

HOLY CHILD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Safe, happy and ready to learn



Welcome to this week's Newsletter!

Holy Child Primary School is the parish primary school of Dallas, which serves the suburbs of Coolaroo, Meadow Heights, Dallas, Upfield, Campbellfield and parts of Broadmeadows.

The Josephite Sisters established Holy Child Primary School, Dallas, in 1965 (Parish Reg). The Josephite ethos of pastoral care and community involvement are the hallmark of the Holy Child community.

St. Mary MacKillop, in full, Saint Mary Helen MacKillop, also called Saint Mary of the Cross, (born 15 January 1842, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - died 8 August 1909, North Sydney, New South Wales, Australia and canonized 17 October 2010. St Mary MacKillops Feast Day is 8 August.

We are proud that Holy Child Primary was the first in Australia to start a children's Mary MacKillop group!

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

Tuesday 1 April 3:30pm to 7:30pm
Student Led Learning Conferences

Wednesday 2 April 3:30pm to 7:30pm
Student Led Learning Conferences

Friday 4 April
Last day of Term 1 (Staff & Students)
**Easter break - Friday 18 - Monday 21 April*

Tuesday 22 April
Beginning of Term 2

Friday 25 April
Public Holiday - ANZAC Day

HELLO



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Building Connections: Why Holy Child Primary School Needs an Alumni Program

At Holy Child Primary School, we believe that strong communities are built on lasting relationships. That's why we are excited to explore the idea of starting an **Alumni Program**—a way for past students to stay connected, share their experiences, and give back to the school that helped shape their early years.

Why is an Alumni Program important?

Stronger Community Connections

Our school has always been a place of belonging, welcoming families from diverse backgrounds. An Alumni Program allows former students to stay in touch with their peers, teachers, and the school community, fostering a sense of unity across generations.

Inspiration for Current Students

Past students have valuable experiences to share. Whether they have pursued further education, careers, or community leadership, their stories can inspire and motivate our current students to dream big and work hard.

Opportunities for Mentorship

Alumni can act as role models and mentors, offering guidance and support to younger students. This can be particularly helpful for families who are new to the Australian education system and may benefit from insights shared by those who have already walked this path.

Giving Back

Many alumni feel a strong connection to their primary school. An Alumni Program provides ways to contribute—whether through volunteering, speaking at school events, or supporting school projects.

We would love to hear from past students and families who are interested in shaping this program. If you or someone you know is a former Holy Child student, please reach out! Together, we can build a network that celebrates our shared history and supports future generations.

Holy Child Primary School will launch a
School Alumni Network.



With warm regards,
Alan Smith
Principal

WELLBEING

CRAFT CLUB

Throughout Term one our students have been participating in Craft Club.

Together with Miss Melissa, Miss Chelsea and Miss Olivia the students have created artwork reflecting on their feelings and how to have fun with friends at school.

Craft club is really fun and i can be more creative when I am at home Mira George.

It is nice at craft club because you don't get annoyed, and you can work quietly Maribelle Khaie.

I like Craft club because when it is hot outside, I can go inside to Clubs. There are lots of things to do at Craft club Savannah Lasek.



Our Lady of La Vang

Our Lady of La Vang is going to be welcomed at a Mass on 19 June 2025 at Holy Child Dallas and will be farewelled on 21 June 2025.

The History of Our Lady of La Vang

Our Lady of La Vang is a title given to the apparition of the Virgin Mary in the Quảng Trị Province of Vietnam, who appeared to a group of persecuted Catholics in the late 18th century. The story begins in 1798, when the Nguyen Dynasty, a Vietnamese dynasty, began a wide-scale persecution of Catholics, who were seen as a threat to the traditional Vietnamese way of life. Many Catholics were imprisoned, tortured, and killed during this time, and their churches were destroyed. During this persecution, a group of Catholics fled to the jungles of La Vang, in the central region of Vietnam. They lived in hiding, praying and practicing their faith in secret. One night, as they gathered to pray the Rosary, they saw a beautiful woman dressed in traditional Vietnamese clothing, holding a baby in her arms. She appeared to them several times, bringing them comfort and encouragement in their time of need. The group of Catholics recognized the woman as the Virgin Mary, and they began to venerate her as Our Lady of La Vang. They

built a small shrine in her honour, and word of their sightings

spread throughout the region. Soon, other Catholics began making pilgrimages to the jungle to pray at the shrine, seeking the intercession of Our Lady of La Vang for their own needs. Over time, the persecution of Catholics in Vietnam subsided, and the shrine of Our Lady of La Vang became a symbol of hope and perseverance for the Vietnamese people. In 1961, Pope John XXIII granted a canonical coronation to the statue of Our Lady of La Vang, and in 1988, Pope John Paul II canonized 117 Vietnamese martyrs who had died during the persecution in the late 18th century. Today, the Shrine of Our Lady of La Vang is a popular site at Christ Cathedral located in Garden Grove, California. It is a testament to the faith and resilience of the Vietnamese people, and a reminder of the power of prayer and devotion to the Virgin Mary.



JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE



The Jubilee Pilgrimage is scheduled for May 10, 2025.
Advance booking is required, as only 35 spots are available.
Tickets can be purchased at the Parish Office. Contact details are:

133 Malmsbury Dr, Meadow Heights

Tel: (03) 9412 8409

Email: dallas@cam.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

“This Year of Jubilee in the universal Church calls us to embrace, and be renewed in, the hope of Christ—a hope that does not disappoint. We are embarking on a particular time of pilgrimage, and as the Holy Father has reminded us, Jesus, ‘is the destination of our pilgrimage’. He is both the way, and the path to be travelled.



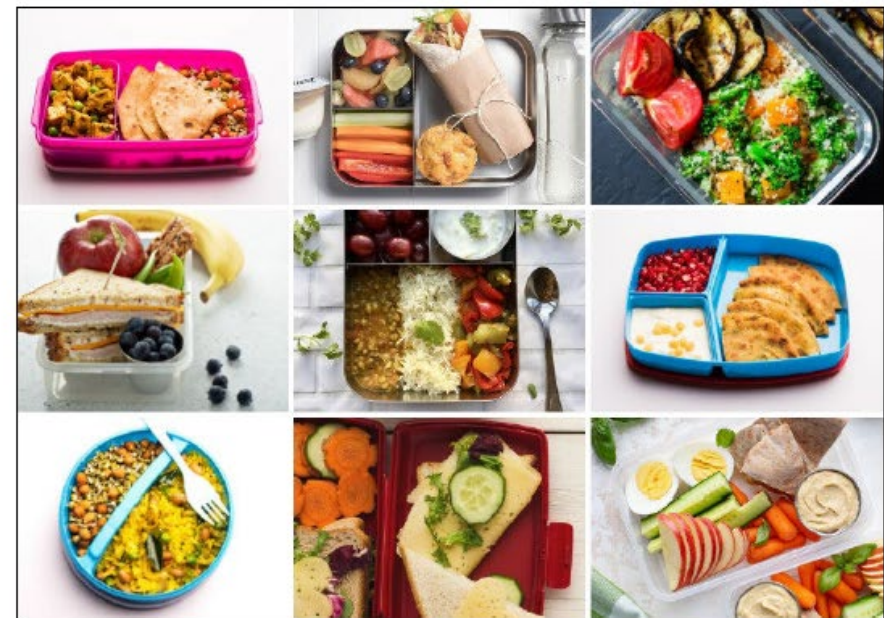
Archbishop Peter Comensoli

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES

Build Your Own Healthy Lunchbox

The image shows a lunchbox divided into sections containing: a tub of yogurt, cucumber and tomato slices, strawberries, a sandwich, a small pizza, and a hard-boiled egg. A water bottle is placed next to it.

- Vegetables:** Cucumber, tomato, spinach.
- Fruits:** Strawberries.
- Dairy and Alternatives:** Yogurt, Cream Cheese.
- Grain and Cereal Food:** Bread, Pizza.
- Meat and Protein Alternatives:** Sandwich, Pizza, Egg.
- Water:** Water bottle.



CREATE A FUN LUNCHBOX EVERY DAY - CHOOSE SOMETHING FROM EACH FOOD GROUP

Fruits	Vegetables	Dairy and Alternatives	Water
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apple Banana Mandarin Fig Berries Fruit salad Tinned fruit in juice, not syrup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soups and lentil curry (pre heat in flask to keep it warm for lunch) Raw or lightly steamed vegetable sticks (carrot, capsicum, cucumber) Steamed or grilled corn cobs Salad with a creamy dressing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milk No-added sugar yogurt (frozen overnight) Cheese cubes Tatiki dip Cottage cheese Calcium fortified soy milk 	<p>Take a water bottle (for refilling throughout the day). Tip: Freeze overnight to keep foods cool in lunchboxes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat bread and meat Pasta dishes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noodles Rice, quinoa or couscous Fruit loaf Homemade pizza Wholemeal (brown) bread 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meat and Protein Alternatives Grilled meats with the extra fat removed (eg. beef, chicken) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tinned tuna or salmon Lentil or veggie burgers (falafel) Boiled eggs Hummus dip Tofu

Curries, soup and stews mix many of the above food groups, they are healthy lunchbox options.

For more healthy eating information call 1300 234 263 to make an appointment with a DPV Health Dietitian or visit <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/schools/healthy-lunchboxes> for lunchbox ideas.

