



# Sunshine Christian School

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

Issue 7 Friday 15 May 2026

Registered primary school no. 1850

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Principal Mr Damian Pietsch

## Calendar Dates

2026

### Monday 18 May 2026

Whole School Worship @ 9am  
Playgroup @ 9.30am

### Thursday 21 May

Multicultural Day celebration

### Friday 22 May

Prep/1 Excursion to Museum

### Sunday 24 May

Year 2/3 involvement at St  
Matthew's Church

## 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: A place of abundance

Praise be to God, who has not ... withheld his love from me! (Psalm 66:20)

This week's devotion texts have been ping-ponging us back and forth across the Scriptures, and I'll admit, I'm feeling a little dizzy. We began with the disciples trembling in the upper room (John). Then we visited the exiled Judeans in their exhaustion (Isaiah), before joining the early church (Acts) as they tried to understand what it meant to follow a crucified and risen Messiah. We bounced off Paul's encouragement to two young communities learning how to live faithfully within pagan cultures (2 Corinthians and Ephesians). Yesterday, we reflected on how the Old and New Testament covenants meet in our High Priest, Jesus (Hebrews).

How can all these threads possibly belong to one story?

Thankfully, the psalmists often know how to gather scattered strands together, and today's Psalm 66 does not disappoint. This is a song rising from the far side of trouble. The hearers are not people unfamiliar with suffering. They have known oppression, bewilderment, fear and the long ache of waiting. Yet the psalm is not a lament – it is a testimony. Standing on the other side of trial and testing, they declare that God has brought them 'to a place of abundance'.

Across all the readings this week, did you notice the same heartbeat? God's steadfast love for his people, even when their path leads through fire and water. His protection covered them, whether or not they could feel it. His refining work, his preserving hand, his refusal to abandon those who call on him.

Psalm 66 does not offer easy answers, but it does offer a way of seeing: God's love is not proven by the absence of struggle but by his faithful presence within it. Like the psalmist, Christians today pray in the dark silences; we cry out, we wrestle – and we discover that God has been listening and loving us all along, leading us steadily toward his abundance.

***God of all seasons, as I face the world's turmoil and my own, I cling to this anchor: you are not withholding your love from me. Your ear is open to my cry. Your presence is steady, holding me close. And you are leading me, even now, toward a place of abundance. Amen.***

**Devotion by: Linda Macqueen**

### Prayer Points

- We pray peace in our communities and around the world.
- We also give thanks for the opportunity for the year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students to engage in our camping program.
- We pray for the Giang, Gora and Suan families.

### Micah Award

Anna for showing service and  
compassion to others.



### Micah Award

Sam for showing service to the  
school and others.





## From the Principal



# National Road Safety Week 2026

17-24 May

### Road Safety Week (17-24 May)

Keeping our students safe is very important, especially before and after school when there is a lot of traffic. During Road Safety Week, we ask all families to work together to keep our children safe on.

Here are some simple reminders:

#### 1. Use the drop-off zones

Please only use the marked drop-off areas (with cones). These are the safest places for children to get in and out of cars.

#### 2. Follow the traffic flow

Please follow the signs and directions from staff. This helps traffic move safely and smoothly.

#### 3. Do not double park

Do not stop next to another car. Always move into a safe space before your child gets out of the car.

#### 4. Be patient and kind

Please allow extra time at drop-off and pick-up. Be patient and respectful to other drivers, students and staff.

#### 5. No U-turns near the school

U-turns are dangerous. Please do not turn around in front of the school.

#### 6. Stay focused when driving

Do not use your mobile phone while driving. Keep your eyes on the road and watch for children.

By following these simple steps, we can keep all students safe. Please also see the flyers in this newsletter for more information. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe.



## Notes from the Office

### TERM 2 UNIFORM

Full winter uniform is to be worn from the start of Term 2.

Boys: Long Pants

Girls: Pinafore and navy tights  
or Long Pants

Girls and Boys: Track Pants for sport.

### Order School Uniforms online.

Save time, have the uniforms and invoice sent home with your children. Go to [www.scs.vic.edu.au](http://www.scs.vic.edu.au)

Click parent information, uniform then complete the online form.

