



St Joseph's School

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Term 3 | Week 4

"Never see a need without doing something about it."

Dear St Joseph's Families,

Each year on **8 August**, Australians celebrate the Feast Day of **Saint Mary MacKillop**, a woman whose faith, courage, and commitment to serving others continue to inspire people of all ages.

Born in Melbourne in 1842, Mary MacKillop dedicated her life to helping those most in need, particularly children and families living in poverty. Alongside Father Julian Tenison Woods, she founded the **Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart**, a congregation committed to providing education and practical support to communities across Australia.

Mary's life was not without challenges. She faced criticism, hardship, and uncertainty, yet she remained steadfast in her faith and her mission to serve others. Her determination, resilience, and trust in God allowed her to overcome obstacles and create lasting change. In recognition of her extraordinary life and witness, Mary MacKillop was canonised as Australia's first saint in 2010.

Her famous words, "*Never see a need without doing something about it,*" continue to guide us today. They remind us that even small acts of kindness, compassion, and service can make a significant difference in the lives of others. It is these traits that we encourage and indeed, see in our children every day.

As we celebrate Mary MacKillop's Feast Day, let us reflect on how we can follow her example in our own community. Whether it is helping a friend, supporting someone in need, showing kindness, or standing up for justice, we can all contribute to making our world a better place.

May the life of Saint Mary MacKillop inspire us to live with faith, courage, generosity, and hope.
Prayer of Saint Mary MacKillop.

God of love and compassion,

Help us to follow the example of Saint Mary MacKillop.

Teach us to see the needs of others,

To serve with kindness and generosity,

And to trust in Your guidance each day.

May we bring hope, joy, and love to those around us.

Amen.

Sharon

YEAR 6 CONFIRMATION



The Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to our Confirmation candidates Caleb K, Dallas, Tommy, Caleb A., and Peyton who were confirmed last Thursday, July 30.

Thank you to Mrs Mullin and to the families of these students who prepared them in readiness for making this next step in their faith journey.

SCIENCE WEEK



Week 6

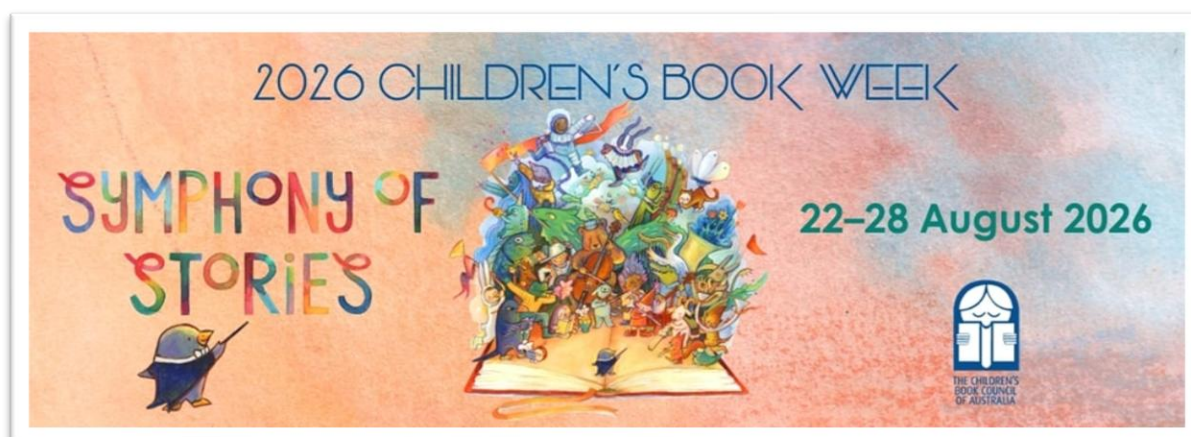
Mon 17th – Fri 21st August

Focusing on Science Week – SEEDS of SCIENCE

Thursday 13th August – Multi age activities at school related to plants and growin

Wednesday 19th August - WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION to Cranbourne Botanic Gardens. Depart 8.50am sharp! Tailored sessions led by the Garden Educators.

BOOK WEEK



Celebrating Book Week

Get your thinking caps on! BOOK WEEK DRESS UP **MONDAY 24th August**

BOOK SWAP–Monday 24th August

Children are invited to bring one of their books that you no longer want to keep on this day. Children bring to school on the Monday or prior (so you don't forget) and swap for another to take home.

Guess the teacher's favourite childhood book challenge

THANK YOU

PROJECT COMPASSION

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

St Joseph's Primary School

♥ Thank you ♥

Your generosity during Project Compassion this year will support our neighbours worldwide, empowering the most vulnerable people to build a just future for themselves, their families and communities.

Kirsten Syers

Caritas Australia
Chief Executive Officer



projectcompassion.org.au



(02) 7254 5120



#projectcompassion



NOTICES



RCIA INFORMATION EVENING for LEONGATHA & KORUMBURRA PARISHES

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?
Has someone in your family or group of friends expressed an interest in God and wondered what the Catholic faith is all about?
Perhaps you have been baptised but haven't gone on to receive any other Sacraments?