Tips for Planning a Healthy Lunch Box

- Prepare school lunches the night before;** it gives you time to talk about the foods you're including and makes the morning routine quicker. Give it a go!
- Freeze tubs of yogurt or water bottles to help keep food cool until lunch time on warm days.** Make sure children can open their lunch box and containers by themselves. This will ensure they have enough time to eat their snacks and lunch and do not have to wait for help from others.
- Water is the best drink for your child.** Encourage your child to drink a whole bottle during the day. They need to stay hydrated so they can focus and learn in class.
- Look after the environment;** pack sandwiches and other items in reusable containers. This requires less packaging and creates less rubbish.
- Try and buy fresh fruit and vegetables in season;** they will be better quality and cheaper than out-of-season produce.
- Remember to involve your children.** Take them shopping and let them help choose fruits and vegetables for their lunchbox. Let them help prepare and pack their own school lunchbox.

Plan family dinners for the entire week and do one big grocery shop at the start of the week; it's cheaper than going to the supermarket every night to buy ingredients for dinner.

HUB

HUB CLASSES

All hub classes are free and all people are welcome
 كل البرامج التي يقدمها المركز الاجتماعي مجانية كل الناس مرحب بهم
 Tất cả các lớp học đều miễn phí và chào đón mọi người



MONDAY

English Tutoring
Skills for Life
مدرس خصوصي لغة الانجليزية للكبار
Dạy kèm tiếng Anh cho người lớn
9 - 10

- WEEK 3 1/2 VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT AND MEDITATION WEAR RED**
- WEEK 4 18/2 CHI AND PAINT**
- WEEK 5 25/2 KARAOKE**
- WEEK 6 4/3 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DANCE PARTY WEAR: PURPLE, GREEN, AND WHITE**
- WEEK 7 11/3 HARMONY DAY GAMES DAY WEAR: ORANGE**
- WEEK 8 18/3 EXCURSION FAMILY FUN DAY AT ANZAC PARK IN CRAIGIEBURN TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WEAR: PURPLE, GREEN, AND WHITE**
- WEEK 9 25/3 MOVIE DAY CELEBRATE TERM 1 END**

TUESDAY

Playgroup 0-5
مجموعه ألعاب
Chơi nhóm
9:30 - 11:30

NEW! Wellbeing Space
مساحة للرعاية الذاتية
Không gian tự chăm sóc
1 - 3

NEW! INFORMATION SESSION
Parents Supporting Student safety online
دعم الوالدين سلامة الطلاب على الانترنت
4th April 9:15 - 11:15

Family Support
With Van and Melissa
دعم الأسره وانخفاض الخدمات
Hỗ trợ gia đình
1:30 - 3:15

WEDNESDAY

NEW! Everyday English and Digital Skills
مهارات اللغة الإنجليزية والكمبيوتر اليومية
Tiếng Anh hàng ngày và kỹ năng máy tính
9:15 - 12:15

Volunteer Sewing Alteration
برنامج الخياطة وتصليح الملابس
Sửa quần áo
1:30 - 2:30

Parents Chat & Coffee
يتحدث الآباء ويتناولون القهوة
Cha mẹ Trò chuyện và cà phê
2:30 - 3:30

THURSDAY

Supported Playgroup 0-5
مجموعه ألعاب
Nhóm chơi được hỗ trợ
9:30 - 11:30

Cooking Class
دروس تعلم الطبخ
Lớp học nấu ăn
9:15 - 12:15

Family Support
With Van and Melissa
دعم الأسره وانخفاض الخدمات
Hỗ trợ gia đình
1:30 - 3:15

Parents Chat & Coffee
يتحدث الآباء ويتناولون القهوة
Cha mẹ Trò chuyện và cà phê
2:30 - 3:30

FRIDAY

NEW! Sign Up Day
Before and After School Care
يوم التسجيل
الرعاية قبل وبعد المدرسة
Ngày đăng ký
Chăm sóc trước và sau giờ học
7th & 14th February
9 - 10

Volunteer Today
المساعدة من خلال العمل التطوعي
tình nguyện giúp đỡ
Help Others and Learn new skills

- Classroom Helper
- Help Teachers On Excursions
- Raise Money
- School Events

Walk To School Assembly
المشي إلى تجمع المدرسة معنا
Cùng nhau đi tới hội trường
Every 2 weeksat 2:25



GATES OPEN 8:30AM
GATES CLOSE 3:40PM



School begins 8:45am sharp



Lunch 10:50am to 11:40am



Recess 1:40pm to 2:15pm



School ends 3:20pm

Children playing outside the school grounds, before and after school, are not supervised until 8.30am before school and up to 3.40pm after school. Many children are going to the Jack Culpin Car Park\Reserve and Gibbs Reserve, before and after school, to wait for their parents' drop-off and pick-up. We are not able to supervise your children in these areas.

