



Sunshine Christian School

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

Registered primary school no. 1850

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Principal Mr Damian Pietsch

Issue 12 Friday 7 August 2026

Devotion: Know the Lord

I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites ... in the morning, you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God (Exodus 16:12).

How do you get to know someone? It takes time – sitting with them, listening to them and sharing who you are. This is how connections and relationships grow.

How well do you know God? Have you ever spent time pondering who God is, but more importantly, who God is in your life? What are the experiences you have had with God along the way? You might only be at the beginning of your journey with God, who made you in his own image, or perhaps you have been walking with him for many years. But what do you know of God, and how have you come to know his love?

In any relationship, there are things we might hide because we fear the other person would see us differently if they knew our mistakes and failures. But God already knows the whole of you, including all your mistakes, your sins and failings and all those things you'd rather just hide from everyone.

Do you know that God loves you as you are? Even when he sees your worries, doubts, fears, grumbings and sins. He loves you and wants to provide for you. To feed you when you are hungry and give you all good things because he cares.

The Israelites were grumbling about their situation after God had brought them out of Egypt through the Red Sea, rescuing them so that they might be free from slavery, and yet they grumbled. But what does God do for them? He provides for them in their need out of deep love for them.

So how well do you know God? Know that his love was in action when he gave up his only Son, Jesus. Out of his great love for the world, God sent Jesus to suffer and die on the cross for our sins. Jesus offers you forgiveness and sets you free so that you can live in him and know the peace he gives.

Dear God, help me to know you more and more each day and to see all of the blessings you have given to me. Thank you that I am yours. Amen.

Devotion by: Pastor Mark Gierus

Prayer Points

- *We pray that God continues to strengthen and guide our school community.*
- *We give thanks for God's faithfulness and daily blessings to each of us.*
- *We pray for the Murdoch, Cin, Huynh and Nguyen families.*

Calendar Dates

2026

Monday 10 August 2026

Whole School Worship @ 9am
Playgroup @ 9.30am

Monday 17 August 2026

Whole School Worship @ 9am
Playgroup @ 9.30am

Thursday 20 August 2026

Book Week Celebrations and
Dress Up Day

Friday 21 August 2026

Interschool Athletics (selected
students)

Sunday 23 August 2026

St Matthews Worship @ 9.30am

St Matthew's Lutheran Church

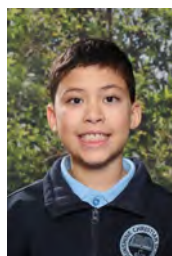
Our supporting church worships at
9.30am each Sunday at 362 Barkly
St. Footscray.

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



Micah Award

Charlie for showing courage in
his learning.



Micah Award

Deborah for showing courage in
her learning.





From the Principal

Road Safety

We were delighted to welcome two members of Victoria Police, Officer Dan and Officer Johnny, who spent time with our students sharing important messages about road safety.

Through an engaging and interactive presentation, the officers encouraged students to think carefully about how they can stay safe on and around roads, particularly during busy school drop-off and pick-up times. Students actively participated in discussions and scenarios that highlighted the shared responsibility we all have in keeping ourselves and others safe.

Some of the key road safety messages included:

Always cross the road at a safe and designated crossing point.

Children should hold an adult's hand when crossing roads and navigating car parks.

Drivers must obey speed limits, especially in school zones where children may be unpredictable.

Staying focused while driving is essential, with distractions significantly increasing the risk of accidents.

Helmets must always be worn when riding bicycles or scooters to help prevent serious injury.

The visit served as a valuable reminder that road safety is everyone's responsibility. Whether we are pedestrians, cyclists, passengers, or drivers, the choices we make each day contribute to creating a safer environment for all. We thank Officer Dan and Officer Johnny for taking the time to visit our school and for helping reinforce these important life-saving messages with our students.

Damian Pietsch
Principal

From the Office

School Photos.

It's not too late to order your
child's Class Photo!
Please see Fiona in the office.

School Fees

Term 4 Fees have been sent
out and are due by
Friday 18th September 2026.

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. Our new online form available at www.scs.vic.edu.au go to parent information, Enrolment form, complete and email back.
back.



