



Principal's Report

Dear Families,

This newsletter marks almost the midpoint of the term and having a quick read of the classroom articles in this newsletter, it's brilliant to see the rich learning that is happening inside the classrooms.

2025 Class Structure

Over the next few weeks, we are looking to finalise our class structures for next year. If your child is not returning to St Columba's in 2025, please let me know in writing as this has a direct impact on our staffing, which we wish to finalise as soon as possible. Please direct all responses to lbuchanan@scms.catholic.edu.au by the 6th of September. Additionally, if you are looking to enrol your child for 2025 and beyond, please reach out to the school for an enrolment pack.

Right to Disconnect

As part of the principal's forum last week, we were reminded of the demands that are placed on staff at schools. Catholic Education are working with all school leaders to encourage staff to disconnect from their duties at school. I encourage open communication between families and school and remind staff that there is an obligation to respond to parents, however, if out of hours, it's ok not to correspond immediately unless urgent.

Uniform Update

A reminder to all families that hats are now compulsory whilst students are outside. This coincides with our Sun Smart policy. If your child has misplaced their hat or it is torn and unwearable, please see Nicki in the front office to purchase a new one. Thank you to all families who have ensured their child/ren attend school in the full correct uniform.

Book Week Parade! – “Reading is Magic”.

Last Tuesday, we celebrated book week with our annual book week parade. It was a great opportunity for the staff and students to celebrate reading and the fun and imagination reading brings to our lives. I thoroughly enjoyed the Book Week Parade. Every student got the opportunity to walk down the runway and have a moment and share their love of reading. It was full of smiles and laughter. The tradition of our local walk continued something which has been developed over the previous years.

Curriculum – Daily Reviews

Recently our teachers have been led by Miss Caitlin Roads to implement Daily Reviews. The Daily Review is a teaching strategy that helps students consolidate their understanding and develop fluency in essential numeracy skills. It involves a short, structured review session at the beginning of each lesson, typically lasting 10 minutes. This practice ensures that students have the prerequisite skills for the day’s lesson and builds their confidence by revisiting previously taught concepts in a planned and sequenced manner.

God bless,

Luke Buchanan

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RE News

Hello!

At the start of this term, I was fortunate enough to head to the Napa Valley for the Napa Institute Summer conference. This conference is a Catholic conference for a wide variety of people including priests, nuns, business owners, educators, doctors, university professors and more. The theme of the conference was “What does it mean to be human?” It was a remarkable experience listening to some amazing talks on ‘The Virtues as Superhabits,’ ‘The purpose of Human Life,’ ‘On the Dignity of work’ and much more. My time there was fruitful, engaging and motivating and I feel so blessed to get the opportunity to go. I am hoping to unpack some of my learning and reflections to bring to the school some fresh energy and ideas.

A big thank you to the Year 5 class and the Year 6/7 class who lead us in the masses for St Mary MacKillop and for the Feast of the Assumption. Both Masses were beautiful and it reminded me what a gift it is to be able to celebrate Mass as a whole school.

A reminder to all parents of the Year 5/6/7 students that on September 11th at 7pm there will be a zoom call as part of the MITIOG curriculum. This will be for both parents and children together. Please see me if you have any questions about this.

