Sunshine Christian School

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

Issue 22 | Friday 13 November 2026

Registered primary school no. 1850

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Principal Mr Damian Pietsch

Calendar Dates

2026

Monday 16 November
Whole School Worship @ 9am
Playgroup @ 9.30am
Wellbeing Day

Friday 20 November
Sharing Assembly 3/4 & P/1

Monday 23 November
Whole School Worship @ 9am
Playgroup @ 9.30am
Wellbeing Day

Tuesday 24 November
Prep 2027 Transition 1:45-2:45

Friday 27 November
Photo Booth for Year 6 students

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.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA where love comes to life

Devotion: Live what you know

Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard, obey it and repent (Revelation 3:3a).
If you grew up in a Christian family with a strong connection to a Christian church, you may have been taught, over and over again, about God's acts in the past and what he can do in the present. If you are newer to the faith, perhaps you also heard the message and felt convicted.

Many, many years ago, when I was confirmed, the process that qualified (!) me for confirmation was my ability to repeat things I had learnt off by heart. In my ministry, I encouraged young people to express their faith in their own words. Not just head knowledge, but something heartfelt. There's a difference.

In this passage, the church at Sardis is encouraged to remember what it has received and to live that out. Sardis was a famous and wealthy city. It would have been easy for the people of that city to be influenced by what was around them. They gave the appearance of being alive in faith – that was their reputation, but the call is for them to be real. If it meant repentance, then repent. Some weren't influenced by what was around them but were faithful. God acknowledged them.

The focus is on living what you know. Would you say your faith is more than words, more than head knowledge, more than the Bible verses you can recite, but rather something that impacts all of your life? Is it evident in how you trust when you are anxious, how you hear the word of forgiveness and allow it to cover you, and how you love your neighbour and so show your love for God? To receive something is to be given a gift. You have that gift. Let it define you. Live it. God's Spirit is with you, working to bring what you know to life. Your name is in the book of life and will never be blotted out.

Thank you, loving God, for revealing yourself to me. As I grow in knowledge and understanding, help me to live that out. Help me to be true to what I am. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.
by Jim Strelan

Prayer Points

- We pray for families experiencing financial hardship, that they feel supported and cared for during this time.
- We pray for the Gabriel Ramirez, Vuong and Ortiz Pinto families.

SCS Support

If your family is experiencing financial hardship or needs a little extra support, please know that you are not alone.
We warmly encourage you to reach out and speak confidentially with Michelle or Viet, who are here to support you.

Micah Award

Van Boi for showing courage and resilance in his learning.



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From the Principal

Term 4

Principal's Newsletter – Week 6

Last Wednesday's Athletics Carnival was a great day for our school community. It was lovely to see children of all ages getting involved, trying something different and, most importantly, having a go. Not every event is going to be everyone's favourite, but there was a real willingness to step up, give things a try and do their best. Whether taking part in a race, joining a field event or cheering from the sidelines, there were plenty of opportunities to be involved and enjoy the experience together.



For me, that is what our Athletics Carnival is really about. It is not simply about who crosses the finish line first or takes home a ribbon. It is about challenging yourself, persevering when something feels difficult, encouraging others and being proud that you were willing to try. There was plenty of cheering and support throughout the carnival, and it was lovely to see everyone celebrating each other's efforts. Sometimes simply having a go is an achievement worth celebrating.

A big thank you to our staff for the time, energy and organisation that went into making the carnival such a success, and to our families who came along to cheer and encourage. Your support always adds so much to these occasions. **Well done to everyone who stepped up, joined in and gave something a go. It was a lovely reminder that success can look different for each of us and that being willing to try is something worth celebrating.**

Blessings,
Michelle Clarke
Acting Principal

From the Office



Brown Dog Design & Print

2027 Fees.

Term 1, 2027 fees are due on 11th December 2027.

HEALTHCARE CARD

If you have a new Healthcare Card please provide the office with a copy

What we are learning

Prep/1

We have been practising our reading comprehension by reading short stories on our own and putting the events in order to show we understand what happened. Ask us to read you a short story and tell you what happened first, next and last!



Yr 2/3

We have been learning to use maps and direction language, including left and right turns, clockwise and anticlockwise, to describe routes and locations.
Ask us to give directions using a map!







Yr 3/4

In year 3/4 we have been learning about democracy and the importance of voting. We looked at Ancient Greece and similarities between Australia.



Yr 5/6

We have concluded our literacy circle novels and completed our last roles for the year! Ask us how our stories ended!