### 2028 ENROLMENTS

Enrolments for Prep 2028 are now open. If you have a child due to commence Prep in 2028, please complete an enrolment form. Without a form your child/children will not be on the waiting list.

New online form available at [www.scs.vic.edu.au](http://www.scs.vic.edu.au)



## What we are learning

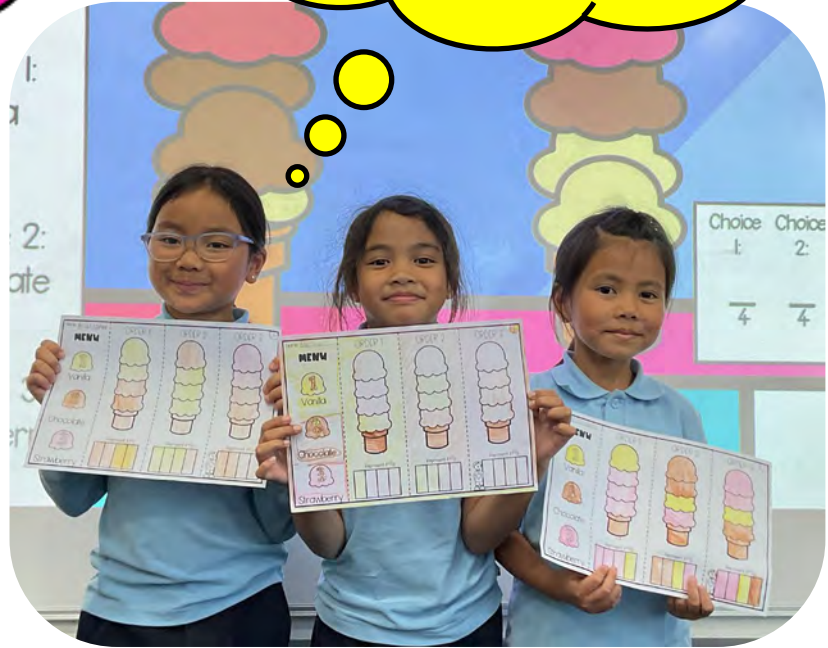
### Prep/1

In Prep/1, students have been working hard to prepare for their visit to the nursing home next term—please ask us about our preparation!



### Yr 2/3

In Maths, we have been learning about fractions and how to recognise halves and quarters in different ways. Ask us how we can find and show one half or one quarter of a shape or group!!



### Yr 3/4

In Year 3 and 4, we learnt to face our challenges and conquer our fears! Ask us what our favourite activity was!



### Yr 5/6

In Year 5 and 6, we visited Velisha Farm to learn about the importance of eating vegetables daily. Ask us if we have had our 5 serves of vegetables today!





## Calendar of Events: Term 2 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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> Prep/1 Excursion Melbourne Museum  St Matthew's Worship (Sunday 24)
Wk 6	<b>May 25</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am	<b>May 26</b>	<b>May 27</b>  Reconciliation Week	<b>May 28</b>	<b>May 29</b>  Newsletter
Wk 7	<b>June 1</b> Worship Playgroup @ 9.30am	<b>June 2</b>	<b>June 3</b>	<b>June 4</b>  Yr. 3/4 & 5/6 Incursion	<b>June 5</b>  Sharing Assembly: Year 5/6 and 2/3
Wk 8	<b>June 8</b> King's Birthday Holiday NO SCHOOL	<b>June 9</b>  Wellbeing Week	<b>June 10</b>	<b>June 11</b>  Whole School Incursion	<b>June 12</b>  Newsletter
Wk 9	<b>June 15</b>	<b>June 16</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>June 18</b>	<b>June 19</b>
Wk 10	<b>June 22</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>June 24</b>	<b>June 25</b>	<b>June 26</b>  Last Day of Term: 12:15pm finish

# Allambee Camp



The Year 3 students from 2/3 showed great courage at camp as they challenged themselves and stepped outside their comfort zones. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they encouraged one another and celebrated their achievements.