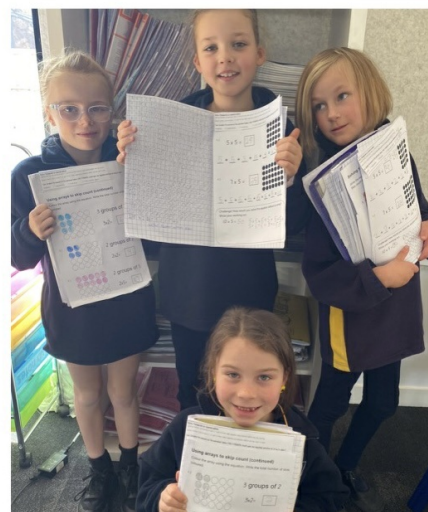
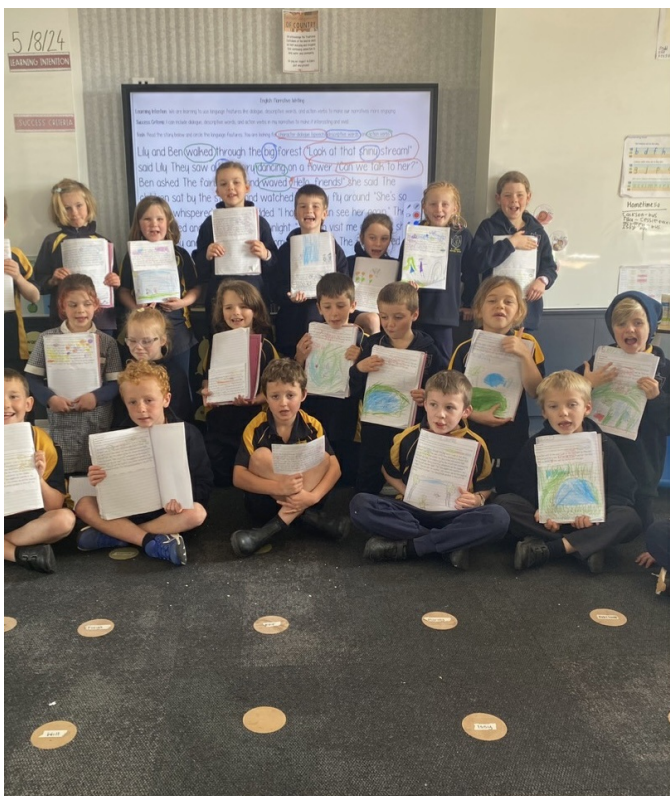
God Bless,

Miriam Honner

APRIM

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Junior Primary News



This term, the Year 1/2 students have been busy learning in both Mathematics and English.

In Mathematics, we have been exploring multiplication and division, learning to see multiplication as repeated addition and representing it with arrays. Students have practiced writing and drawing times tables equations for twos, fives, and tens, and have worked on equally sharing and grouping objects in division, using skip counting to divide by 2, 5, and 10. Students have also discovered how fact families connect related multiplication and division equations.

In English, we have been learning about narrative writing. Students have explored the structures and language features of narratives, and practiced creating, re-reading, and editing stories with attention to punctuation, spelling, and text structure. They've added their own twist to familiar tales like "Three Billy Goats Gruff," by experimenting with characters, settings, and plots, and telling stories from different points of view. Recently, students have focused on writing engaging introductions using the 5Ws and sizzling starts. Now, students are planning their own narratives using scaffolds to develop structure, characters, and settings. We can't wait to create a class library filled with our imaginative stories!

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Middle Primary News



The Year Three and Four class are very proud of our achievements! We have cooked many of our meals for camp this term including morning and afternoon teas, lunches and camps. So many of our ingredients were from our own school garden!

Thank you Jo, for your great teaching and direction during our "Food Tech" studies!

