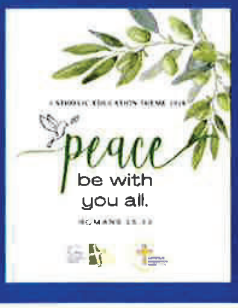
ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PENSHURST.

faith and justice

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: WEEK 6 TERM 2 2026



SCHOOL VISION

St Joseph's Penshurst, as partners in Catholic education and with our school community, pursues fullness of life for all.

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(03) 55 765438
Business hours: 8.30am - 4.30pm week days.
Principal: Mrs Katie Calvert
Email: principal@sjpenshurst.catholic.edu.au
www.sjpenshurst.catholic.edu.au
https://facebook.com/sjpenshurst
Instagram: stjosephsprimary3289

Principals Message

Wow! We are already halfway through the term, and what an action-packed few weeks it has been. Our students have been deeply engaged in learning, community events, and unique experiences that showcase the vibrant spirit of our school.

This week, we celebrate Catholic Education Week. We are looking forward to heading to Coleraine this Friday for mass and a day of fun activities with the Trinity schools. It is also National Reconciliation Week, a significant time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements as we walk together towards a connected future.

We recently welcomed Melissa Condo from Sport4all to lead a unique PE session. Students explored sports from different perspectives by experimenting with playing cricket and soccer without their sight. It was a fantastic lesson in empathy, teamwork, and inclusion. A big thank you also goes out to Monique Sobey from Vic Kids Eat Well for teaching our students how to make delicious veggie rolls, proving that healthy eating can be both fun and tasty.

Next week is shaping up to be just as busy. We have our School Photos on Tuesday, followed by the Eisteddfod at the PAC on Thursday. I may have overheard some of the practice sessions today, and I am incredibly excited to see it all come together on stage next week!

Yesterday, our Year 4–6 students participated in an online session focused on Student Agency. I am looking forward to seeing our student leaders investigate and develop new lunchtime activities for those inevitable wet weather days.

Finally, we want to wish the very best of luck to all of our footballers and netballers competing this week. There has been plenty of spirited discussion around the school yard regarding the upcoming Penshurst v Hawkesdale Macarthur game!

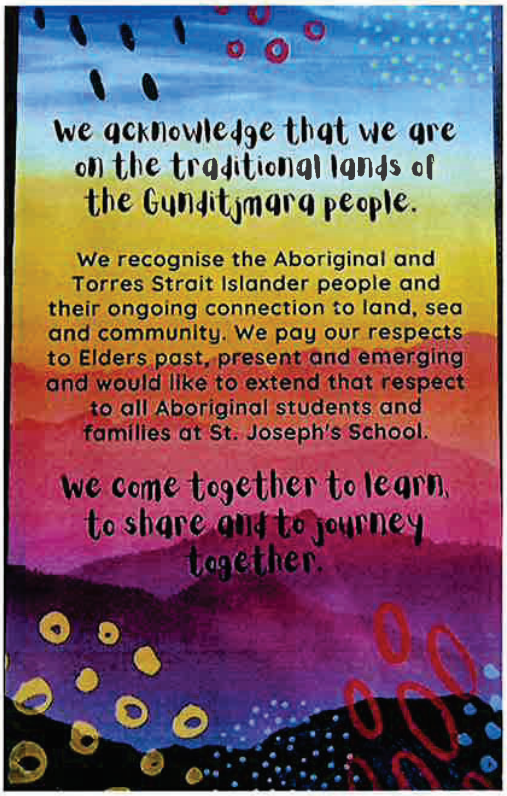
Thank you for your ongoing support of our school community.

Katie

UP COMING DATES

June 2026

June 2nd - School Photos.
June 4th - Hamilton Eisteddfod.
June 8th - King's Birthday Holiday.
June 10th - First Responders Morning tea
June 12th - Kolor Lodge Visit.
June 26th - Playgroup 10.30pm.
June 26th - Last day of Term 2.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

STUDENT VOICE!

LOCAL SPORT WRAP BY OSCAR.

Saturday the 16th of May.

**Harley, Jesse, Oscar, Jett and Fletcher play for Penshurst Bombers Football Club and versed Lismore Derrinallum.
The scores were 6 to 101, Penshurst lost.
Evie and Thea play for Penshurst Bombers Netball Club and they versed Lismore Derrinallum and the scores were 7 to 24, Penshurst lost.
Caolan plays for Hawkesdale-Macarthur Eagles and they versed Moyston - Willaura and the scores were 43 to 0, Hawksdale lost.
Annabelle plays for Caramut Swans Netball Club and they versed Tatyoon and Caramat and they won.**

**In other sporting news, Evie and Eliana made it to next level of the inter school athletics after competing well at Hamilton . Evie decided that she didn't want to go to next level and Eliana still went despite the challenge that she had to face.
Thea, Poppy, and Eliana went to cross country next level in Warrnambool after trying their hearts out at Tarrington.
Eliana came 19th and just missed out on the regional cross country by 7 spots!**

Well done to everyone.

