



SACRED HEART
PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Our Amazing LSOs!

This week we say a big thank you to our Learning Support Officers – Lorree, Mardi and Gabby. We could not run our school without them!

At Sacred Heart, LSOs work alongside teachers to make sure every child gets the support they need. They help in classrooms, run small group programs, and provide one-on-one support. Every day they lead speech therapy, reading and maths groups, Sounds-Write, English as an Additional Language (EAL) sessions, and our Life Skills / Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

Our LSOs are always learning too! They take part in training and professional development so they can best support children with additional learning or behaviour needs. They also help students to self-regulate, calm down, and follow their personalised plans so they can learn and thrive.



We are so grateful for the care and energy Lorree, Mardi and Gabby bring to our school each day – thank you for everything you do!

From your Principal...

This week, our staff gathered for a planning day to focus on student engagement, review our School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) goals, and look closely at our DIBELS data to guide teaching. These sessions help us plan ahead for Term 4 and ensure we are meeting the needs of every child.

We are also in the middle of the changeover to NEXUS, a new system that brings finance, payroll, and HR together across all Catholic schools. Prue has been working tirelessly behind the scenes on this transition, which will make processes more streamlined and consistent.

A special thank you to our Learning Support Officers, who work so hard each day in so many ways to make your child's schooling positive and fruitful. And finally, we wish all our dads and father-figures a very Happy Father's Day this Sunday!

Suzie

Why did the bicycle fall over?
It was two-tyred!

Why did the golfer bring two pairs of pants?
In case he got a hole in one!

Take note!

WEEK 8

Monday 8th September
Learning Walk – 9am

Wednesday 10th September
SAC Meeting – 5:30pm

Thursday 11th September
R U OK? Day

WEEK 9

Monday 15th September
4–6 Harrow Excursion

Thursday 10th September
FOOTY COLOURS DAY
Last day of Term –
3:20pm finish

TERM 4 STARTS MONDAY 6th OCTOBER

TERM 4

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS
Monday 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November
(Melbourne Cup Public Holiday)

LAST DAY OF TERM 4
Thursday 18th December



LEARNING WALK

Come and see learning in action at Sacred Heart Primary School!

MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER - 9AM

ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN FOR 2026

Do you know someone with a child starting school next year?

Please let your friend group, neighbours or teammates know about our vibrant little school!

We have another Learning Walk coming up on Monday 8th September. Our doors are always open, so if this time doesn't suit, they can call to arrange a suitable time.

Our Learning Walks are a great way for prospective families to visit our school, meet the staff and see our classrooms in action.

FROM THE OFFICE

School Fees Reminder

A reminder that school fees are due in full by Friday 7th November. We understand that managing school costs can sometimes be tricky, so please remember you don't have to wait until the due date—setting up a direct debit or making small, regular payments across the year can make things much easier.

If you're experiencing any difficulties with payments, please don't hesitate to contact Prue or Suzie for a confidential chat - we're always here to help.



Why Hand Washing Matters

Washing hands with soap and water is one of the simplest and most effective ways to reduce the spread of germs—like those that cause colds, flu, gastro-bugs, and COVID-19. It's especially important for children, whose immune systems are still developing.

You should wash your hands:

Before touching anything that needs to stay clean - like food or a baby's hands.

After messy, dirty, or potentially germ-ridden activities, such as using the toilet, blowing your nose, handling rubbish, touching animals, or caring for someone who's sick

How to Wash Your Hands Properly

Follow these simple steps to keep hands clean and healthy:

1. Wet hands under running (preferably warm) water.
2. Apply enough soap to cover all parts of both hands.
3. Rub your hands together for at least 20 seconds—don't forget between fingers, the backs of hands, thumbs, and fingertips.
4. Rinse thoroughly to remove all soap.
5. Dry your hands completely using a clean towel, paper towel, or air dryer.
- 6.

A fun trick for kids: sing "Happy Birthday" to yourself twice - that's about 20 seconds of scrubbing!

What About Hand Sanitiser?

If soap and water aren't available, an alcohol-based hand sanitiser (at least 60% alcohol) can help - but only if your hands are not visibly dirty. Use a pea-sized amount and rub it all over your hands until dry.

SOURCE: <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/hand-washing>



Why can't you give Elsa a balloon?
Because she'll let it go!

What's brown and sticky?
A stick.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PARENTS & FRIENDS

Come join us!

You're warmly invited to our next School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting, happening next week. It's a great opportunity to meet other parents, hear about what's happening in our school, share your ideas and take action. Everyone is welcome - we'd love to see you there!



WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER - 5:30PM



GLENELG INN HOTEL

PLEASE RSVP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAY FOR DINNER



5581 1131



principal@shcasterton.catholic.edu.au

WE NEED TO FINALISE PLANS FOR THE CUBBY HOUSE VILLAGE, PLEASE COME ALONG & SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE & IDEAS

RECOGNISING AND RESPONDING TO HARM

At Sacred Heart, keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do. All staff are trained to recognise the signs that a child may be experiencing harm, whether it's physical, emotional, or neglect. We learn what to look for—such as changes in behaviour, unexplained injuries, or a child seeming withdrawn—and how to respond with care.

