

In 2025, Catholic Education Week took place on Sunday 16th of March to Sunday 23rd of March. Catholic Education Week is a time for all Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to have the opportunity to celebrate their Catholic identity.

The Mass of St Patrick for Schools took place on Friday 21st March 2025 and all school captains and faith and life captains from every catholic school in the Archdiocese of Melbourne attended this mass, so that would be about more than 300 schools in the Cathedral.

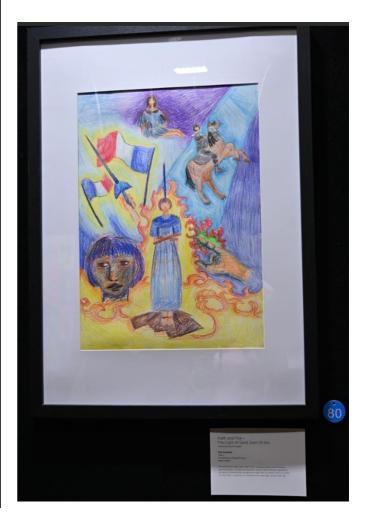


When we arrived at our location, we all noticed that it looked somber and ancient, which made us immediately imagine that the Cathedral has a story behind it. When we stepped into the Cathedral, we were all flabbergasted by the sculptures, arts and the size of the cathedral.

As the Mass started, the choir started singing gracefully and the school captains from each school started strutting in through the doors holding flags that represented their school, and they all sat in one area while the rest of us sat in different areas. After the 1 hour mass, we all took photos around the Cathedral and outside as well and when we finished taking pictures we headed to an art gallery where the paintings of Yumi N (6A) and Zoey G (2024 - 6B) were displayed. When we finished viewing the displays, we had our lunch back at the cathedral and then headed back to school at around 2:30pm.



Yumi's picture depics the effects of global warming, with people in rising water, surrounded by rain and scortching sun. The flooding and weather changes symbolise the Earth's struggles. The light represents the hope and power we have to help heal the planet. By working together with care, we can 'rise up' making the world a safer, brighter place for all.



Zoe's picture, titled Faith & Fire – The Light of Saint Joan of Arc portrays Saint Joan of Arc, standing boldly amidst flames, symbolising her courage and sacrifice. The fire, while intense, represents the glory of God shining through her, a light that can shine in all of us when we have faith, it reminds us to embrace our inner light, just as Joan did.







Thank you to the students and families listed below that have offered to attend the following Mass times this weekend and to present our weekly Lenten Offerings.

Sunday, 30th March – 9:00am Mass

Andrew S – 6A Denzel S – 2A

Sunday, 30th March – 11:00am Mass

Victoria T – Prep A Elizabeth G – Prep C William G – 2B Achucha A – 2C Christian D – 1C May T – 3C Ronida G – 4C Lucian R – 5A Ira G – 6A Ngong A – 6B



The Melton RSL Sub-branch has extended an invitation to the staff, students and families of St Catherine of Siena to attend both the ANZAC Day Dawn Service and later, the ANZAC Day March conducted by the Melton RSL Sub-branch at the City of Melton Cenotaph in High Street Melton.

These services of commemoration are held to offer our respect and to commemorate all of those Australians who have served, particularly those who made the ultimate sacrifice and for all veterans who have given so much in Defence of Australia.

Four of our **Grade 6 student leaders**, **Isla E**, **Miron F**, **Alana A and Mason G**. will be attending the dawn service and representing our school by presenting a wreath in recognition of the sacrifice and service of so many.

The Services will be held on 25th April 2025 with **the Dawn Service commencing at 6.00am and the March commencing at 10.00am**.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM 2025

St Anthony of Padua Church, Melton South Friday, April 11 6.30pm Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation (approx. 7.30pm)

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH, WEST MELTON

Maundy Thursday April 17



7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10 pm

Good Friday April 18



10.30amStations of the Cross followed
by Reconciliation3pmCelebration of the Lord's
PassionHoly SaturdayApril 1910.30amBlessing of the Easter food
baskets

7.30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday April 20

9am & 11am Easter Sunday Masses Please Note: no 5pm Mass

Year 6 Dream and Lead Excursion

On Wednesday, 26th March, all the Year 6 students with badges went on the Dream and Lead excursion at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

When we first arrived, we got off the bus and made our way to the room where the Youth Leadership event was being held. As soon as we walked in, we heard someone called Bonnie talking about the "AAA" strategy. "AAA" stands for Acknowledge, Accept, and Act. Bonnie also told us that when we have an idea to make a change, we should combine passion with purpose. After answering some of our questions, she handed the microphone over to Nick.



