long your child is spending in front of the screen, but the quality and nature of what they are doing online, and your involvement are just as important.

Consider your child's screen use in the context of their overall health and wellbeing – for example, is online time getting in the way of their sleep and exercise? Is it impacting on their face-to-face connections with family and friends? The answers to these questions will guide you and help strike the right balance of online and offline activities for your child.



1. Be involved

Sharing screen time and online activities like gaming with your child helps you gauge the appropriateness of what they are doing and manage potential risks. It's also a great way to start conversations with your child about their online experiences.



2. Work with your child to set boundaries for screen use

If you decide that setting screen time limits is right for you and your child, discuss these new rules with your child. Older children are more likely to cooperate if they have been part of the decision-making process. Colourful pictures or charts of daily limits and other important activities is a fun way to get younger children on board.



3. Be clear about the consequences of not switching off

Part of our role as parents is to set clear limitations and boundaries. The same applies to technology limitations so, being clear and consistent about the consequences for your child if they do not stick to these rules is paramount. The [Raising Children Network](#) provides some useful tools and advice.



4. Set device-free zones and times at home

Device-free zones can help you manage your family's digital use. Here are some ideas for setting digital boundaries within your home:

- no devices in the bedroom for younger children
- all screens off in bedrooms after a certain time for older children
- all screens off at least one hour before planned bedtime
- all family members switch off at dinner time
- charge devices overnight in a place your child cannot access

5. Ask your child to explain their screen use

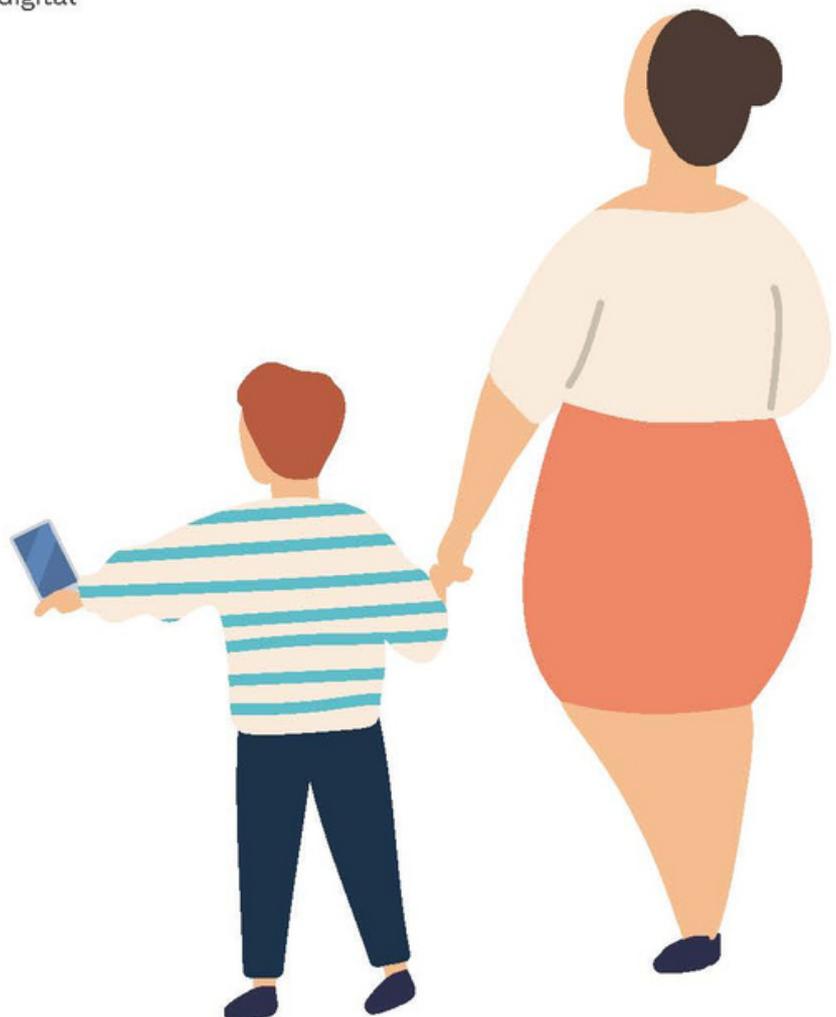
Get your child in the habit of explaining why they want to be in front of a screen or online. It's a great way to get them thinking about their own digital habits and balancing screen time with other activities.

6. Use tech tools to help manage access

There are robust products and device functions which allow you to see which apps are being used in your home and for how long. But try not to use these tools to secretly monitor your child. Instead, be open about the process and check the whole family's usage, including your own. Start with [Google Family Link](#) for Android devices or [parental controls](#) and [Screen Time](#) for iPhone/iPad.

7. Lead by example

Your behaviour is one of the most effective ways to help your child develop a positive digital mindset. Show your child you can put down your device too.





