



Respect. Responsibility. Resilience.

Christ the King

School Newsletter



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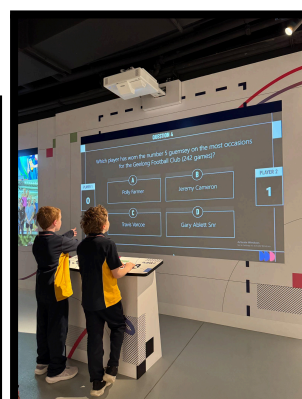
Friday 29th August , 2025

Dear Christ the King Families,

In what has been a heavy week in the news around the world, I am excited to share with you some of the wonderful learning and community moments that have been happening here at Christ the King. It is always heartening to see our students thriving, engaging, and celebrating together.

Yesterday our school was filled with colour and energy as we celebrated Footy Colours Day. Students proudly wore their team colours and enjoyed the sense of fun and community spirit the day brought. A big thank you to everyone who supported the event. As a gentle reminder, please make sure you have your Compass notifications turned on so you don't miss important updates regarding special lunches, events, or activities in the future.

Today our Middle Learning Community had the exciting opportunity to visit the Geelong Sports Museum at GMHBA Stadium. Students explored the history of local and national sporting achievements, gained insights into sports science, and connected their learning to real-world contexts. It was a wonderful chance for them to see how sport is celebrated as part of our culture and community.



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In classrooms across our school, teachers continue to strengthen practice through the Melbourne Archdiocese of Catholic Schools' Vision for Instruction. One element of this is the use of Participation Strategies and Safe Cold Calling. This strategy ensures that all students are prepared to engage in learning by being ready to answer questions whether their hand is raised or not. Safe cold calling creates inclusive participation, helps students deepen their understanding, and ensures that every child has a voice in their learning journey.

Looking ahead, we have two important events coming up to celebrate Father's Day. On **Thursday 4th September**, our students will have the chance to visit the **Father's Day Stall** and purchase a small gift. Then, on **Friday 5th September at 9:15am**, our Prep students will host a beautiful **Father's Day Liturgy** to honour the special men in our lives. We warmly invite families, especially the special men in our lives, to join us for this celebration.



In the spirit of reconciliation, Christ the King Primary School acknowledges the Wadawurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and learn. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and the community.



Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend ahead, and we look forward to seeing you at the exciting events coming up next week.

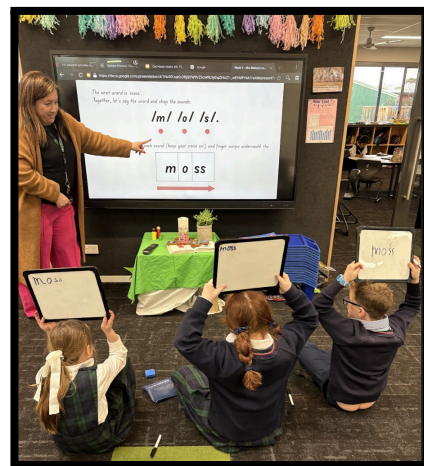
Louise

LEADERS REPORT - SIMONE NOTT

LEARNING AND TEACHING - A SPOTLIGHT ON READING

At Christ the King, we are incredibly proud of our commitment to fostering a lifelong love of reading and building exceptional literacy skills. Our approach is evidence based, reflective of the Science of Learning principles that guide how we effectively teach students to read. This means our teaching is systematic and explicit, focusing on the foundational building blocks of literacy and building upon them each year.

In the early years, our focus is on building a strong foundation. Beginning in Prep, we utilise the Phonics Plus program, a comprehensive approach that systematically teaches the relationship between sounds and letters. This direct instruction gives students the decoding skills they need to confidently read new words. We also begin to introduce students to a rich variety of texts to spark their interest and imagination.



As students become more proficient decoders, our curriculum expands to include a more rigorous literature study, where they engage with high-quality, authentic texts. We believe that reading is more than just sounding out words; it is about understanding, interpreting, and connecting with stories and ideas. At this stage, we place a strong emphasis on building fluency—the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression—which is crucial for comprehension. The CARS and STARS program is used to teach students twelve specific reading comprehension strategies, which are then explicitly applied to high-quality literature during classroom studies to deepen their understanding and analysis of rich texts.



As they are ready, our students move beyond basic comprehension to critical analysis. We have a strong focus on grammar, teaching students the rules and structures of language that enable them to comprehend complex sentences and express themselves clearly in their own writing. Our students learn to evaluate texts, identify author's purpose, and synthesise information from multiple sources, preparing them for the demands of more complex texts,

For the small number of students who require additional support, we offer targeted intervention programs. These include MiniLit and MacqLit, evidence-based programs designed to provide intensive, one-on-one or small-group instruction. This ensures every child receives the tailored support they need to become a confident and capable reader.