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Calendar of Events: Term 4 2026

	Monday	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*
Wk 7	**November 16** Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am Wellbeing Day	**November 17**	**November 18**	**November 19**	**November 20** Sharing Assembly 3/4 & P/1
Wk 8	**November 23** Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am Wellbeing Day	**November 24** Prep 2027 Transition 1:45 – 2:45pm	**November 25** School Board	**November 26**	**November 27** Photo Booth
Wk 9	**November 30** Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am Wellbeing Day	**December 1**	**December 2**	**December 3**	**December 4** Sharing Assembly 5/6 & 2/3
Wk 10	**December 7** Worship @ 9am Playgroup @ 9.30am Wellbeing Day	**December 8** Move Up Morning 8:45 – 1:05pm Graduation	**December 9**	**December 10**	**December 11** Last Day of Term 12.15pm finish





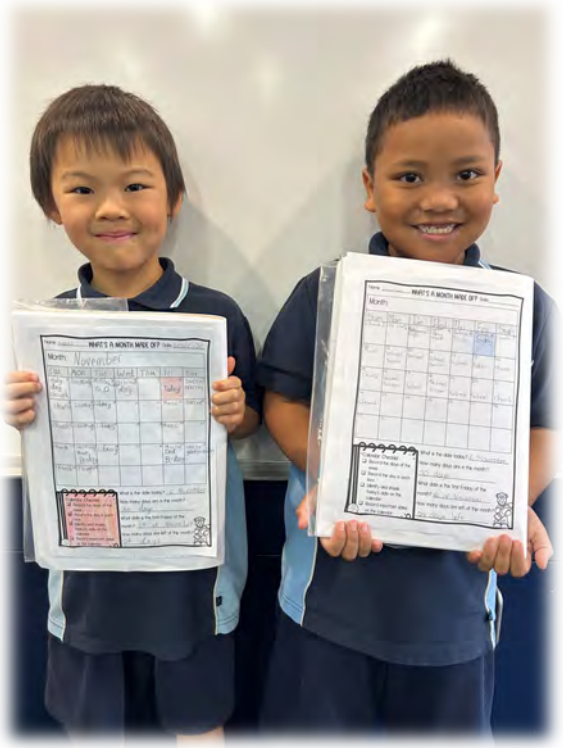


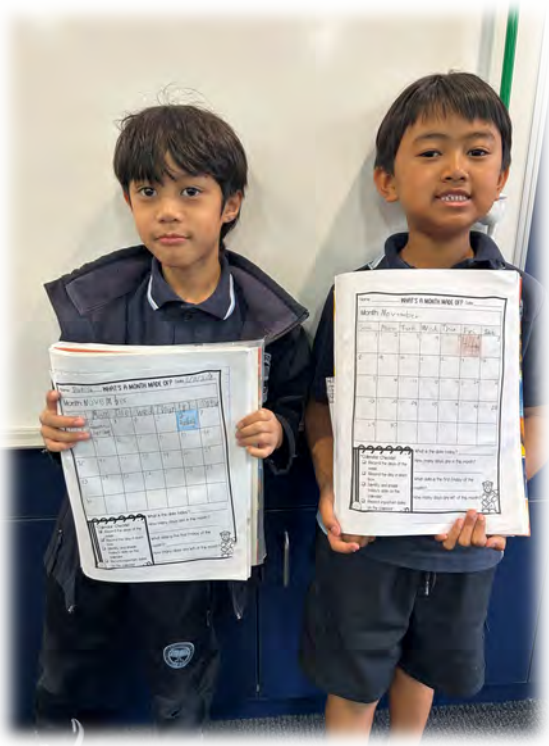
Prep/ Year 1

We have been learning to describe how long things take and the order they happen in, using hours, days, weeks, months and years. To practise, we each made our own monthly calendar and wrote in the special things we do each week, like sport, library and art. Our calendars help us see how the days build into weeks and the weeks build into a month, and we love counting down to exciting events!









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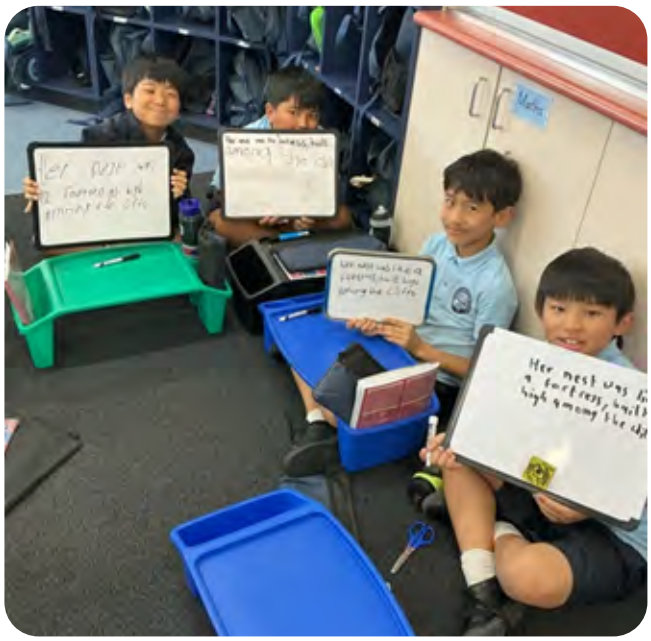
Year 3/4 Poetry





In Year 3/4 we have been learning about similes and how to level up our sentences. We have been learning this through poetry. We are writing animal poems about an animal we have chosen and will be sharing these at assembly in week 7. We are learning how to compare two things that share a quality to each other to make our writing more interesting.





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Athletics Day













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MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING CORNER

Supporting families to grow strong minds and hearts in Christ.

This Week's Tip for Parents

The Right to Rest, Play and Have Fun.