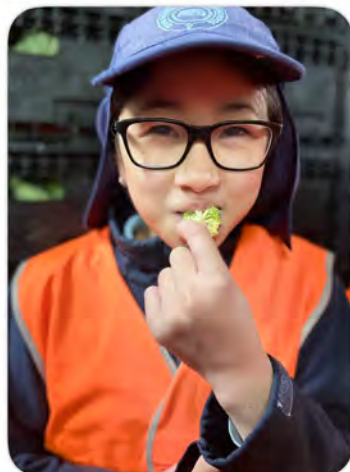


# Year 5/6 Camp to Anglesea



# Veg Education

Last week, the Year 5/6 class visited Velisha Farm in Werribee South as part of the Veg Education Program. During the visit, students learnt about agricultural practices and the importance of eating five serves of vegetables each day. They sampled a variety of vegetables and even tried a zucchini and strawberry smoothie. This excursion supports and enriches our Semester 1 healthy eating unit.





## Cybersafety

A SchoolTV topic supporting  
modern-day parenting



### In this edition of SchoolTV – Cybersafety

Young people today are growing up in an increasingly connected world where technology is part of their everyday lives — for learning, socialising, and entertainment. While the digital world offers enormous benefits, it also comes with serious risks. From cyberbullying and online predators to inappropriate content and screen time concerns, navigating the online environment can be challenging for young people and their families.

Cybersafety is not just about blocking access — it's about empowering young people with the knowledge and skills they need to use technology responsibly and safely. This includes understanding privacy settings, recognising scams, and developing healthy digital habits. At the same time, it's important for parents and caregivers to stay informed, have open and judgement-free conversations with their children, and lead by example through positive online behaviour.

In today's digital age, safeguarding a child's wellbeing must also include protecting their online life. This edition of SchoolTV will help you better understand the digital landscape your child is navigating and offer practical strategies to help them stay safe, confident and in control online.

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 **Cybersafety** edition of SchoolTV

<https://scs.vic.schooltv.me/newsletter/cybersafety-au>

# MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING CORNER

Supporting families to grow strong minds  
and hearts in Christ.

## This Week's Tip for Parents

### **Courage, Growth & The Sailboat Metaphor**

During our recent Wellbeing Week, students explored how courage and growth are closely connected, and how both are developed through life's challenges.

We introduced **The Sailboat Metaphor** to help students understand their thoughts, emotions, and experiences in a simple and meaningful way.

*A metaphor is a way of explaining something by comparing it to something else. In this case, our wellbeing is like a sailboat navigating the ocean.*

- The **ocean** represents the environment we are in - classroom, playground, church, home.
- The **weather** represents things we cannot control - tiredness, stress, or unexpected changes.
- The **sails** represent our strengths and the choices we make to keep going.

This metaphor helps children understand an important truth: ***Life can feel challenging without anyone being the problem.***

It also reminds us that we don't need perfect conditions to move forward. Growth happens when we learn to navigate what is in front of us, using the strengths and supports we have.

TURN OVER TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE SAILBOAT METAPHOR...

## Student Voice

From Our Students!

***"What helps you move forward when something feels tricky or confusing?"***

*"When there is someone there to explain it and not get angry at me."*

*"I need examples and then someone to be there when I try it myself."*



## Faith & Wellbeing

***"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."*** — James 1:2-3 (NIV)

This verse can feel surprising at first. It's not saying that challenges are easy or enjoyable, but reminding us that actually, growth often happens through difficulty.

In our Sailboat learning, life brings changing "weather" and "waves" we cannot control. These moments may feel uncomfortable, but they are often where children begin to develop perseverance, confidence, and resilience.

As a Christian community, we trust that God is with us in every challenge, strengthening us as we grow. At the same time, we are called to reflect His care by being present for one another.

For our children, this means they are not asked to face challenges alone — not only does God walk beside them, but we also sit with them, listen, and support them through difficult moments.

Our role is not to remove every wave, but to help children learn: ***"I can face hard things — I am supported, and I am growing through them."***

# Additional Support for Families



## UNDERSTANDING THE SAILBOAT METAPHOR

The Sailboat Metaphor helps children (and adults) understand that life includes challenges - but also strengths, supports and choices that help us navigate them.

### 1. THE OCEAN - OUR ENVIRONMENT

The ocean represents places in the world around us — school, home, church, city. Sometimes the environment can feel busy, loud, or overwhelming.