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Upper Primary News

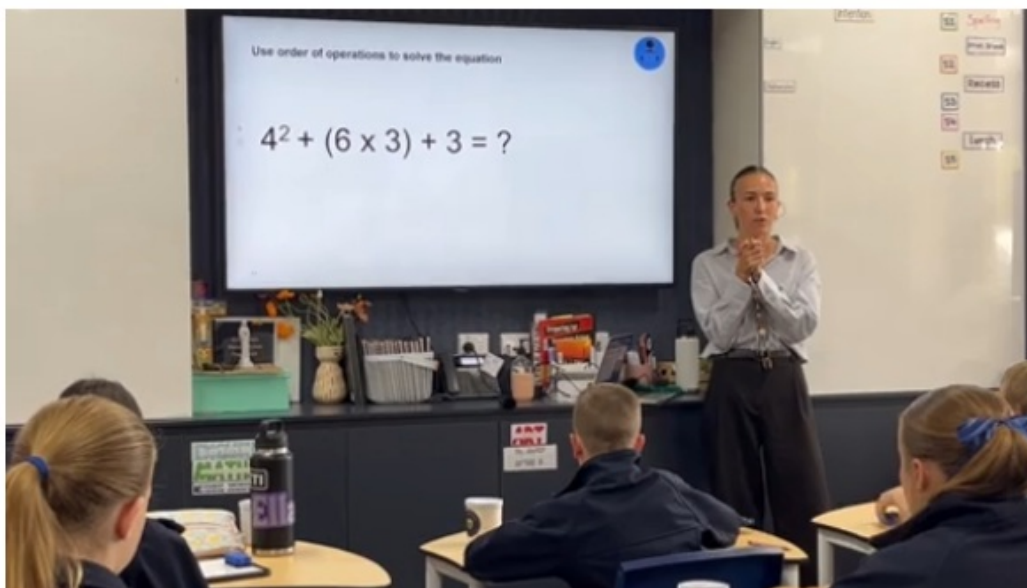


This term, the year 5 class has focused on a range of different topics and activities. In Art, they created collage self portraits where students had to draw a self portrait and use different materials and glue to create their collage over the top. In English & Drama, they have been exploring Readers' Theatre where students chose groups and had to perform a play of their choice using the strategies and tips explored during our English lessons. Questions about the script, characters and performance were answered before and after each performance. For the second half of this term they are creating and performing their own mini plays in small groups where they need to

organise everything from the characters to the dialogue, props and costumes. In Maths with Miss McGrath, they are learning about fractions. We have seen a great improvement in both confidence and understanding in Maths this term which is amazing!

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Senior Primary News



The Year 6/7 students have enjoyed working through their Daily Review Mathematics Routine. A Daily Review is a teaching strategy that involves regularly revisiting previously taught material to reinforce learning and improve retention. The Year 6/7's are presented with questions to review key concepts and skills that they have covered in class. The short, fast-paced reviews allow students opportunities to actively recall information from memory rather than passively reviewing notes or materials. Through fast paced active retrieval, their memory traces are reinforced, and their ability to recall information is enhanced.

All classes at St Columba's Memorial School have been integrating the Mathematics Daily Reviews, building up the questions included to target areas students may need to revisit based on our collected data. The Year 6/7's have shown great leadership in the integration of this resource, acting as role models for students to learn from.

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Literacy News



The senior spelling group, "Round Table Writers", have presented their work to the Middle and Upper Primary students. Their task was to select a fairy tale character, and write about this person, using 5 different descriptive writing techniques. These presenters rehearsed their presentations, being very mindful of PROSODY, i.e. varying their volume, stressing key words, pausing for dramatic effect. Each person had a co-presenter whose job was to highlight just one writing technique, before the writer's presentation, questioning that students understood what this technique is about, e.g. metaphor, and asking the audience to be alert to this technique. At the conclusion of the writer's reading, the co-presenter would then ask if anyone from the audience was able to detect this feature.

The audience were very attentive and enjoyed being a Literacy Detective. I believe the presenters and co-presenters found great value in making their writing and oral presentations interesting and of value to their fellow students.

Regards,

Mandy Thompson

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Choir News



The Senior School Choir had their assessment at Mary MacKillop School at Walaroo. It was a great day to polish our performance and fine tune the choreography!

We are off to Loreto College on the 29th of August for our first major rehearsal!

Congratulations to Gabriela Taheny who travelled to Adelaide for the final auditions of soloists for the Catholic Schools Music Festival! Well done and we wish you luck! The school is very proud of your achievement!

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Green Space and Food Tech News




We have had plenty of learning and growth across both the Green Space and Food Tech programs in the first part of term three. The winter rain has allowed us a small break from regular watering, it's wonderful for well-being and mental health to cast your eyes across the green growth in the school garden. The reception class planted a green pea tower about two months ago, and the yields have been plentiful - green pea snacks for all garden visitors. The garlic crops that we plant every year steadily expand, this season saw the most bulbs ever planted. Did you know that the original garlic that we've planted in the school garden came from one of the St Columbas parishioners, it has been with our school for many, many years! We are looking forward to being able to offer some of the of garlic with the school community later in the year as it comes to maturity. Our beloved mandarin tree has provided recess snacks for a good couple of months now for the entire school! At the very start of autumn, the junior primary classes created a thriving potato patch. Based on the garden care skills learned in previous years, we layered mulch, compost and dirt on top of the growing potato plants throughout the autumn and winter seasons, resulting in the largest growth and healthiest potato patch we've ever seen in the school garden.

The garden continues to be used for experiential learning and applied living skills, and as a place to bolster well-being and emotional regulation for everyone within SCMS.

The Food Tech program consistently uses fresh produce across from the garden, embedding real-life 'ground to plate' ideas and concepts for students. We grow and collect fresh vegetables and fruits, then process, prepare and create wholesome dishes in the Food Tech kitchen. Recently the 3/4 class prepared all of their own recess snacks, plus one lunch dish for their camp! The Food Tech program also offers specialised 1:1 opportunities for students to explore and learn in a supported space.

