



**SACRED HEART**  
PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

## Science Fun in F-2!

Our F-2 scientists had a blast this week creating volcanoes in the sandpit! They watched the exciting chemical reactions, using bi-carb soda and white vinegar, that made the "lava" bubble and flow. They also discovered how different sized and shaped volcanoes made the lava spill in different ways. A hands-on (and slightly messy!) way to explore science in action!



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are hosting the Casterton Lions Club for their monthly dinner next week, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September. They are expecting 20-25 people.

We are looking for volunteers to help cook and serve. We will be doing a 2 course "slow cooker" casserole type dinner followed by dessert. If you can donate a meal or your time it would be much appreciated.

Please contact Noni if you can help or have any questions; P: 0409 366 911



## From your Principal...

This week we farewell Max. We thank him for his time with us this year—whether through games, wellbeing groups, or classroom support, he has made a lasting impact on our students.

Looking ahead, planning for 2026 has already begun. We are in the process of finalising our budget and staffing, as well as preparing for camps, closure days and Western Trinity organisation for the year ahead.

It has also been exciting to see the Cubbyhouse Village continuing to take shape. Our thanks go to the Kindergarten community for their generous donations, which are helping us bring this wonderful project to life for the children.

*Suzie*

**Take note!**

### WEEK 9

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September**  
4-6 Harrow Excursion

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September**  
**FOOTY COLOURS DAY**

Last day of Term -  
3:20pm finish

**TERM 4**  
**STARTS**  
**MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
**OCTOBER**

### TERM 4

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS**  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
(Melbourne Cup Public Holiday)

**LAST DAY OF TERM 4**  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December



**CHEER ON MAX  
& THE CATS!**

**PRELIM FINAL**  
**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPT.**  
**3PM vs WEST**

@ WGFC  
50 White Ave, Mt. Gambier



## POETRY AND SONG IN THE SENIOR CLASS

Our senior students have been diving into the world of poetry during literacy, exploring how poems and song lyrics are alike; and how they differ, like the addition of a melody in songs. Together, they've looked at how words and music can evoke feelings and tell powerful stories. With the wonderful support of Kim on guitar, the class has even written their own poems, with some students choosing to sing theirs aloud.



## LUNCHTIME CHESS CLUB



Each Friday at lunchtime, students can head into the library with Mr. T for Chess Club. It's a great way to challenge their minds, learn strategy, and practise patience and problem-solving; all while having fun with friends. Chess is a skill for life, helping students to think ahead and make smart moves both on and off the board!



**STEPHANIE KITCHEN**  
**Alexander GARDEN FOUNDATION**  
Growing Harvesting Preparing Sharing

The kitchen was full of excitement today as Gabby and her group made fresh pasta and homemade pizzas from scratch! The students measured, mixed, kneaded and cooked their way through the recipes. They enjoyed tasting their pizzas on the spot and are taking their fresh pasta home to share for a tasty dinner over the weekend.



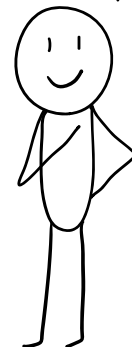
## FAREWELL TO MAX

This week we say goodbye and thank you to Max for all the wonderful ways he has supported our school over the past two terms.

From playing games with the children at lunchtime, to running wellbeing groups, helping in classrooms, and teaching breathing techniques to improve health and wellbeing, Max has made a real difference in our community.

We are very grateful for his time, energy, and care, and we wish him all the very best for the future.

THANKS!



Fight Cancer  
**FOOTY COLOURS DAY!**

## FOOTY CLINIC & HOT DOG LUNCH

**THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**FOR A GOLD COIN DONATION - WEAR YOUR TEAM COLOURS & SHOW SUPPORT FOR KIDS WITH CANCER.**

Money raised helps the Fight Cancer Foundation with its education programs, which assist children in continuing their schooling during treatment.

**ORDER FORMS FOR LUNCH WILL BE SENT HOME ON MONDAY**





# CHILD SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

## The Evolution of Child Safe Standards

In Victoria, the Child Safe Standards were first introduced in 2016 to make sure every organisation working with children puts safety and wellbeing first. Since then, the standards have continued to evolve to better protect children and reflect what we've learned through consultation and research.

In July 2022, new and updated standards came into effect. These include a stronger focus on:

- Respecting diversity and making sure all children feel included and safe.
- Empowering children and young people to have a say and be taken seriously.
- Working closely with families and communities to create safer environments.
- Ongoing training and support for staff and volunteers.
- Regular review of practices so schools and organisations are always improving.

For schools like ours, this means we continue to build a culture where children are valued, listened to and supported. The updated standards guide us in ensuring every student feels safe, respected and able to thrive.

You can read more about the updated Child Safe Standards on the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) website: [www.vrqa.vic.gov.au](http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au)



## NEURODIVERSITY

*"We need to embrace neurodiversity as a tapestry of brilliance, for within each unique mind lies extraordinary potential waiting to be unleashed. By celebrating our differences we create a world of understanding and acceptance."*

**Dr Michael Carr-Gregg**

Neurodiversity in children and adolescents is a concept celebrating the natural variation in how young minds work. It acknowledges that neurological differences, such as ADHD, autism, dyslexia, and giftedness, are not disabilities but unique aspects of human cognition. Embracing neurodiversity fosters acceptance, empathy, and inclusivity in society. Parents play a pivotal role in supporting their neurodiverse child by understanding their specific needs, advocating for appropriate educational accommodations, and seeking professional guidance when necessary. By appreciating and nurturing their child's strengths, parents can help them thrive and unlock their full potential, leading to a more compassionate and understanding future for all.

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>

## CALLING ALL PAST CASTERTON LITTLE ATHLETES & FAMILIES!



### WE'RE COLLECTING MEMORIES!

As we get ready to celebrate 50 Years of Casterton Little Athletics, we'd love your help in bringing our history to life.



Old photos from competition days



Medals, uniforms, or memorabilia



Fun stories or memories to share

If so, we'd love to include them in our 50th Birthday celebrations on Friday 10th October, 6pm at Island Park Oval 2.

➡ Please message us here, or email [casterton@lavic.com.au](mailto:casterton@lavic.com.au) if you have something to share.

➡ We can scan or photograph items and return them safely to you.

Let's showcase the amazing journey of Little Athletics in Casterton – from the early days right through to today!

Thank you for helping us celebrate 50 years of fun, friendships, and personal bests!

## CASTERTON LITTLE ATHLETICS



## COME & TRY NIGHT!



Friday 10th October



Island Park Oval 2

Come along, give athletics a go, and see what it's all about!



Register online for either Come & Try or Club Membership

Bring a friend and help us celebrate 50 years of Little Athletics in Casterton!

## CHILD PROTECTION WEEK PRAYER

Dear Lord,

Your Word is filled with accounts of miraculous protection. We claim that power for vulnerable children.

Make Your little ones invisible to people who seek to exploit them. Whisper in the ears of the children to run and hide until the danger passes.

We ask this prayer in the name of Saint Nicholas, protector of children.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**The saint most commonly associated with the protection of children is Saint Nicholas of Myra. He is known for his generosity and care for the poor and children. Over time, his legend has evolved into the modern figure of Santa Claus, but in the Christian tradition, Saint Nicholas is venerated as a protector of children, sailors and those in need.**



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

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