ST CATHERINE OF SIENA
— CAROLINE SPRINGS —

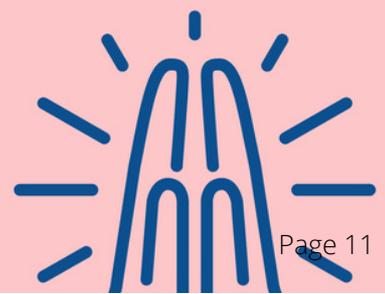


Children's Liturgy of the Word

WHEN | 10.30am Sunday Mass
WHERE | St Catherine of Siena Parish,
Caroline Springs

For children in Kindergarten - Year 6

*For more information or to become a volunteer, please call
8361 9822 or email carolinesprings@cam.org.au*



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](#).

2023 Photo Day

Online and Envelope Order Instructions

Dear Parents and Students,

Christ the Priest Catholic Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 06-03-2023

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

**** IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE – ONLINE ORDERING FOR SIBLING PHOTOS WILL CUT OFF ON 05-03-2023 ****

ONLINE ORDERING Your child's school photos are now available for secure online purchase, please note if you are ordering online, you do not need to return an envelope to the school

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

Click Here [Step 1 - For online ordering process for your school.](#)

- OR - Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [EH8 ET3 H8T]

Step 2: Enter your student's details

Step 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection) Step 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

****Online Orders have a 1.5% merchant fee applied when using Visa, Mastercard or PayPal.**

Please Note: If you miss photo day, portrait and group packages can still be ordered online for 7 days afterwards with no late fees. After that time, late orders will require separate processing and handling and therefore will incur a \$15 late fee per package.

FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS No envelope required if ordering online

3 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

- Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [EH8 ET3 H8T]

- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on [5/03/2023]

- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with exact cash amount.

ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE

ENVELOPES WILL BE HANDED TO EACH CHILD, PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE

Step 1: Student Details: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope.

Please use black or blue pen.

Step 2: Purchase Details: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.

Step 3: Payment Method: Select your payment method.

Credit Card – Online Only at www.advancedlife.com.au

Cash – Please enclose correct money – as change is not available

Please Note: A portrait and a class group photograph will be taken of every student at the school, regardless of purchase. Photographs of your children taken as part of a class group are only permitted to be distributed within their own class. Your child's name will appear on the class group photo. If you Do Not wish your child to be photographed, please contact your school office with your instructions prior to Photo Day.

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries regarding your child's school photo order.

info@advancedlifevic.com.au or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team

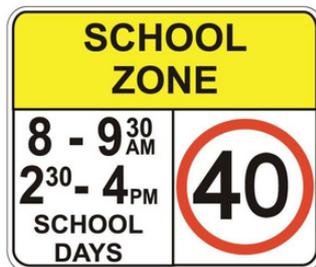


VICTORIA POLICE

Most schools are experiencing parking and traffic issues at pick up and drop off times. Through Melton and Brimbank Police have been out checking on driver behaviour around schools and school crossings.

It has become apparent that too many drivers are not obeying posted parking and speed signs.

It is important to park legally to provide a safer environment for children. Double parking restricts the view of drivers and forces children onto the road and obstructs traffic.



All school speed limits are clearly signposted. Remember the times and slow down around schools.

If you're unable to park legally close-by, please park a street or two away and walk to collect the children. It will also teach them about road safety.

Some of the fines include:

Exceeding speed limit by 10km/h but less than 25km/h - \$370 and 3 demerit points.

Stopped – Double Parked or parked on Nature Strip- \$111

Fail to stop and remain stationary at children's crossing - \$462 and 3 demerit points.

Use mobile phone while driving - \$555 and 4 demerit points.

Although the fines are significant the main focus of Police is the safety of the children and that of the crossing supervisors.

Please remember to be patient around schools. This will provide a safer environment for the children.

Dave SANDERS

Sergeant 35940 - Melton Highway Patrol - Victoria Police

email: dave.sanders@police.vic.gov.au | phone: (03) 9747 7999

DX: 217424 | address: **243-245 Station Road, Melton 3337**



IMPORTANT DATES

Term 1 - [CLICK HERE](#)



SCHOOL UNIFORM

PSW Uniform Shop
Unit 2, 51-53 Westwood Drive, Ravenhall
Ph: 9768 0342

Store Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am - 1:00pm

[CLICK HERE](#)



LUNCH ORDERS

Please place orders by **9am ONLY ON YOUR GRADE DAY** (see below).
You can order in advance after 2pm the day before.

Orders made after 9am or on the wrong day will be cancelled and refunded.

- Mondays - No lunch orders
- Tuesdays - GRADES 3 & 4
- Wednesdays - GRADES 1 & 2
- Thursdays - PREP
- Fridays - GRADES 5 & 6

[CLICK HERE](#)



MEDICATION AUTHORITY FORM & MEDICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

If your child requires medication to be administered at school, please complete the below forms with your doctor and submit it to the school office.

Medication Authority Form - [CLICK HERE](#)

Medical Management Plan - [CLICK HERE](#)



MELTON CITY COUNCIL EVENTS

Some events that may be of interest to you and your family:

- School Holiday Program (*Bookings open Fri 10 March*) - [CLICK HERE](#)
- Harmony Day (*Sat 18 March*) - [CLICK HERE](#)
- Lakeside Alive (*Sat 1 April*) - [CLICK HERE](#)