What we are learning

Yr 2/3

Prep/1

In the Prep/ Year 1 class, students continue to learn through UFLI Foundation phonics program. Please ask us about our sounds and words of the week.



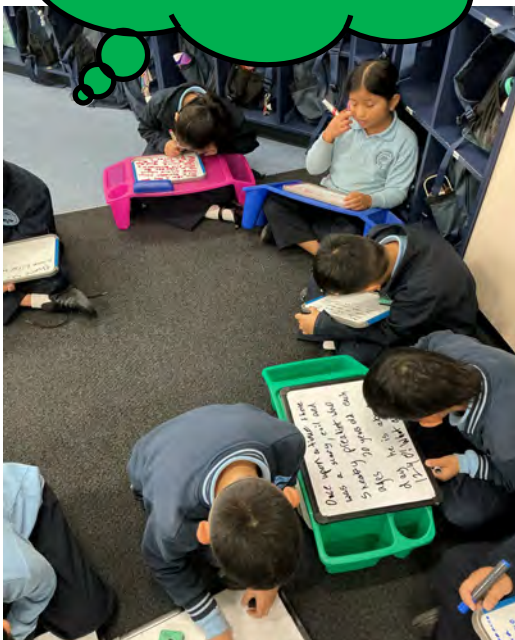
In Health, we have been learning about how we belong to different groups and places, like our family, school, and community.

Ask me about a group I belong to and why it is important to me.



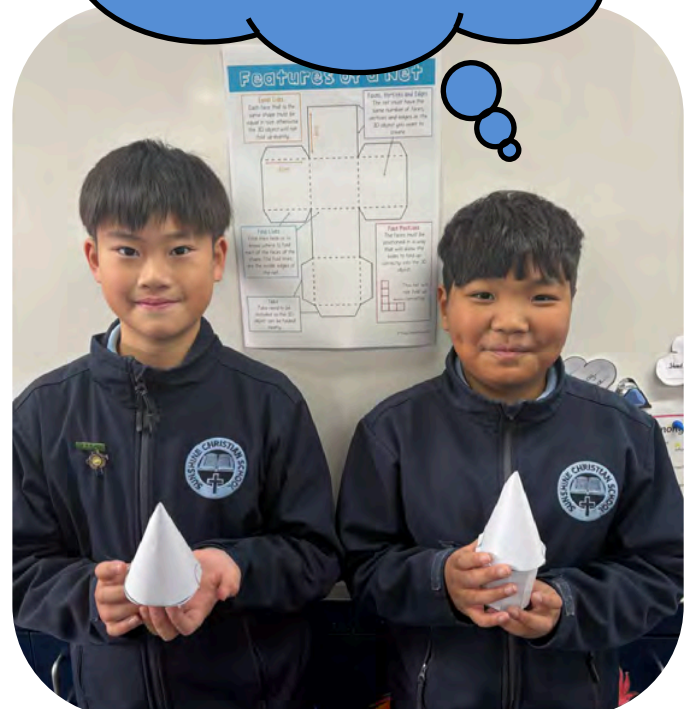
Yr 3/4

In Year 3/4, we have been learning to add descriptive language to our writing. Ask us about Rocket Writing!



Yr 5/6

In Year 5 and 6, we have been learning about how 2D nets can make 3D Shapes. We made towers out three different 3D shapes. Ask us what shapes our towers are made out of!





Calendar of Events: Term 3 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 5	August 10 Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am	August 11	August 12	August 13	August 14
Wk 6	August 17 Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am BOOK WEEK – ‘Symphony of Stories’	August 18	August 19	August 20 BOOK WEEK – Dress Up Day	August 21 Newsletter (5/6 & 2/3) Interschool Athletics St Matthew’s Worship (Sunday 23)
Wk 7	August 24 Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am	August 25	August 26 School Board	August 27	August 28 Sharing Assembly: Year 5/6 and 2/3
Wk 8	August 31 Wellbeing Week NUDEL CART – Buddy Activity	September 1	September 2	September 3	September 4 Newsletter (3/4 & P/1) Year 1/2 Sleepover
Wk 9	September 7 Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am	September 8	September 9	September 10	September 11 Sharing Assembly: Year 3/4 and P/1
Wk 10	September 14 Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am	September 15 Drama presentations TBC	September 16	September 17 Drama presentations TBC	September 18 Newsletter Last Day of Term 12.15pm finish

Instagram!