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PLAY - GATHER - GROW

New Mama Meet Up

A place to meet for Mums of
new babies newborn - crawling.

St Columba's School Hall
Yorketown


9.30am - 11.00am each Tuesday
of the school term.

For more information call or text
Katie on 0429166392.

*Tea, barista coffee & snacks
provided free of charge.*

Find us on Facebook





SAVE THE DATE!

Parenting for Character


With Dr Andy Mullins

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29
St Columba's School Hall @ 7pm

*How to raise our children well today -
to be ready for tomorrow!*

Dr Mullins will provide practical suggestions about how to develop character in the home: clear consistent expectations, affection, refined examples of emotional responses, respect and generosity, and an explicit approach to reinforce desired behaviours.

Uplifting stories will be shared to illustrate and draw links to the neuroscience of character, all within the great traditions of character education from Aristotle to the Positive Psychology movement today.



For more details
please contact Miriam Honner:
mhonner@scms.catholic.edu.au

This session is proudly supported by Parents in Education (PIE) Grant funding

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WALK #6 IS ON SUN 29 SEPT 2024

**TROUBRIDGE LIGHTHOUSE TO
PT MOOROWIE 1PM-4PM**

**FOR
CYSTIC FIBROSIS SA**

CFSA.ORG.AU/DONATE/

**COURIERS AVAILABLE FOR CAR RETRIEVAL
AFTER THE WALK**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR WALKS
PLEASE FOLLOW**

**YP_FUNDRAISER_WALKS ON INSTAGRAM
OR TEXT ROBYN ON 0407799057 TO BE ADDED TO THE
MESSENGER GROUP**

EVERYONE WELCOME!

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Yorke town Basketball Club



**YORKETOWN
BASKETBALL
CLUB**

We are seeking
players for the
2024/25 season

Juniors
U12's born 2014/15/16
U14's born 2012/13
U16's born 2010/11

Seniors
Men and Women

Also seeking expressions
of interest for coaches

Register Now

- Kim Bryan 0487 205 898
- Tracey Thom 0407 716 183

The poster features a dark blue background with a large orange basketball on the left. The club name is in bold white and red text. A light blue basketball hoop graphic is in the background. A red banner contains the 'Register Now' text and contact details.

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**YORKETOWN TENNIS CLUB
SEASON 2024/25**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday 2nd Sept.
5.30pm at the Yorketown
Sporting Club (courts)

All interested players
encouraged to come along.

Kids looking to play Junior tennis this year,
please contact Kath Slade 0408 307 569
Make sure you ask us about RED BALL
RUMBLE program for our young newbies
- so much fun!



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Community Play Coaching Workshop

Join Tennis SA at the Yorketown Tennis Club for a Coaching Upskill Workshop!

Day: Thursday 3rd October
Time: 3:30pm - 5pm

*BONUS Junior Clinic for younger children at the same time!



Register Here!

Registrations Due 26th September



RED BALL RUMBLE

FUN INTRO TO MODIFIED MATCH PLAY FOR KIDS AGED 5 - 10

- ★ 6 WEEK PROGRAM | 1 HOUR SESSIONS
- 🕒 EVERY THURSDAY 3:30PM - 4:30PM STARTING 24 OCTOBER
- 👥 MAKE FRIENDS AND LEARN SKILLS FOR LIFE
- 📍 YORKETOWN TENNIS CLUB

BEGINNERS WELCOME!



\$5 PER SESSION

SIGN UP NOW!



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ALL WELCOME!

FREE LEARN TO ORIENTEER

FOR THE SOUTHERN YORKE PENINSULA COMMUNITY

STARTS AUGUST 4

TIMETABLE AND BOOKING INFO:

<https://tinyurl.com/learntoorienteer>

LEARN TO ORIENTEER

The poster features a background image of three people participating in an orienteering event in a wooded area. A woman in the foreground is smiling and looking at a map. A man in a blue shirt and a woman in an orange shirt are also visible. The text is overlaid on the image in various shapes and colors, including a yellow starburst, a light green speech bubble, a dark green rounded rectangle, and a large yellow and green magnifying glass graphic.

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