

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

DECEMBER 2025

Tuesday 16 December

Grade 6 Graduation at 6pm

Wednesday 17 December at 12:20pm

Last day of Term 4 (Students)

Thursday 18 December

Last day of Term 4 (Staff)

JANUARY 2026

Wednesday 28

Staff return

Friday 30 January

Students return

HELLO



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Closing Our 60th Anniversary Year with Gratitude

As we come to the end of this very special 60th anniversary year, it is a moment to pause, to look back with gratitude, and to look forward with hope. This year has also marked the conclusion of the global Year of Pilgrims of Hope, a theme that has beautifully reflected our school's journey — walking together in faith, courage, and compassion.

For me personally, this moment is deeply meaningful as I prepare for my retirement as Principal of Holy Child. For the past 15 years, it has been the greatest privilege of my life to serve this extraordinary community. I want to sincerely thank all our families for your support, trust, and partnership. Together we have navigated challenges that will forever define our strength — a global pandemic, the recycling plant fires, and three major building projects. Through it all, our resilience has shown what a united community can achieve.

To our remarkable staff: thank you for your unwavering dedication to our students. Every day you open doors to new possibilities, extend children's life opportunities, and model the values that shape their futures. Your professionalism and compassion have been the heartbeat of this school.

And to the wonderful mothers (and grandmothers!) of our community who have cared for me with plates of dolma, biryani, and so many other delicious dishes — thank you for your generosity, warmth, and love.

Holy Child will always be part of my heart. Thank you for walking this journey with me.

With blessings,

Alan Smith

Principal

2026 FEES AND LEVIES

NON-HEALTH CARE CARD HOLDERS

Yearly School Fees per family:	\$1,335.00	(\$340 per term 1 to 3, \$315.00 for term 4)
Excursions/Sports /Tuition Levies:	\$235.00	per STUDENT

HEALTH CARE CARDHOLDERS

One Child

Yearly School Fees	\$810.00	(\$200.00 per term 1-3, \$210.00 for term 4)
Excursions/Sports/Tuition Levies	\$235.00	per STUDENT

Two or more children

Yearly School Fees per family	\$1,260.00	(\$300 per term for 4 Terms)
	\$235.00	Excursions/Sports/Tuition Levies per STUDENT

CSEF of \$400.00 per child will be paid by the Government for Camps/Sports and Excursions

Term 1 Fees	by 25 March 2026	\$20 discount if paid by the due date
Term 2 Fees	by 17 June 2026	سوف تحصل على خصم \$20 إذا تم تسديد الدفعات في التاريخ المتوجب الدفع.
Term 3 Fees	by 27 August 2026	
Term 4 Fees	by 4 November 2026	

Families, whose school fees are over \$1000.00 and who finalise all 2024 school financial commitments (Fees & Levies) by Wednesday 25 March 2026, will receive a discount of \$100.00 off their fees.

ان العوائل التي تزيد دفعاتهم المدرسية عن أكثر من \$1000 وفاموا بتسديد جميع الدفعات المترتبة عليهم لسنة 25 March 2026 (رسوم وممتلكات) خصم دفعاتهم.

DIRECT DEBIT INCENTIVES

All fee payers who pay by continuous direct debit (including holidays) will receive the above discounts, if each term's fees are finalised by that term's due date.

As a bonus for Direct Debit payers, there is an extra \$50 discount given at the beginning of the following year if direct debits payments were continuous from the start of the previous year.

DIRECT DEBIT مكافأة للذين يتم سحب الدفعات المدرسية مباشرة من حسابهم المصرفي لكل الذين يسددون الدفعات باستمرار عن طريق السحب المباشر من حسابهم المصرفي

(direct debit حتى خاتل (أيام العطل) ، إذا تم إنهاء تسديد الدفعات المتوجبة الدفع لكل فصل دراسي. سوف يحصلون على الخصم المذكور أعلاه.

سوف يحصل الذين يسددون الدفعات المدرسية عن الطريق السحب المباشر من حسابهم المصرفي على مكافأة \$50 خصم إضافي تعطى لهم في بداية السنة القادمة ، إذا استمر تسديد الدفعات من بداية السنة الماضية.

If paying by instalments (weekly, fortnightly or monthly), please ensure that all payments are made regularly, to avoid large amounts owing in Term 4.

إذا تم الدفع بالتقسيط (أسبوعيًا، كل أسبوعين أو شهريًا). يرجى التأكد من تسديد الأقساط بشكل منتظم، وذلك لتجنب دفع مبلغ كبير في الفصل الدراسي ٤.

SUN SMART



No Hat, No Play - Stay Safe in the Sun!

From October to April, all children must wear their hats during any outside activities.

If a student doesn't have a hat, a new one can be bought from the uniform shop.



UNIFORM

New Sports Polo – Coming Term 1, 2026

We're excited to let you know that a **new Sports Polo** will be introduced from **Term 1, 2026**.

Please see below for a preview!

- **Cost:** \$30.00 (available in sizes 4 to Large)
- **Available:** From the start of the 2026 school year

👉 **Good news!** You are **not required** to purchase the new Sports Polo straight away.