As some of you may be aware, we have recently launched our Instagram page! We invite our families to connect with us online and celebrate the wonderful moments happening in our school.

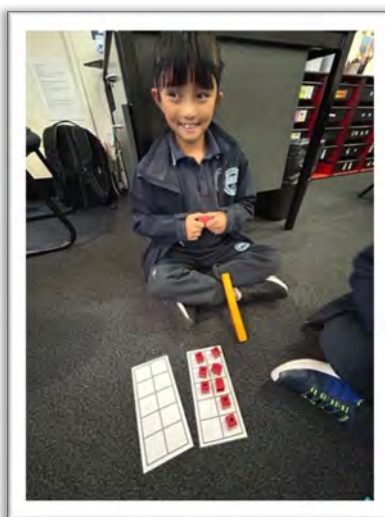
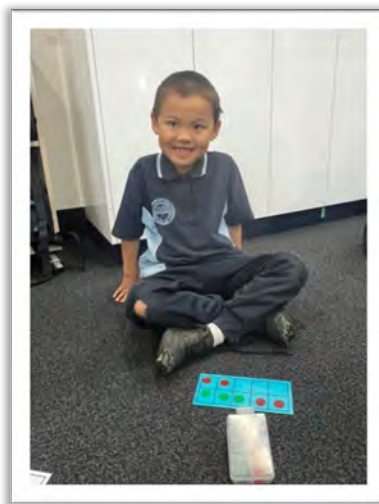
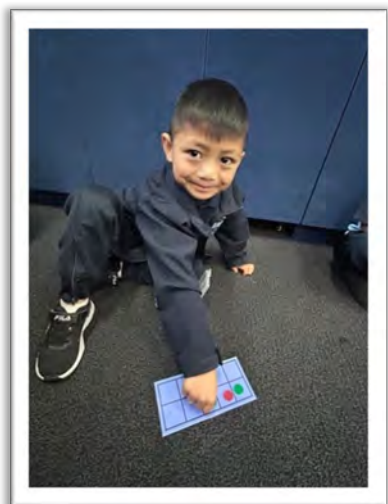
Like, follow and share our [Instagram](#) page to help grow our community! 🌱 ✨





Maths Unit

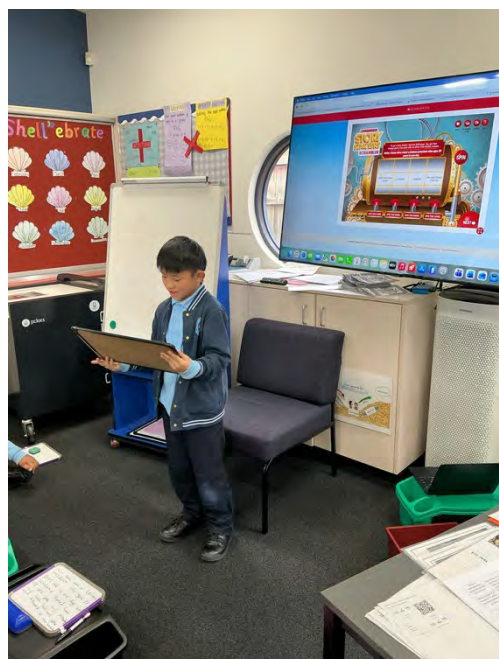
This term, our Prep and Year 1 students have started learning how to represent number stories using ten-frames. They are developing their understanding of numbers by using concrete materials and visual representations to show addition and subtraction stories. Please ask us how we use ten-frames to help us solve number problems!





Year 3/4 Descriptive Language

This term Year 3/4 have been learning to add descriptive language to our writing and how this makes our stories more interesting for the reader. We have also been learning to provide effective feedback and what this sounds like and how this can help us to improve our writing. We are beginning to understand to give reasoning and provide genuine feedback that is helpful to the writer.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING CORNER

Supporting families to grow strong minds
and hearts in Christ.