Please ensure that your children are collected from the School Grounds in Area 1. If your child is not collected by 3.40pm they are to be collected from the Reception Foyer.

SUNSMART

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world.

In Victoria, from September through to the end of April, average UV levels are 3 and above, which is when UV radiation can damage skin and eyes and lead to skin cancer. When the UV Index is 3 and above:

- **Slip** on sun-protective clothing.
- **Slop on** SPF30+, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen; put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and every two hours afterwards.
- **Slap** on a hat that protects your face, head, neck, and ears.
- **Seek** shade.
- **Slide** on some sunglasses - make sure they meet Australian Standards.

Holy Child is a SunSmart School, and we enforce **NO HAT NO PLAY**.

Children must wear the school hat during the break times at school.



FOOD AND DRINK

During warmer weather, DRINK MORE WATER

As the weather warms up it is important that our children drink regularly.

Children will need a clearly named and refillable drink bottle.

Please do not send food that needs re-heating.

Due to health and safety, we are unable to heat children's food at school.

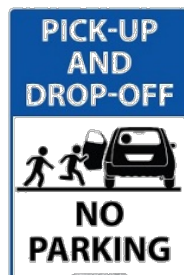
During cooler weather

As the weather cools, ensure children are appropriately dressed for cold rainy days and if they are wearing a beanie or gloves that they are navy blue or black.

Beanies are available for purchase at the school.

Parent Parking

- This is a reminder for all parents that the parking at the front of the school is to be used for drop off and pick up only.
- No cars should be parking there for more than 10 minutes allowing enough time to pick up or drop off your children.
- You should **not** be parking in the disabled parking bay, nor should you be parking in front of the gate. The gate needs to be clear at all times for emergency access.



Holy Child Primary School
is a Smoke-Free Zone



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Picking up children early



Dear Parents / Guardians / Carers,

Due to staff shortages, we strongly discourage you from collecting your children during these break times:

- first break, which is between 11am until 11.40am
- second break, which is between 1.40 pm until 2.20pm
- after 3:00 pm, unless it is an emergency.

Please note that if you do show up during break times, you will need to wait until children return to their classrooms.

Please understand that staff will be unable to help you until the children have returned to their classrooms.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Alan Smith,
Principal



OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Holy Child Primary School, Dallas

Register Now by scanning the code



Program	Times	Permanent (Full Fee)	Subsidy Rebate 90%	Casual (Full Fee)	Subsidy Rebate 90%
Before School	6:45AM - 8:45AM	\$24.20	\$2.40	\$29.20	\$2.90
After School	3:30PM - 6:30PM	\$33.20	\$3.30	\$38.20	\$3.80



REGISTRATIONS OPEN NOW



JOIN IN 2025!

**DEVELOP
SKILLS,
MAKE FRIENDS,
STAY ACTIVE!**

**WE ARE SEEKING
PLAYERS FOR:**

**AUSKICK
UNDER 8S
UNDER 10S
UNDER 12S
UNDER 14S**



REGISTER NOW >

MEMBERSHIP@DALLASFC.COM.AU

[HTTPS://WWW.PLAYHQ.COM/AFL/REGISTER/29FDB8](https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/29fdb8)



[DALLAS.FOOTBALLCLUB](https://www.dallasfootballclub.com)



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CIRCUS RIO

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Biggest Circus
in Australia



EARLYBIRD

BUY TICKETS EARLY

SAVE UP TO 20%

Craigieburn Central 18 Apr - 27 Apr

School Holiday Fun at Glenroy Neighbourhood House

April Activities for Primary School Aged Children

Mon 7th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Coding 12.30pm to 3pm Origami	Tues 8th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Love Me Like A Reptile 12.30pm to 3pm Sport Activities & Games	Wed 9th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Cooking 12.30pm to 3pm Talent Show	Thurs 10th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Cooking 12.30pm to 3pm Lego Challenge	Fri 11th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Construction 12.30pm to 3pm Art & Craft
Mon 14th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Garden & Art 12.30pm to 3pm Coding	Tues 15th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Recycled Junk Sculptures 12.30pm to 3pm Sport Activities & Games	Wed 16th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Lego Challenge 12.30pm to 3pm Art & Craft	Thurs 17th of Apr 9.30am to 12pm Cooking 12.30pm to 3pm Movie, Milkshake & Popcorn	

Cost: \$15 to \$30 per activity

Book in for one activity, a whole day or everyday!

As places are limited, book online early to avoid
disappointment of missing out on the fun!

BOOK HERE!



Glenroy
Neighbourhood
House

5B Cromwell St, Glenroy
www.gnh.org.au
9304 3910