



# Sunshine Christian School

Living as children of the light - loving God, loving others, loving learning

Issue 4 | Friday 20 March 2026

Registered primary school no. 1850

81-83 Westmoreland Road  
Sunshine North VIC 3020

Telephone 03 9312 1253

Fax 03 9310 1280

Email admin@scs.vic.edu.au

Web www.scs.vic.edu.au

Principal Mr Damian Pietsch

## Calendar Dates

2026

### Monday 23 March 2026

Whole School Worship @ 9am  
School Wellbeing Week

### Monday 30 March, Tuesday 31 March and Wednesday 1 April 2026

Parent Teacher Interviews –  
please refer to interview  
schedule

### Thursday 2 April 2026

End of Term 1  
12.15pm finish

## St Matthew's Lutheran Church

Our supporting church worships at  
9.30am each Sunday at 362 Barkly  
St. Footscray.

Sunshine Christian School  
acknowledges that our loving Creator  
God first gave the land on which the  
school is placed, to the peoples of the  
First Nation who have walked and  
cared for this land since before  
recorded time. We thank God for the  
land's traditional Custodians and pay  
our respects to Elders past, present,  
and emerging as we travel this journey  
of reconciliation in Australia.



## Devotion: Love that chases us down

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long (Psalm 23:6)

Psalm 23 is surely one of the most beloved passages in all Scripture. What does it stir in you? Perhaps childhood memories of learning it by heart. Perhaps the solemn tenderness of a funeral. Or maybe even a smile at the thought of the TV comedy The Vicar of Dibley.

Every year, I look forward to Good Shepherd Sunday, when we usually have the opportunity to sing Psalm 23 to one of numerous musical settings and reflect again on Jesus as our Good Shepherd. 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.' Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is also Immanuel: God with us in the darkest valleys of our lives. How have you experienced God's peace, presence and protection in times of trouble?

As always happens when we read the Bible in English, no matter how good the translation, some nuance is always lost. In verse six, the Hebrew word רַחֲמִים (pronounced kheh'-sed) is translated as 'mercy', but it also conveys the notions of 'love', 'covenant faithfulness' and 'grace'. Older translations often used the word 'lovingkindness'.

Similarly, רָדַף (rah-daf') is here translated as 'follow', but it is far too gentle, too nice, too polite a translation. This is the word used to describe Pharaoh's army chasing down the Israelites to the Red Sea. It is a pursuit that will never give up.

For all the days of our lives, we are being chased down by a love that is so vast, so beautiful, that we cannot comprehend it. It is a love that pursues us without giving up, no matter the cost; a love that went all the way to the cross to secure our redemption.

***Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we thank you for being with us in the darkest moments of our lives. Thank you for your love for us that never stops or gives up on us until it brings us safely home to you. Lead us to put our trust in you and rest in the depths of your unfailing love. Amen.***

***Devotion by: Jordan Moore***

### Prayer Points

- We pray for peace and safety for the people in areas that war is being fought.
- We also give thanks for the sunshine and changes that come with the season of Autumn.
- We pray for the Thianhlun, Gabriel Sanchez and Gaurano families.

### Micah Award

Abraham for showing service and compassion to others.



### Micah Award

Holly for showing courage in her work.





## From the Principal

### Playgroup



One of the great joys of our school is the sense of community that grows when families come together—and our **school playgroup** is a wonderful place where that begins.

Our playgroup meets **every Monday at 9.30am** and provides a welcoming, relaxed space for young children to play, explore, and build early social skills, while parents and carers have the opportunity to connect with one another.



Before playgroup begins, we invite families to join us for **Whole School Worship at 9.00am**. Worship is a special time in our week where we gather as a community to sing, pray, and reflect together. It's a beautiful way for playgroup families to experience the heart of our school and feel part of our wider community from the very beginning.

Whether you are already connected to our school or are just starting your journey with us, our playgroup is open, friendly, and designed to help families feel at home. Children are free to engage in play-based activities, and parents can enjoy conversation, encouragement, and a sense of belonging.

If you know a family with young children who may be interested, please feel free to pass this invitation on. We would love to welcome them



## Notes from the Office

**PREP ENROLMENT FOR 2027**  
Applications for Prep 2027 close at the end of March 2026. To assist us in our planning, the enrolment application must be submitted by the March deadline.

### TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES

Term 2 fees have been sent out and must be paid no later than 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026.

### PLAYGROUP

**Where:** Sunshine Christian School Hall

**When:** Mondays  
9.30 am to 11.30 am

**Who:** Parents, Grandparents, Carers and children under 5



# What we are learning

## Yr 2/3

### Prep/1

In the Prep/1 classroom, we have been learning about being respectful and showing service at home and school. Ask us how we can show kindness to others!



We have been exploring Fairytales in one of our Reading group rotations. One activity was to choose a favourite fairytale and act it out. Ask us to tell you the order of events in the story!



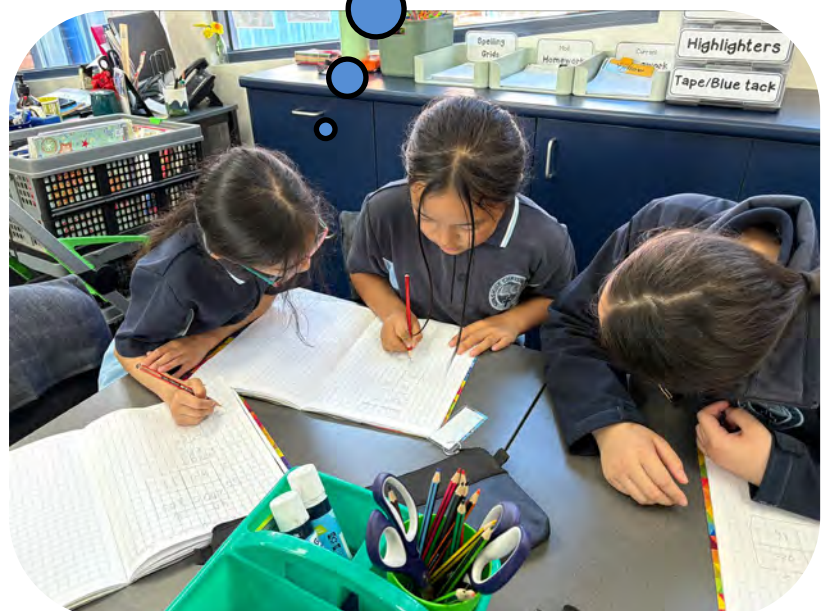
### Yr 3/4

In the Year 3/4 classroom, we are learning about the First Fleet. Students researched and collaborated to create a poster on the 3 main reasons for the First Fleet. Ask us what the reasons are!



In the year 5/6 classroom, we have been learning about multiplication strategies such as the split strategy and the grid method. Ask us how to multiply the numbers 67 and 89!

### Yr 5/6





## Calendar of Events: Term 1 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 9	<b>March 23</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am	<b>March 24</b>	<b>March 25</b>	<b>March 26</b>	<b>March 27</b> Sharing Assembly
Wk 10	<b>March 30</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am Parent/Teacher Interviews	<b>March 31</b> Parent/Teacher Interviews	<b>April 1</b> Parent/Teacher Interviews	<b>April 2</b> Last Day of Term: 12.15pm finish	<b>April 3</b> Good Friday

## Calendar of Events: Term 2 2026

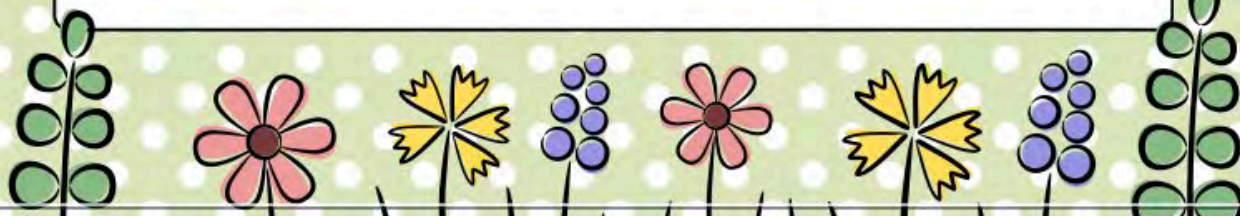
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 1	<b>April 20</b> Student Free Day No School	<b>April 21</b> Worship	<b>April 22</b>	<b>April 23</b>	<b>April 24</b>
Wk 2	<b>April 27</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am Year 5/6 Camp	<b>April 28</b> Year 5/6 Camp	<b>April 29</b> Year 5/6 Camp	<b>April 30</b>	<b>May 1</b> SCHOOL PHOTO DAY Newsletter
Wk 3	<b>May 4</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am	<b>May 5</b> Year 5/6 Excursion	<b>May 6</b>	<b>May 7</b>	<b>May 8</b> Mother's Day Stall
Wk 4	<b>May 11</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am Year 3/4 Camp	<b>May 12</b> Year 3/4 Camp	<b>May 13</b> Year 3/4 Camp	<b>May 14</b> Dental Van	<b>May 15</b> Dental Van Newsletter
Wk 5	<b>May 18</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am	<b>May 19</b>	<b>May 20</b>	<b>May 21</b> Multicultural Day	<b>May 22</b> St Matthew's Worship (Sunday 24)