Our team follows clear processes to make sure concerns are taken seriously and acted on quickly. This means listening to children, offering support, and, when needed, reporting to the right services to keep them safe. Families also play a vital role—if you ever have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, please speak with us. Together, we can make sure every child feels safe, valued and supported to thrive.

families who might prefer to seek support outside the school, Here are two excellent options;

Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 or kidsline.com.au

Free, confidential 24/7 counselling for children, young people and families.

Child Safety Victoria (Child Protection) – 1300 664 977

For urgent concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing.



CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY Special Report

Fatherhood has changed greatly over time. While dads in the past were often distant due to long work hours, today many fathers are celebrated for being caring, hands-on, and actively involved in their children's lives. Research shows that dads now spend three times more time teaching, helping, and playing with their kids than in previous generations. When fathers join their children in play and physical activity, they help them build resilience, learn self-control, and develop emotional regulation. Just as importantly, dads need to care for their own wellbeing so they can be fully present and responsive.

If you're a dad needing extra support, professional help is available. You can contact **MensLine** (1300 78 99 78) or **Beyond Blue** (1300 22 46 36) for confidential support.

Follow this link to our school landing page where you will find a valuable array of resources on varying topics for school aged children.

 <https://shcasterton.catholic.schooltv.me>

FATHER'S DAY Smoko

A big thank you to all the dads, grandads, and special people who joined us for our Father's Day service today. It was wonderful to celebrate with you and show our gratitude for all the love and support you give.

We hope you enjoyed the prayers, the smiles, the smoko and of course - our collection of classic dad jokes!



say cheese! a few happy snaps from our Father's Day smoko this afternoon.

Happy Father's Day to all the amazing role-models in our Sacred Heart community.

Community NOTICE

#lovewhereweliveandlearn

Why did the Maths
book look sad?
It had too many
problems.



**INSTRUMENT
HIRE
INCLUDED**

Learners Band

Learn to read and
play music

Learn a lifelong skill and
have fun doing it

For anyone from 10
years old to retirees

Register At castertonviceregalband@gmail.com

**STARTING OCTOBER 13TH, MONDAYS
FROM 5.30-6.30PM**



Music CLASS

Join our development band! Learn
to read and play music, with
instrument hire and guidance
throughout.
Recommended for ANYONE aged 10
years to retirees

**TRUMPET - DRUMS - SAXOPHONE
AND MORE**

**STARTING OCT 13TH
MONDAYS 5.30-
6.30PM**

**EMAIL US FOR DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP:
CASTERTONVICEREGALBAND@GMAIL.COM**

Why don't skeletons
fight each other?
They don't have
the guts!

DISCOVER THE OPPORTUNITIES AT MONIVAE

A co-educational Catholic boarding and day school in
Hamilton, Southern Grampians.

Monivae College offers a five day or seven day per
week boarding experience.

- Sports Academy offers Cricket, Basketball, Netball,
Swimming and AFL Football
- Major investment in Wellbeing Hub
- New Performing Arts Centre
- Generous scholarships available

**Enrolments Now Open
Year 7, 2027**

enrol at monivae.com



Monivae
College Hamilton



educating the
mind
spirit
heart

Father's Day is a time to celebrate the love, strength and guidance that fathers and father figures bring to our lives.

We give thanks for the dads who are here with us today, for the memories of those who are no longer with us, and for the special people - stepdads, grandfathers, uncles, brothers and family friends - who step into that role with love and care.

Their presence reminds us that fatherhood is not only about biology, but about the gift of showing up with kindness, patience and support.



PRAYER FOR
Father's Day

LOVING GOD,

WE THANK YOU FOR FATHERS AND
ALL THOSE WHO LOVE AND GUIDE
US LIKE A DAD.

BLESS THE DADS IN OUR LIVES WITH
PATIENCE, WISDOM AND JOY.

HOLD CLOSE IN YOUR CARE THE FATHERS WHO
ARE NO LONGER WITH US—MAY THEIR
LOVE LIVE ON IN OUR HEARTS.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO STEP INTO
THE ROLE OF FATHER - GRANDFATHERS, UNCLES,
STEPPADS, BROTHERS AND FAMILY FRIENDS -
MAY THEY ALWAYS KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE THEY MAKE.

ON THIS SPECIAL DAY, HELP US TO SHOW
GRATITUDE WITH OUR WORDS, OUR
ACTIONS AND OUR LOVE.

AMEN.



**Please find the link here for
the latest edition of
"Our Diocesan Community"**

[CLICK HERE](#)



SCAN ME

**Why don't eggs tell
jokes?**

They'd crack each
other up!



CATHOLIC
CULTURE

SACRED HEART PARISH

MASS TIMES

1st Sunday - 9am Mass | 2nd Sunday - 10am L.L.A
3rd Sunday - 5pm Mass | 4th Sunday - 11am Mass
5th Sunday - 9am Mass

We acknowledge the Gunditjmara people who are the Traditional Owners of the land where we play and learn. We pay our respects to Elders -past and present- and recognise their deep connection to the land, water and sky. At Sacred Heart, we are dedicated to walking on the path of reconciliation.

PRINCIPAL: Suzie McManus

SAC CHAIRPERSON: Noni Mason

Western Border - Mary MacKillop Parish: Co-Pastor - Fr Patrick Mugavin

Sacred Heart Parish: Co-Pastor - Fr Cay Trinh

☎ 03 5581 1131 ✉ principal@shcasterton.catholic.edu.au 📍 39 Robertson St, CASTERTON