Nick talked to us about his streetwear brand called HoMie, which helps young people experiencing homelessness. Every month, HoMie holds a V.I.P. Day, where young people in need receive clothing, food, and other essentials.

After that, we had our first break. We were told that once we had eaten, we could take part in a Networking Bingo activity, where we had to interact with students from other schools. Some of the bingo tasks included finding "Someone who can teach you something new on the spot." This was a great way to meet new people and connect with young leaders.

Straight after our break, we got to hear Bonnie's favourite song, and we all danced along. Then, we met our third speaker, Wil. He told us that age is not a barrier to doing extraordinary things. He shared one of Albert Einstein's quotes that inspired him: "Doing something again and again and expecting a different result is insanity."

Wil explained that when he was in Year 6, he was very interested in things like planes, but he often felt like he didn't fit in with his classmates. To help



us think creatively, he asked us to come up with different ways to use a brick besides just building something.

We then had our second break. Some of us managed to finish our Networking Bingo while we ate lunch.



After lunch, we had our final session. The co-founder of Project Rockit, Lucy Thomas, came to speak to us. She told us that we don't need to be perfect to be great leaders — some of the best leaders are just normal people like us. She encouraged us to push aside social labels and let people be themselves. One of her favourite quotes was: "Instead of trying to change who we are, we should gain the courage to embrace who we are."

After Lucy's talk, we finished the event with a singalong to Firework by Katy Perry. Lots of us sang along, including me! Just as the song was ending, we left the event and headed back to school.

By Ira G. 6A



Phonemic awareness is the ability to blend, segment, isolate, delete, add and substitute the sounds in spoken words and these are critical skills for the development of reading, spelling and writing.



St Catherines uses the highly regarded Heggerty program, which ensures that phonemic awareness is explicitly taught each morning as part of the literacy block in prep, grade 1 and 2. It is a highly interactive and engaging part of the literacy curriculum and encourages students to use hand movements and gestures when responding to the teacher's instruction.

As part of our assessment schedule, St Catherine's monitors the progress of these students 3 times a year to ensure they are on track at mastering these important skills. If you would like to learn about the importance of phonemic awareness, you will find important information on the Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation website or the Australia Education Research Organisation (AERO) website. I am also more than happy to answer any questions relating to Literacy learning, either in person or via email.

Kylie Hoey Literacy Leader/Intervention Coach khoey@scmeltonwest.catholic.edu.au







Week 10

Tuesday 01/04Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 02/04

• Last day of Term 1

- Saint Francis of Paola
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm Easter Raffle Drawn and Yr 5 presenting Stations of the Cross (part 3)
- Student Dismissal 3.15pm
- Thursday 03/04
- School Closure Day Staff PD Friday 04/04
- School Closure Day Staff PD





Week 1

Monday 21/04 • EASTER MONDAY Tuesday 22/04

- Students Return Today
- Earth Day
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Wednesday 23/04

- Saint George
- Saint Adalbert
- YEAR 6 and Prep ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

• Whole School Assembly 2:15pm Thursday 24/04

- Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm Friday 25/04
- TIQQY 25/04
- ANZAC DAY (Public Holiday)
 Saint Mark
- Sunday 27/04
- 2nd Sunday of Easter- WHITE

Week 2

Monday 28/04

- Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort
- Saint Peter Chanel
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Tuesday 29/04

- Saint Catherine of Siena Feast Day
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Parent Support Group Meetings
- Wednesday 30/04
- Saint Pius V
- Whole School Mass St Catherine of Siena Feast Day @ 9:15am
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Thursday 01/05

- ONWZ Principal Network
- Saint Joseph the Worker
- International Workers Day
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Friday 02/05

- Saint Athanasius
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Saturday 03/05

• Saints Philip and James

Sunday 04/05

• 3rd Sunday of Easter-WHITE

Week 3

ONLINE CYBERSAFETY SESSION FOR YEAR 1-6 THIS WEEK

Monday 05/05

Parent Support Group Meetings

Tuesday 06/05

- Parent Advisory Committee 7:00pm
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Wednesday 07/05

- Mother's Day Mass 9:15am (Whole School) & Morning Tea
- Parent Support Group Meetings
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 08/05

- Mother's Day Stall
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Parent Support Group Meetings

Friday 09/05

- Parent Support Group Meetings
- Year 3 Excursion Art Centre

Saturday 10/05

• Saint John Avila

Sunday 11/05

- Mother's Day
- 4th Sunday of Easter: WHITE
- World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Week 4

ONLINE CYBERSAFETY SESSION FOR YEAR 1-6 THIS WEEK Monday 12/05

- Saints Nereus and Achilleus Saint Pancras
- Yr 4 Excursion Melbourne Museum
- Yr 2 Incursion Metro Trains Awareness