# Prep/1 learning



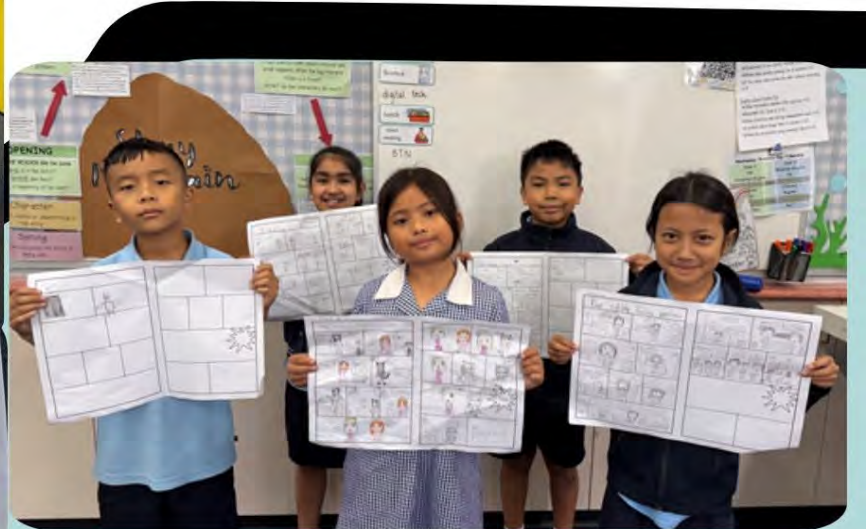
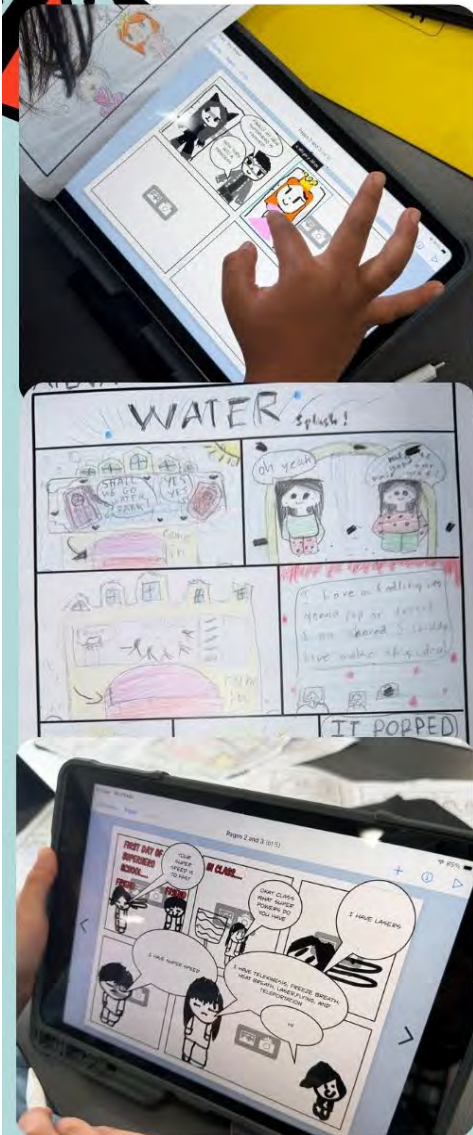
Prep/1 students have learnt about weight, length and mass through hands-on learning activities in Maths, using counter blocks, exploring different kinds of scales, and comparing weight with a balancing scale.