Students can continue to wear their **existing Sports T-shirt** until it needs replacing.



2026 UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Hours

SPECIAL OFFER – 20% OFF SELECTED ITEMS

Wednesday 28 January

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Thursday 29 January

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Friday 30 January

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

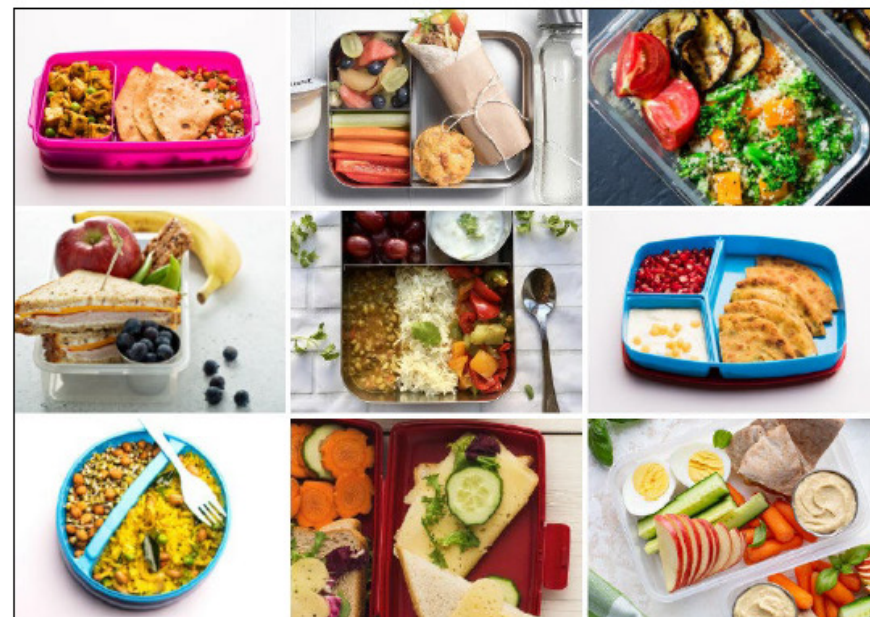
Monday 2 February

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Tuesday 3 February onwards

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES



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 Tabaki 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 naan 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!
- 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.
- 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.

DPV Health

DPV Health offers a range of services for the health and wellbeing of your child and your whole family. To access our services or for more information, call us or visit our website.

1300 234 263
[dpvhealth.org.au](https://www.dpvhealth.org.au)

صناديق الغذاء الصحية





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.

Holy Child Primary School
is a Smoke-Free Zone



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 always be clear for emergency access.



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 and 11.40am
- second break, which is between 1.40 pm and 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



SUMMER OF FUN

ACTIVE
Merri-bek



END OF SCHOOL PARTY AT OAK PARK SPORTS AND AQUATIC CENTRE

Friday 19th December | 3pm – 6pm

Celebrate the end of the school year at Oak Park Sports and Aquatic Centre! Join us for an afternoon of fun with popcorn, fairy floss, and giant pool inflatable. No need to book – standard entry fees apply.



HUME
SWIM SCHOOL

DOES YOUR CHILD KNOW HOW TO SWIM?

Scan to learn more:



Swimming lessons help:

- Learn water safety
- Increase physical fitness
- Great for mental well-being



BROADMEADOWS
AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE

41-85 Tanderrum Way,
Broadmeadows
Ph: 9205 2670



Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ
to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



Dear Parent,

Would \$500 help cover the cost of uniforms, iPad/laptop, lunch boxes, excursions or pay for swimming lessons?

You or someone you know may be eligible to join a local savings program and receive \$500 for education expenses.



Saver Plus is a 10-month program that can assist you to save for your own or your children's education.

Participants receive:

one dollar in matched savings from ANZ for every one dollar you save, up to \$500

MoneyMinded financial workshops, and

Personal support and guidance from a trusted community organisation.

At the end of the program, you can use your matched savings to purchase an education-related item, such as a computer, laptop, school camps/excursions and textbooks.

To be eligible to participate in Saver Plus you must:

- be 18 years or over.
- be a parent or guardian of a student attending school or be attending or returning to vocational training yourself.
- have a current health care card or pensioner concession card.
- Have some form of income, for example, your partner or you may have casual, part-time, full-time, seasonal employment, Carer Payment, Child Support, or Cash in hand.
- Be on a commonwealth payment. This includes family tax benefit, parenting payment etc

It's easy to find out more and all correspondence will be kept confidential. Contact your local Saver Plus Team by phoning 1300 610 355 or feel free to email enquiriesSP@bsl.org.au or return below slip to your school and a Saver Plus Team Member will call you.

I/We _____ would like more information and give permission for Saver Plus to call me

on Ph: _____ Best time to Call _____

Preliminary eligibility check – tick criteria met

- ☐ Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- ☐ Have some form of income (you or your partner)
- ☐ Child at School or you are attending vocational training
- ☐ Have not participated and received matched funds before
- ☐ Receiving a commonwealth payment
- ☐ Aged 18 years or over

(Return slip to school)

Saver Plus is an initiative of Brotherhood of St. Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.