Tuesday 13/05

- Our Lady of Fatima
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Eucharist Family Night @ 6:30pm with Fr John Madden (tbc)

Wednesday 14/05

- Saint Matthia
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm
- YEAR 5 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

Thursday 15/05

- International Day of Families
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Friday 16/05

Saturday 17/05

• Sunday 18/05

- Saint John I
- 5th Sunday of Easter White

Week 5

ONLINE CYBERSAFETY SESSION FOR PREP THIS WEEK Monday 19/05

Tuesday 20/05

- Mary, Mother of the Church
- Saint Bernadine of Siena
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Wednesday 21/05

- Saints Christopher Magallenes and companions
- Staff Flu Vaccination Program
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm
- YEAR 4 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

Thursday 22/05

- Saint Rita of Cascia
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Friday 23/05

Saturday 24/05

- Our Lady, Help of Christians
- First Eucharist Presentation and Commitment Mass @6pm

Sunday 25/05

- Saint Gregory VII
- Saint Mary Magdalene de Pazzi

Saint Augustine of Canterbury

Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

YEAR 3 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

- Saint Bede
- 6th Sunday of Easter-WHITE

Week 6

National Reconciliation Week Monday 26/05

• Saint Philip Neri

Wednesday 28/05

• National Sorry Day Tuesday 27/05

Whole School Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 29/05

- Saint Paul VI
- LSO Meeting 2:15 3pm
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Saturday 31/05

- The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- First Eucharist for SCS and SD @11am (SD Choir) and 1pm (SCS Choir)
- Sunday 01/06
- The Ascension of the Lord-WHITE
- Jesus commissions the eleven, ascends to heaven-Luke 24: 46–53

Week 7

Monday 02/06

• Saints Marcellinus and Peter

Tuesday 03/06

- Saint Charles Lwanga and companions
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Wednesday 04/06

• YEAR 2 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm
- Interrelate Human Development Family Night -Tricky Talks 6:30 - 8:00pm

Thursday 05/06

- Saint Boniface
- LSO Meeting 2:15 3pm
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm
- Inform and Empower Parent session

Friday 06/06

School Closure Day

- Saint Norbert
- Saint Marcellin Champagnat
- Saturday 07/06

Sunday 08/06

- Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- PENTECOST SUNDAY-RED

Week 8

Monday 09/06

- King's Birthday Public Holiday
- Mary, Mother of the Church

Tuesday 10/06

- Parent Advisory Committee 7:00pm
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Wednesday 11/06

Saint Barnabas

YEAR 1 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am

• Whole School Assembly 2:15pm

Thursday 12/06

- LSO Meeting 2:15pm 3pm
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Friday 13/6

- Saint Anthony of Padua
- Instalment 2 Family Fee Payment Due

Sunday 15/06

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY-WHITE

Week 9

Tuesday 17/06

• Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday 18/06

- Year 5 Talent Show
- YEAR 6 and Prep ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 19/06

- Feast of Corpus Christi
- Saint Romuald
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Friday 20/06

- Saturday 21/06
- Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

Sunday 22/06

- Saints John Fisher and Thomas More
- SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND
 BLOOD OF CHRIST (Corpus Christi)-WHITE

Week 10

Monday 23/06

Saint Paulinus of Nola

Tuesday 24/06

- THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
- Staff Meeting 3.30pm 4:30pm

Wednesday 25/06

- Saint Romuald
- 2026 Prep Enrolments Close
- Whole school mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart @ 9:15am
- Whole School Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 26/06

• Staff Meeting 3.30pm - 4:30pm

Friday 27/06

- Saint Cyril of Alexandria
- Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Semester 1 Student Reports Sent Home

Saturday 28/06

- Saint Irenaeus
- The Most Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sunday 29/06

Saints Peter And Paul -RED

Week 11

Monday 30/06

- The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church Tuesday 01/07
- Parent Teacher Learning Conversations 3.45pm to 7.15pm

Parent Teacher Learning Conversations 3.45pm

Wednesday 02/07

Saint Thomas

to 7.15pm

Friday 04/07

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- YEAR 5 ATTENDING PARISH MASS @ 9:15am
- Parent helper afternoon tea
- Whole School Assembly 2:15pm Thursday 03/07

Saint Elizabeth of Portugal

Last Day of Term 2

Dismissal Time 3.15pm



Prep A

Leon P - For always trying your best and never giving up on your work. Keep it up Leon!

Massa Z - For actively participating in our Heggerty lessons. Keep being a focused learner!

Prep B

Elizabeth H - For being a knowledgeable learner and applying your knowledge of sounds to your writing.