☞ The environment can be challenging without anyone being the problem.

### 2. THE WEATHER - WHAT WE CAN'T CONTROL

The weather represents things we don't choose or control — like tiredness, stress, or unexpected challenges.

☞ We can't control everything, but we can choose how we respond.

### 3. THE SAILS - OUR STRENGTHS

The sails represent the strengths that help us move forward — effort, persistence, asking for help, and trying again.

☞ Progress comes from using strengths, not waiting for things to feel easy.

### 4. THE ANCHOR - GROUNDING AND SAFETY

The anchor represents routines, calming strategies, and actions that help us feel safe and steady.

☞ Anchors don't remove challenges — they help us stay in them safely.

### 5. THE COMPASS - THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, EMOTIONS & LOGIC

The compass represents our thoughts, feelings, and rules — they give us information about what is happening.

☞ Feelings are important information, but they don't have to control our choices.

### 6. THE STEERING WHEEL - OUR VALUES

The steering wheel represents our values — what matters to us and how we want to behave.

☞ Values guide our choices, especially when things feel hard.

### 7. THE DESTINATION - OUR GOALS

The destination represents our learning, wellbeing and personal growth goals.

☞ Sometimes we adjust our path, but the goal remains the same. It doesn't mean we have failed.

### 8. THE LIFE RAFT - EXTRA SUPPORT FOR OUR WEAKNESSES

The life raft represents times when we need extra help - when things feel overwhelming or we need a break.

☞ Asking for help is not weakness — it is wisdom.

### 9. THE LIGHTHOUSE - SUPPORT SYSTEMS

The lighthouse represents safe and trusted people who guide and support us.

☞ Support helps us stay in the learning, not avoid it.

### 10. OTHER BOATS - OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Other boats represent the people we journey with - friends, classmates, family.

☞ We don't sail alone — and who we sail with matters.

# DAILY THEMES



**Sunday 17 May**  
Remember the 1,300



**Monday 18 May**  
Make the pledge



**Tuesday 19 May**  
Be mindful of young  
people on our roads



**Wednesday 20 May**  
Travel the road  
to kindness



**Thursday 21 May**  
Refresh your road  
rules knowledge



**Friday 22 May**  
Plan your journey



**Saturday 23 May**  
Drive safely on  
regional/country/rural/remote  
roads



**Sunday 24 May**  
Yellow ride

# The School Photographer<sup>®</sup>

A friendly reminder to

**ORDER  
SCHOOL  
PHOTOS!**

**You still have time to  
place your order!**



## IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

TO AVOID A LATE ORDER ADMINISTRATION FEE HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW OUR PACKAGES AND TO PLACE YOUR ORDER

Sunshine Christian School - Sunshine North VIC

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE

**B6A5MN39**

[theschoolphotographer.com.au](https://theschoolphotographer.com.au)



**\$245 for 3  
days! 30%  
Offer ends  
June 9!**

#### PROGRAM INCLUDES

- 01** 9-3pm each day
- 02** AFL, Basketball, Netball and Soccer on offer
- 03** Suitable for all ages and skill levels
- 04** Guest appearances at selected programs



**It was overall very positive and the kids made great connections with coaching staff and other participants**



## **THREE DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS!**

#### LOCATIONS

- State Netball and Hockey Centre, Parkville - **2, 3 and 8, 9, 10 July 2026**
- Maribyrnong Sports College, Maribyrnong - **6, 7, 8 July 2026**
- Aberfeldie, Aberfeldie West - **8, 9, 10 July 2026**
- Bundha Indoor Sports Centre - Fitzroy North - **30 June, 1, 2 July 2026**

Contact Us:  
1300 914 368

[admin@australiansportscamps.com.au](mailto:admin@australiansportscamps.com.au)

More Information:

[australiansportscamps.com.au](http://australiansportscamps.com.au)



# DOWNBALL HANDBALL COMP



TERM 2 | SUN 7TH JUNE

*Register Now!*

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National  
Road Safety  
Week 2026

17-24 May

DRIVE  
SO OTHERS  
SURVIVE



TAKE THE PLEDGE  
[roadsafetyweek.com.au](http://roadsafetyweek.com.au)