RCIA could help answer some of your questions. Why not **Come & See!**

An **Information Evening** will be held on Thursday **August 27th**, 7.30pm at St Laurence's Parish Centre Leongatha.

This is followed by 5 weeks of Inquiry Sessions that give a basic overview of the Catholic Faith.

For those who are interested to go further, RCIA continues preparing people for entry into the Catholic Church at Easter. You are free to stop at any stage.

Further information ph. Anne Vaughan 0421 083 110 (RCIA Coordinator)



Breakthrough Music Festival - Performer Applications Now Open

GRCS Music School and YES Youth Hub are proud to present the inaugural Breakthrough Music Festival, a free, community event celebrating the incredible young musical talent of the Bass Coast.

Applications are now open for solo artists, bands, singer-songwriters, and instrumentalists of all experience levels.

The festival provides young musicians with a professional stage, a chance to meet with other musicians from the area, and all performers are paid for their time, dedication, and talents.

When: Sunday 20 September, 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Where: YES Youth Hub, Wonthaggi

Applications close: 13th August 2026

For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.greenroomconceptstudios.com/breakthrough>



PHILLIP ISLAND

Festival of Stories



TICKETS
ON SALE NOW



Markus
Zusak

August 2026
Friday 21st
Saturday 22nd
Sunday 23rd



Chris
Hammer



Jane
Edmanson



Andrew
Rule



Rosie
Westbrook



Brian
Nankervis



John
Wood



Antoinette
Lattouf



Alli
Parker



Andrew
Dodd



Matthew
Ricketson



Sean
Dooley



Travis
Lovett



Jack
Latimore



Bridie
Blake



Olivia
Tolich



Sandi
Wallace



Liz
Allen



Jessica
Moulynox



Darren
Mort



Berninnet Cowes Cultural Centre
91-97 Thompson Ave, Cowes
www.pifestivalofstories.com



What's Your Story?
21-23 August

Saturday 22nd August
11-11:45am
Join local author Liz Allen as she reads her new book 'Waddle Squad - the Little Penguin Story'



Sunday 23rd August
11-11:45am
Join local botanist Jessica Moulynox as she reads her new book 'A-Z of Botany'



Phillip Island Library
Free entry - just drop in




Full program and tickets
www.pifestivalofstories.com



What's Your Story?
21-23 August

Family law barrister, novelist & founder of To be Loved Network, Darren Mort talks about divorce and how we can protect the well being of children caught in the middle.

Saturday 22nd August 2026
11-11:45 AM



Enjoy 'Millie' a 12 min inspirational film.



Full program and tickets
www.pifestivalofstories.com

Darren Mort Bio

Darren was admitted to legal practice in 1986, after studying Law/Science at Melbourne University, including a year of Forensic Medicine.. He worked as a Solicitor for a short time before becoming a County Court Judge's Associate in 1988.

In 1990, he signed the Bar Roll and has been principally practising in Family Law.

Darren served on the Domestic Violence Taskforce Committee with the Chief Magistrate reporting to the Royal Commission on Domestic Violence.

He is a mentor for the first year Melbourne University Law Students and presides as a Moot Judge for Melbourne and Monash Universities. Darren is a committee member for the Association of Family & Conciliation Courts based in USA and Australia and has had a number of readers train under him.

Recently he was elected as President of Pacifica Congress, an organisation representing the voice of children.

Darren also serves on the Health and Well-Being Committee for the Victorian Bar and produced a film recently for the mental health of barristers.

He co-founded the registered charity, TO BE LOVED NETWORK which produces resources for children navigating family violence and parental separation. One of his films, 'TOMMY' is embedded in the USA Courts system. 'Millie' is licensed to the Judicial College of England and Wales to educate Judicial Officers on children exposed to conflict.

Apart from his legal profession, Darren is a trained actor and has appeared on many Australian television shows, including Neighbours, Dr Blake's Murder Mysteries, City Homicide and Nowhere Boys. He has three feature film credits and operates his own production company.

Darren recently received an OAM for service to the law, specifically recognizing his extensive pro bono work and tireless advocacy for children and families.

Dates to Remember | TERM 3

Fri, 14 th Aug	Assembly
Wed, 19 th Aug	School Excursion to Cranbourne Botanic Gardens – departing school 8.50am
Mon, 24 th Aug	Book Week dress up day
Mon, 24 th Aug	Book Swap
Tues, 25 th Aug	District Athletics
Fri, 28 th Aug	Assembly
Fri, 28 th Aug	District Basketball



St Joseph's Child Safety and Wellbeing Statement

St Joseph's Primary School is committed to embedding a culture of Child Safety and Wellbeing in everything we do, adhering to the Child Safety Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises (**Ministerial Order no. 1359**). We believe that ensuring the safety of the students in our care is an integral part of who we are as a Catholic Faith community. The school acts in accordance with the Ministerial Order through policies, procedures, measures and practices, staff training and, ultimately, through the strategies used in working with the students and families within our school community. We continue to maintain and develop a safe and supportive learning environment where staff are focused on engaging students in a meaningful, relevant, and challenging learning experiences.

If at the time you have any issues or concerns you feel you need to raise, please contact our Principal Sharon Anderson or our Child Safety Officer Robyn Brownnett on 5655 2040.