This week, our Children's Rights wellbeing focus is the right to rest, play and participate in activities children enjoy.

As a school community, we value learning, perseverance, effort and achievement. We want our children to set goals, make the most of their opportunities and develop the resilience to persist when things are challenging. Alongside this, we also want children to develop an important lifelong wellbeing skill: knowing when and how to recharge.

Children's lives can be wonderfully full of opportunities, including school, homework, tutoring, sport, music, cultural activities, faith and family commitments. These experiences can help children develop skills, confidence and a strong work ethic.

However, children also benefit from time when there is nothing they need to achieve.

Time to play.
Time to create.
Time to connect.
Time to move.
Time to rest.

Our message this week isn't about choosing between achievement and wellbeing.

It is about creating balance.

Children can work hard, strive for excellence and pursue their goals while also learning that rest, relationships, play and joy are important parts of a healthy life.

"Wellbeing grows when we make time to recharge."

TURN OVER TO FIND OUT MORE ...

Student Voice

This week, ask your child

"If you could design the ultimate wellbeing break, what would it include?"

Encourage your child to include four elements:
Movement: What helps you enjoy moving your body?
Creativity: What do you enjoy making, imagining or exploring?
Quiet Time: What helps your mind slow down?
Social Connection: Who helps you feel happy, safe and connected?

Parents might like to answer the same questions.

It can open a lovely family conversation about the fact that adults need to recharge too, and that different members of the same family may recharge in very different ways.

Faith & Wellbeing

In Mark 6:31, Jesus tells his disciples:

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

There was still important work to be done.
Yet there was also recognition that **people need** opportunities to stop and restore themselves.

Our faith reminds us that **our worth is not measured only by what we achieve or produce.**
There is value in working hard and using our gifts well.
There is also **value in rest, relationships, prayer, connection and simply being present with the people around us.**

This week, perhaps we can give ourselves and our children permission to remember:

We can work hard and rest.
We can strive and still play.
We can achieve and still make time for joy.

9 Ways to Support Learning & Wellbeing At Home



1. **CREATE A SHORT AFTER SCHOOL BUFFER**

Where possible, allow some transition time between school and homework, tutoring or other commitments. Even 15 to 30 minutes for a snack, movement, conversation or quiet can help children transition between demands.

2. **PROTECT SOME UNSTRUCTURED PLAY TIME**

Not every activity needs a coach, teacher, adult direction or learning outcome. Give children some opportunities to decide what they want to do.

3. **MODEL HEALTHY BALANCE**

Let children see that adults can work hard and take breaks. Say aloud, "I've been concentrating for a while. I'm going to take a short break and then come back to this."

4. **PRIORITISE SLEEP & WIND-DOWN TIME**

A predictable evening routine can help children transition from the activity of the day towards rest.

5. **MAKE MOVEMENT ENJOYABLE**

Movement doesn't have to mean organised sport. Walking together, dancing, cycling, playing at the park or kicking a ball all provide opportunities for physical activity and connection.

6. **ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY WITHOUT EVALUATION**

Drawing, Lego, music, craft, cooking or imaginative play don't always need to result in something "good". Allow children to enjoy the process rather than focusing on the result.

7. **CREATE SCREEN FREE CONNECTION**

Try a card game, walk, shared meal, conversation in the car or simply sitting together. Small opportunities for connection matter.

8. **NOTICE WHEN THE BALANCE MAY BE SHIFTING**

If a child who usually enjoys learning or activities becomes consistently exhausted, irritable or overwhelmed, it may be worth pausing and considering their overall load. Sometimes changing the balance can help restore enjoyment and engagement.

9. **HELP CHILDREN DISCOVER HOW *THEY* RECHARGE**

Rather than assuming, ask: "What would help you recharge right now?"

One child may choose activity and another may choose quiet. Helping children recognise their individual needs supports independence and lifelong wellbeing.

We want our children to be motivated, resilient AND willing to work towards their goals.

Balance doesn't mean lowering expectations.
It means helping children develop the self-awareness to recognise that sustainable success includes caring for their wellbeing along the way.



DOWNBALL COMP

TERM 4 | SUN 29TH NOVEMBER

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The AGC inspires excellence and develops future-ready young women.

Join us at our
NOVEMBER OPEN DAY!

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

Growing strong, happy, and successful girls through the power of performing arts.

- A nurturing environment where every girl belongs.
- It starts with fun and friendships; she will then become confident, resilient and ready to thrive.
- Senior girls shine at high profile events and on international tours; including singing with Kylie Minogue and Hugh Jackman, and at the AFL Grand Final, Australian Open, Carols by Candlelight and Carols in the Domain.
- Representing Qantas for nearly 30 years in their iconic 'I Still Call Australia Home' advertising campaigns and at hundreds of live events!
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JOIN US AT OUR NOVEMBER OPEN DAY

Register now at ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc or phone 03 9859 6499

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

AFL PLAY

ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE



GOOD CLEAN FUN

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

SUNSHINE NORTH & SURROUNDS

Lloyd Reserve, Sunshine North

STARTING OCTOBER 30TH

FRIDAYS 5:30PM - 6:30PM

For further information contact:
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