This Week's Tip for Parents

Social Skills: More Than Just the Basics

When we hear the term social skills, we often think of the basics: saying hello, taking turns, sharing, using manners, and being kind. While these skills are important foundations, meaningful relationships require much more than simply knowing the rules. Social competence involves understanding ourselves and others, navigating different perspectives, regulating emotions, repairing misunderstandings, showing empathy, solving problems, and adapting to different situations. These are skills that support us throughout our entire lives.

The same social skills that help a child make and maintain friendships are the ones that help adults build healthy relationships, work effectively in teams, navigate conflict, communicate with respect, and create a sense of belonging in their communities.

One of the most important lessons we can teach children is that each person sees the world through their own experiences and understanding.

"The map is not the territory."

Meaning, no two people experience a situation in exactly the same way. When we learn to be curious about different perspectives, rather than assuming there is only one "right" way to think, social understanding grows.

Authentic social development is not about changing who we are or learning to mask our differences. It is about developing confidence, self-awareness, communication skills, and authentic connections where we feel accepted, valued, and safe to be ourselves.

Social success is not about perfection. It is about learning, adapting, connecting, and growing throughout our lives.

TURN OVER TO FIND OUT MORE ...

Student Voice

This fortnight, ask your child...

What makes someone a good friend?

These conversations help children recognise that friendships are about more than playing together or following social rules.

True connection is built on trust, acceptance, empathy, and respect.

As parents and carers, listening to children's responses can provide valuable insight into what they value most in their relationships.



Faith & Wellbeing

Throughout His life, Jesus demonstrated compassion, understanding, and connection with people from all walks of life.

Romans 12:15 reminds us:

"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

This scripture highlights the importance of empathy, one of the most powerful social skills we can develop. When we take the time to understand how another person feels, we strengthen relationships, deepen connection, and create communities where everyone feels valued and included.

Just as God created each of us uniquely, we can help our children appreciate and respect differences in others. By teaching empathy, kindness, and understanding, we encourage them to build relationships that reflect God's love and compassion.

9 Additional Support for Families



1. MODEL RESPECTFUL CONVERSATIONS

Children learn social skills by watching us. Model listening, turn-taking, respectful disagreement, and problem-solving in everyday conversations.

2. BUILD EMOTIONAL VOCABULARY

Help children move beyond "good" or "bad" feelings by naming emotions such as frustrated, nervous, disappointed, proud, or hopeful. Emotional awareness supports social success.

3. PRACTISE PERSPECTIVE - TAKING

Ask questions such as, "What do you think they were feeling?" or "Could there be another explanation?" Considering different perspectives builds empathy and understanding.

4. CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

Help children understand that people think, learn, communicate, and socialise differently. Different does not mean wrong.

5. NORMALISE SOCIAL MISTAKES

Friendship challenges and misunderstandings happen to everyone. Remind children that there is no failure, only feedback.

6. TEACH RELATIONSHIP REPAIR

Strong relationships are built through repair, not perfection. Encourage children to apologise, listen, take responsibility, and make amends when needed.

7. ENCOURAGE FLEXIBLE THINKING

When things do not go to plan, ask, "What else could we try?" Flexible thinking helps children navigate both social and emotional challenges.

8. CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Social skills grow through practice. Make time for family conversations, community activities, shared hobbies, and opportunities to connect with others.

9. FAMILY CHALLENGE: BE A SOCIAL DETECTIVE

This fortnight, notice examples of kindness, empathy, inclusion, cooperation, or problem-solving. Share one example each day and celebrate the social skills you see.

**AUTHENTIC SOCIAL SUCCESS IS NOT ABOUT FITTING IN OR BEING PERFECT.
IT IS ABOUT UNDERSTANDING OURSELVES, VALUING OTHERS, ADAPTING WHEN NEEDED AND
BUILDING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS THROUGHOUT LIFE." 🌟🌱**



In this edition of SchoolTV - Raising Girls

Raising girls in today's modern world can be a difficult path for parents and carers to navigate. These days, girls are transitioning to puberty a lot earlier than they used to and the physical, psychological and emotional changes they experience are challenging. As a result, by mid-adolescence, girls are twice as likely to develop mood disorders more so than boys.