Remy C - For being an inquisitive learner and asking questions during maths to recognise 1 more and 1 less of different numbers to 10.

Prep C

Antonio T - For identifying and explaining the events of Holy Week. You have made an awesome start to Prep!

Max M - For trying your best to cut, paste, trace and write our decodable sentences. You have had an awesome week of learning.

Year 1A

Marcus L - For trying your absolute best in your learning, and for having a positive attitude during writing. Keep up the great work!

Achirin G - For showing great dedication to your learning, and having a growth mindset in all that you do. Keep up the great learning.

Year 1B

Grace N - For doing a super job at sounding out your letters. Keep it up!

Cole G - For your excellent participation when identifying the letters and sounds. Great job!

Year 1C

Ayor A - For demonstrating our PBL value of responsibility, by focusing on being the best learner you can be. Amazing effort Ayor.

Georgia D - For demonstrating our PBL value of responsibility, by being an independent and motivated learner. Keep up the great work!

Year 2A

Eldana A - For your focused attention and 100% participation in whole class literacy activities. Great effort Eldana!

Logan B - For showing responsibility when working on tasks independently and always being willing to help others. Keep it up Logan!

Year 2B

Dylan K - For demonstrating exceptional effort and dedication in improving handwriting skills through daily practice. Your neat penmanship shines as a true example of hard work!

Grace A - For starting each day with a positive attitude and an enthusiasm to learn. It always puts a smile on my face, keep up the great work!

Year 2C

James S - For your increased ability to read time in minute intervals. Keep up the great learning.

Achucha A - For your dedication to your learning every day. You are always following instructions and putting your best efforts into your tasks. Amazing work.

Year 3A

Lachie B - For actively participating and demonstrating an interest in the mathematics unit of Time. It has been wonderful to see the knowledge you can apply. Keep up the great work!

Athieng N - For consistently remaining engaged and attentively following the teacher's instructions! Well done

Year 3B

Andreana D - For your positive attitude towards learning. Your enthusiasm towards all learning tasks continuously demonstrates a growth mindset. Keep up the great work!

Athena P - For your enthusiastic participation in the Year 3 Retreat Day for the Sacrament of Penance. It was great to see your creativity through your pebble and heart candle.

Year 3C

Charlize B - Applying the rules for adding suffixes with enthusiasm, especially when doubling the consonant.

Deng G - Asking questions during learning to ensure you're working accurately.

Year 4A

Krishna C - For your creative use of similes to describe a character from Charlotte's Web. Well done!

Maan T - For your excellent use of vocabulary and conjunctions in your summary of the Charlotte's Web chapter. Amazing!

Year 4B

Fenaan T – For using notetaking strategies to organise herself in Literacy and Religion.

Noah L - His portrayal of a First Nations style artwork using symbols to tell a story.

Year 4C

Madonna A - For your successful adjustment to the new school and your commitment to learning routines and following PBL expectations.

Jax G - For consistently giving your best effort in class, demonstrating dedication, resilience, and a positive attitude toward learning.

Year 5A

To 5A Superstars! - For your exceptional performance on the multiples and factors post assessment! We are so proud of your hard work and progress. Keep up the great learning!

5A - Congratulations to the entire class! For your outstanding performance of the Stations of the Cross during assembly. Each of you contributed to making this a great presentation.

Year 5B

Taylah C - For showing consistency in your efforts and taking responsibility for your learning.

Jordan J - For your persistence and effort last week, even when tasks were difficult.

Year 5C

Lucas N - For your hard work in Maths. Well done!

Aleth A - For improving your handwriting and your spelling.

Year 6A

Nolan D - For always demonstrating our school PBL values when attending the St Patrick's Cathedral Mass on Friday! Well done!

Isla E - For your enthusiasm towards all learning tasks, your positive growth mindset and your willingness to take on feedback which supports you to do your personal best!

Year 6B

Braxton V - For crafting juxtaposing sentences, making your writing engaging and thought provoking. Well done!

Ava V- For showing excellent skill in using the order of operations to solve equations with accuracy and confidence. Well done!

Year 6C

Emma M - For consistently demonstrating exceptional dedication, responsibility, and work ethic. Completing all task work and homework assignments on time.

Lewis M - For taking the initiative in encouraging and promoting positive behaviour, both inside and outside the classroom. Keep up the good work!

Auslan

Awek Y - For showing increased confidence in your signing during Auslan.

Emily M - For showing increased confidence in your signing during Auslan.



A special thanks to our fabulous parent helpers who have managed to put together so many Easter Egg Hampers ready for our raffle draw next Wednesday. There's still time to by extra raffle tickets. The office staff are more than happy to provide you with extra books if you would like to increase your chances.

There's some pretty huge prizes!