# Grade 3/4

The Grade 3/4 students have been busy becoming comic creators! As part of our writing unit, students are learning how to plan and write their own comics. We are exploring how dialogue, captions and illustrations work together to tell a story. Students noticed that detailed pictures that express emotions help create an engaging comic for the reader.





# Senior Learn to Swim





What effect does physical activity and exercise have on academic outcomes?



### In this edition of SchoolTV - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & EXERCISE

In the last decade, children's participation in physical activity and exercise has been in decline. In this digital age, children are using computers and mobile devices, not only for learning, but for relaxation and recreation purposes. This sedentary lifestyle is having a detrimental effect on today's youth. The key is finding the balance.

Research shows, that regular physical activity and exercise leads to changes in the brain. It improves cognitive function, elevates mood, enhances learning and improves academic outcomes. Playing sport helps kids develop fundamental movement skills impacting positively on their confidence, self-esteem and ability to develop social skills. Parents play an important role in helping children establish positive habits that will benefit their children in the long-term.

In this edition of SchoolTV, parents will discover practical advice relating to the benefits of regular physical activity and exercise, as well as tips on how to get their kids motivated and moving more.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the **Physical Activity & Exercise** edition of SchoolTV  
<https://scs.vic.schooltv.me/newsletter/physical-activity-exercise>

# MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING CORNER

Supporting families to grow strong minds  
and hearts in Christ.

## This Week's Tip for Parents

### **Belonging in Community**

Children develop a strong sense of belonging when they feel connected to their family, school, and community.

Feeling included and valued helps children build confidence and positive relationships.

At Sunshine Christian School, we continue to support students in understanding that they are an important part of our school community.

Parents can help by gently encouraging children to connect with others while supporting them at their own pace.

Every child experiences belonging differently. Some children may feel ready to join in straight away, while others may prefer to observe first and become comfortable over time.

When children feel safe to participate in ways that suit them, their confidence and sense of belonging can grow naturally.

[TURN OVER TO FIND OUT MORE...](#)

## Student Voice

From Our Students!

***“What helps you feel like you belong at Sunshine Christian School?”***

*“ My friends and the teachers.”*

*“ All the fun things like the playground, friends and soccer.”*



## Faith & Wellbeing

***“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”***

**1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)**

This verse reminds us that we all have a role in helping others feel encouraged and supported.

Belonging grows when people build one another up through kindness, inclusion, and care.

When children experience encouragement and teamwork, they begin to understand that they matter and that they are an important part of the community. Each person brings something unique.

At school, at home, and in our faith, we are reminded that we grow stronger when we support and care for one another.

# **9 Additional Supports for Families**

## Belonging In Community!



### **1. TALK ABOUT BELONGING**

Ask your child what helps them feel included at school.

### **2. ENCOURAGE INCLUSIVE THINKING**

Discuss ways they can include others during play or group work.

### **3. CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES**

Talk about how everyone brings different strengths and perspectives.

### **4. MODEL KINDNESS**

Children learn belonging by observing how adults treat others.

### **5. NOTICE ACTS OF INCLUSION**

Praise your child when they show kindness or include someone.

### **6. STRENGTHEN SCHOOL CONNECTION**

Ask about classmates, teachers, and activities your child enjoys.

### **7. ENCOURAGE TEAMWORK**

Support activities where children collaborate and work together.

### **8. PRACTISE GRATITUDE**

Invite your child to share something they appreciate about their school community.

### **9. REINFORCE THE MESSAGE OF BELONGING**

Remind your child regularly:

“You are an important part of our family and our school community.”




enjoy  
local!





  
Brimbank  
City Council

**Free**  
of charge

# B is for Bunny

 **Wednesday 1 April 2026**

 **3 - 6.30pm**

 **RT Pollard Gardens, Sunshine** (Wurundjeri Country)  
Corner of Corio Street and Hampshire Road

- Meet the Easter Bunny
- Live show with Trixie the Easter Pixie
- DJ Dance Party
- Face painting
- Roving performers
- Bubble magic
- Sausage sizzle

Pop on your bunny ears or your Easter bonnet and join us in the gardens.



 <https://events.brimbank.vic.gov.au/b-is-for-bunny>

 **131 450**  
Local call costs apply

Scan the QR code  
for event details



**SkyBus**

#EnjoyLocal #BrimbankEaster #FamilyFun