Some parents and carers may feel uncertain about how best to support their daughter through the ups and downs of adolescence and how to keep the lines of communication open. With the rise of social media and technology, mental health difficulties in girls are increasing as often they are faced with online images that make it difficult to see themselves as acceptable. Ensuring a daughter's opinions are heard and her views listened to, will go a long way towards making her feel loved and supported as she tries to establish her own identity.

In this edition of SchoolTV, adult carers will attain a clearer picture of what girls are wanting from their adult carers and how best to support them through adolescence.

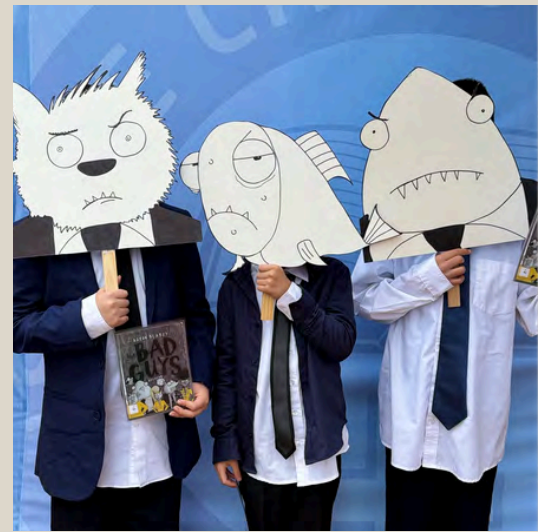
We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the Raising Girls edition of SchoolTV

<https://scs.vic.schooltv.me/newsletter/raising-girls>



Book Week 2026



Book Week will be celebrated on Thursday, 20 August! Students are invited to choose their favourite book and come dressed as a character from the story.

We can't wait to see all the creative costumes and celebrate a love of reading together.

If you need any help with costume ideas or preparations, please reach out to Ms Clarke or Mrs O'Mahoney.





We got a BIG bite!



Our School Got Everyone Talking!
We got a BIG BITE!

Our school has achieved a Big Bite: Adding Fun into Fundraising and Marketing through Vic Kids Eat Well, powered by IPC Health, Health Promotion officer- Ruchita.

Together, we have shown that healthy choices can be fun, creative, and practical by bringing extra health appeal into fundraising and marketing.

This achievement celebrates our school community's commitment to creating healthier food experiences for students and making positive changes, one bite at a time!

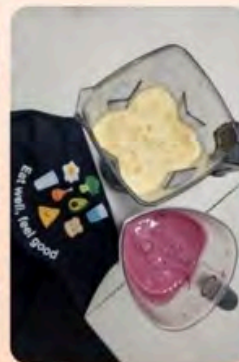
"The kids were so excited to take part in a healthier fundraising initiative, raising \$166 together and they are already looking forward to hosting more!"
— Smoothie Superstars, led by Naomi and Tegan SRC.



powered by



Vic Kids Eat Well is a free program focused on making healthy eating easy and accessible for schools, one bite at a time.



**WE HAVE PUT THE
FUN INTO
FUNDRAISING &
MARKETING**





**\$252 for 3
days! 30%
Offer ends
August 30!**

PROGRAM INCLUDES

- 01** 9-3pm each day,
elite facilities
- 02** AFL, Basketball,
Cricket, Netball and
Soccer on offer
- 03** Suitable for
children 5-14 and
all 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 - **28, 29, 30 September 2026**
- Maribyrnong Sports College,
Maribyrnong - **28, 29, 30 September
2026**
- Fairbairn Park, Ascot Vale - **29, 30
September, 1 October 2026**
- Bundha Indoor Sports Centre - Fitzroy
North - **1, 2 October 2026**
- J.E Moore Park, Reservoir - **23, 24
September 2026**

Contact Us:

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More Information:

australiansportscamps.com.au



\$55

**AGE
4-12**



AFLW **ALL-GIRLS** ***PRE-GAME CLINIC***

MISSION WHITTEN OVAL

DATES

SAT 22 AUG *V RICHMOND*

SAT 5 SEP *V SYDNEY*

SAT 3 OCT *V ST KILDA*

FRI 9 OCT *V ESSENDON*



AUSKICK



SUPERKICK

GO DOGGIES