This rigorous approach has helped students at Christ the King achieve consistently outstanding NAPLAN results in reading. For a number of years children at Christ the King have



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performed well above the national average, a testament to the dedication of our staff and the hard work of our students.

We are excited to share that this year's NAPLAN results continue this tradition of excellence, with the following data:

YEAR THREE READING	School	Victoria	National
EXCEEDING	34%	22.4%	18.7%
STRONG	50%	49.0%	47.0%
DEVELOPING	13%	19.1%	21.5%
NEEDS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT	3%	6.9%	10.8%

YEAR FIVE READING	School	Victoria	National
EXCEEDING	26%	22.4%	19.5%
STRONG	60%	55.2%	53.4%
DEVELOPING	12%	15.5%	17.8%
NEEDS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT	3%	4.6%	7.5%

This data is exceptionally positive, highlighting the consistently strong literacy outcomes at Christ the King School. The results demonstrate that our school is not only performing well above the national average but is also successfully supporting the vast majority of our students in becoming highly proficient readers. Our commitment to excellence in reading is a shared journey, and we thank you for your continued partnership in your child's learning.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING LEADER - ENRIKA BARRON

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Self- Care September

Self care isn't selfish. It's essential.

Self-Care September 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Find time for self-care. It's not selfish, it's essential	2 Notice the things you do well, however small	3 Let go of self-criticism and speak to yourself kindly	4 Plan a fun or relaxing activity and make time for it	5 Forgive yourself when things go wrong. Everyone makes mistakes	6 Focus on the basics: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time	7 Give yourself permission to say 'no'
8 Be willing to share how you feel and ask for help when needed	9 Aim to be good enough, rather than perfect	10 When you find things hard, remember it's ok not to be ok	11 Make time to do something you really enjoy	12 Get active outside and give your mind and body a natural boost	13 Be as kind to yourself as you would to a loved one	14 If you're busy, allow yourself to pause and take a break
15 Find a caring, calming phrase to use when you feel low	16 Leave positive messages for yourself to see regularly	17 No plans day. Make time to slow down and be kind to yourself	18 Ask a trusted friend to tell you what strengths they see in you	19 Notice what you are feeling, without any judgement	20 Enjoy photos from a time with happy memories	21 Don't compare how you feel inside to how others appear outside
22 Take your time. Make space to just breathe and be still	23 Let go of other people's expectations of you	24 Accept yourself and remember that you are worthy of love	25 Avoid saying 'I should' and make time to do nothing	26 Find a new way to use one of your strengths or talents	27 Free up time by cancelling any unnecessary plans	28 Choose to see your mistakes as steps to help you learn
29 Write down three things you appreciate about yourself	30 Remind yourself that you are enough, just as you are					

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Regular school attendance is a cornerstone of a student's educational journey, impacting their academic performance, social-emotional well-being, and future prospects.

Aiming for consistent and regular attendance is a commitment to your child's educational journey and personal growth. Whilst illness and some other factors can be unavoidable, this commitment fosters an environment where learning is prioritised and the classroom becomes a place of continuous engagement and development.

Advantages of daily school attendance.

The advantages of daily school attendance extend well beyond the classroom, embedding a set of skills and values that prepare students for both academic achievements and the broader life experiences that lie ahead.

Benefits:

- *It instills in children a sense of responsibility and the importance of commitment
- * they learn to navigate obstacles more resiliently
- *are often better prepared for class, have higher engagement levels and are more attuned to the classroom dynamics.
- *allows them to build stronger, more meaningful relationships with their teachers and classmates, creating a supportive learning network which is crucial for developing strong communication skills and emotional intelligence.
- *continuous engagement in the educational process enables students to maintain a steady pace with the curriculum, ensuring they grasp key concepts
- *nurtures essential life skills such as discipline, punctuality and accountability

School attendance is a key factor in student achievement, and it plays a crucial role in shaping your child's future. It is essential for their academic success and overall wellbeing.

If you feel you are experiencing difficulty in this area and need assistance, support or guidance, please reach out and email me at ebarron@ctknewcomb.catholic.edu.au.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Congratulations to our 27 Candidates who received the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on Sunday 17th August. The students participated in a Reflection Day at school and celebrated mass at St Mary of the Angels Basilica prior to the celebration.

On the day, our Candidates were supported by their families, friends and staff who were witness to them embarking on their next step in their Sacramental journey. May your First Eucharist be the start of a journey of faith, filled with love and bring you a step closer to Jesus.





SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Tuesday 9 September

6.30pm

Playhouse Theatre - Geelong Arts Centre

Our school concert ***It's a Jungle Out There*** is being held on Tuesday 9 September at the Playhouse Theatre, Geelong Arts Centre (50 Little Malop Street, Geelong). We are very excited about how well the production is coming together. You are in for a great night! Please be reminded that tickets will not be available on the night. Some final arrangements regarding the musical are as follows.

DRESS REHEARSAL:

We have a full dress rehearsal on Monday, September 1. To make this dress rehearsal as smooth as possible, parents are asked to send their child's costume to school in a named plastic bag by no later than Thursday 28 August. Please ensure all your child's clothes are clearly labelled. All costumes will be sent home with students following the dress rehearsal so they are ready to wear to the Geelong Arts Centre on the big night!

COSTUME, HAIR AND MAKEUP:

On the night of the concert, the children will need to come to the Geelong Arts Centre wearing their full costume. Please ensure all your child's clothes are clearly labelled. All students are expected to wear their full costume home after the concert.

All main cast members are required to wear a base layer (ie: leotard or singlet and bike shorts) underneath their costumes. This is to help with fitting microphones on the night.

Make up is optional for the show and not mandatory. We understand that some parents would prefer not to put makeup on their child and we respect your decision either way. If you choose to put makeup on your child we recommend: Foundation/powder, skin coloured blush, light-coloured eye shadow, mascara, eyeliner and bright red lipstick. If you choose to put makeup on your child please do so at home and do not send cosmetic products with them on the night.

Hair styles should be reflective of the costume brief provided for each class.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP:

To ease congestion drop off and pick up will be staggered from 4.30pm.

4.30PM	Main Cast arrive to the GAC Foyer (Malop St. Entrance)
4.45PM	SLC Students arrive to the GAC Foyer (Malop St. Entrance)
5.00PM	MLC Students arrive to the GAC Foyer (Malop St. Entrance)
5.15PM	JLC Students arrive to the GAC Foyer (Malop St. Entrance)
5.30PM	Prep Students arrive to the GAC Foyer (Malop St. Entrance)

Children are to line up with their homeroom teachers **IN THE FOYER** of the Geelong Arts Centre (Lt Malop Street Entrance). As students arrive, teachers will take their classes to be marshalled in the Open House. When the whole class is present teachers will mark the roll and move backstage.

We want to ensure all students feel confident on the night and it is important that no one feels rushed, so please be on time. **If you have children in younger year levels they can be dropped off at the same time as the eldest sibling.**

To avoid delays in pick up and drop off students are asked to not bring any unnecessary items with them on the night. We ask that students have eaten dinner prior to arriving at the theatre. The school will make water available to students, so additional food and drinks are not required.

The concert will begin at 6.30pm sharp. No latecomers will be permitted into the theatre until 10 minutes after the show has commenced, so be sure to allow plenty of time to get to your seats before the performance begins. The concert is anticipated to run for approximately 70 minutes.

After the concert, the teachers will return to the Open House with the students who will be released one class at a time to their parents/carers. We anticipate that all students will be collected by **8.30pm**. As soon as you have collected your child please leave the space. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we ensure a quiet, safe and calm pickup for all our students.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS:

A reminder that at the Geelong Arts Centre photography and any filming during performances is not permitted. As such, the school has engaged a professional videographer to record the show and the link to this video will be made available to all families free of charge.

While we are expecting to see all our children at the Concert, if your family is unable to come, or if your child is sick, then as a courtesy, please contact your child's teacher and the School Office by Tuesday morning, 9th September, so that staff can plan to make arrangements as needed.

We thank you for your ongoing support and hope you enjoy this special event!

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS – SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SURVEYS (MACSSIS):

Monday 1 September – Friday 19 September 2025

From Monday 1st September, a random selection of families will be invited to participate in the MACSSIS survey, a wonderful opportunity to share your valuable perspective on our school.

Parent feedback is crucial to our ongoing efforts to create the best possible learning environment for your children. It's a key way we gather insights from our entire community—students, staff, and families—to understand what's working well and where we can improve. The survey was created specifically for Catholic schools in Melbourne with the help of education experts and school principals.

Invited parents can easily complete the survey at your convenience, using the secure, online link and password we will email to you. Participation is completely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time.

Based on feedback from the MACSSIS survey, our school has made several important operational changes to better meet the needs and preferences of our community. Your input directly led to these enhancements, demonstrating the value of your participation.

Community Conversations

Parents and staff found evening sessions for Community Conversations difficult to attend due to family commitments and busy schedules. In response to this feedback, we moved these conversations to an after-school block. This change has led to a significant increase in parent attendance, making these discussions more inclusive and effective for everyone.

Participation Tactics for Student Learning

Student surveys indicated a strong desire for more active and varied learning experiences to maintain their engagement. In response, our teachers have introduced Participation Tactics into their lesson plans. These are specific strategies designed to ensure every student is actively involved and learning, such as Think-Pair-Share and targeted Probing Questions.

Liturgies

Parent feedback highlighted a desire for more opportunities to engage with the school's Catholic identity and to see their children actively involved. We responded by increasing the frequency of our student-led liturgies. These services are now presented more often by students for parents to engage with, strengthening the

connection between our school and family faith life while providing students with a chance to lead and express their spirituality.

Thank you in advance for your time and for helping us continue to grow as a school community. We'll be sharing more details about the survey in our upcoming newsletters and on social media. Further information can be found [here](#). If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school office.

CHILD SAFETY - Important information for Volunteers

At Christ The King, the safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority. To help us maintain a secure and protected environment, we now require all volunteers to register their Working With Children Check (WWCC) card on the Services Victoria website.

This process is very simple and only takes a few minutes. By linking your card to Christ The King as a volunteer organisation, you help us ensure that we are immediately notified of any changes to a WWCC card, which is a key part of our child safety policy.

This applies to both volunteer and employee-type cards.

How to Link Your WWCC to Christ The King

[Log in to your account](#): Go to the Services Victoria website and log in to your account.

1. **Find the WWCC section:** Navigate to the "Working with Children Check" section.
2. **Update your details:** Select the option to "Update your details" or "Change my details."
3. **Add an organisation:** Scroll down to the "Organisation details" section and click the button to "Add an organisation."
4. **Enter our details:** Fill in the fields with the school's information. You will need to enter:
 - **Organisation Name:** Christ The King Primary School
 - **Organisation Address:** 79 Wilsons Road, Newcomb. VIC 2319.
 - **Organisation Phone Number:** 02 5248 1093
5. **Save your changes:** Once you have added the details, be sure to save or update your information

Your cooperation is essential in protecting the safety of everyone at Christ the King. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free

to contact **Kate Schaller**, our Student Wellbeing Leader, via email.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school safe!

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

The following children have received a *Gotcha!* Card for demonstrating our positive behaviour expectations in the playground over the last two weeks!

Respect. Responsibility. Resilience.


**GOTCHA!
CARD**

PLC	JLC	MLC	SLC
Sienna Erwin Carter Riddley	Lilliana Antonijevic Audrey Web Audrey Jennings Freya Scorpo Maggie Power Isla McHutchison Liuna Oliva		

REMINDERS

Term Three School Uniform

A reminder that all students should now be in full winter uniform. The winter uniform is worn in Terms Two and Three, this includes FULL WINTER Sports uniform. Classroom teachers will contact you directly if students are out of uniform. Please contact your child's teacher via the diary to let them know the reason if your child is out of uniform. All uniform items can be purchased from [Noone Uniforms](#), including the new optional long sleeved polo shirt.

Uniform Term 3 - 2025	
	<p><u>BOYS:</u> Long sleeve striped school shirt Long navy school pants School Jumper Navy socks Plain Black Leather School Shoes School Beanie (optional) School Scarf (optional)</p> <p><u>GIRLS</u> School Jumper Tunic White school shirt with Peter Pan collar Navy socks / Navy Tights Plain Black Leather School Shoes School Beanie (optional) School Scarf (optional)</p>

Some additional information below from our School Uniform Policy:

- **Hair** As per the advice of the Head Lice policy, long hair must be tied back. Ribbons and other accessories must be school colours - navy blue, white or red. Extreme hairstyles and unnatural hair colour are not acceptable (exemption may occur for approved fundraising days). School Hats can be purchased from the Office.
- **School bags** are only permitted. The school bag can also be purchased from the Office.
- **Jewellery** No jewellery (except tight sleeper/stud earrings)

TERM THREE CALENDAR

WEEK:	DATE:	SCHOOL EVENTS:
7	Monday 1st Sept	<p>MACSSIS Survey Opens Monday 1st Sept</p> <p>Fathers Day Stall Thursday 4th Sept</p> <p>Father's Day Liturgy (9.15am) Friday 5th Sept</p>
8	Monday 8th Sept	<p>School Concert Tuesday 9th Sept</p> <p>District Athletics Tuesday 9th Sept</p> <p>PLC - Mass at St Mary's Basilica - 10am Thursday 11th Sept</p> <p>SLC Fighting Extinction Program Friday 12th Sept</p> <p>JLC Learning Expo Friday 12th Sept</p>
9	Monday 15th Sept	<p>Italian Celebration Day Wednesday 17th Sept</p> <p>Ur o Mass at St Mary's Basilica - SLC 10am Thursday 18th Sept</p> <p>Recognition Awards Friday 19th Sept</p> <p>MACSSIS Survey Closes Friday 19th Sept</p>



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