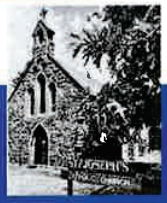
SCHOOL NEWS.

Kolor Lodge Visit

On Friday the the 22nd of May we headed down to visit our friends at Kolor. Some very competitive games of Bingo were had!
Visiting nursing homes helps children learn kindness, patience, and respect for older people. They hear life stories, make new friends, and discover the value of caring for others.
These visits build both heart and community.

Hi Everyone. The F-3 students have been learning about Living Things as part of their inquiry unit. To complement this the students made Snails out of modelling clay, pipe cleaners and beads. Using fine motor skills such as squeezing, rolling and hand-eye co-ordination with precise pincer grip to assist them with everyday tasks including hand writing and tying their shoes.

Community Engagement.



St Joseph's Penshurst

Monthly Mass Timetable:

1st Sunday of the month: NO SERVICE. join St Mary's Church Hamilton, Sat 6pm & Sun 10.30am.

2nd Sunday of the month: 8.30am Mass

3rd Sunday of the month: SAWS 8.30am

4th Sunday of the month: 8.30am Mass

5th Sunday of the month:
NO SERVICE

Community Prayer.

For our Kolor Lodge friends

Father, we thank you for this opportunity for our loved one can experience the embrace of an extended family. There are many new opportunities for building community, and we ask that you open our loved one's heart to these new relationships and that you bless them. We pray for the members of the community, that you keep them safe and in good health, Lord, and that they continue to be a blessing to our loved ones.
Amen

Emergency Managment Plan

School EMPs are put in place to ensure student and staff safety during critical incidents like fires or lockdowns, outlining evacuation routes, safe assembly areas, procedures,risk assessments, and communication strategies. These plans are essential for providing a proactive , safe enviroment and ensuring consistent responses form staff and emergency services.
Our EMP has been completed and updated for 2026.

Student Absences

If you need to report a student absence using PAM, please follow the following steps;
Log in to your school's PAM portal.

1. Go to Parent Notified Absences.
2. select your child's name.
3. Click Add Absence or Notify Absence.
4. Enter: Date of absence, reason for absence or time (if arriving late/leaving early).

Parents/carers will now receive a notification via email if an absence has not been entered before 10am.

Student Medications.

A reminder to parents that if your child requires medication to be taken while at school, a medication permission form needs to be filled in and all medications are to be given to staff. Students are not permitted to carry medications in their bags or administer medications themselves.

SPECIAL REPORT: Dealing with Conflict.

SchoolTV

Conflict is a natural and unavoidable part of family life. As children grow, differences in opinions, emotions and expectations can sometimes lead to tension at home, at school or with peers. While these moments can feel challenging, they also present valuable opportunities to teach young people important life skills. How conflict is managed within the family plays a key role in shaping a child's ability to communicate, regulate emotions and navigate relationships.
For adult carers, supporting children through conflict means staying calm, listening with empathy and modelling respectful problem-solving. When handled constructively, conflict can strengthen relationships, build resilience and help children develop the confidence to manage disagreements in healthy and productive ways.
This edition of SchoolTV explores practical strategies to help families approach conflict with greater understanding and confidence.
Please see attached Key Points Dealing with Conflict.

What is the NCCD?

All children deserve the best possible education; education that provides opportunities for children of all abilities to reach their potential.
The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a fair and consistent way for Australian schools to collect information that reflects the support or adjustments being provided for students whose learning is impacted by disability.
These adjustments will be different for each student, but might include things like specialised technology, specialist equipment, building modifications or a differentiated approach to curriculum delivery.
The Commonwealth student with disability loading is now based on the NCCD. To include a student in the NCCD schools must have documented evidence in accordance with NCCD criteria.
It's up to schools to decide how they'll do this, but there are some simple tools and templates available from the NCCD Portal to support schools through the process.
It's important that schools understand which students should be included in the NCCD and the evidence needed to support their inclusion because it helps to ensure that funding will be allocated fairly, based on need.
This means that schools and school systems will have access to appropriate funding support based on the adjustments that have been provided in the previous twelve months.
And it means that all students receiving adjustments because of disability will get the education they deserve.

Wellbeing & Child Safety.

Child Safe Standards.
All students enrolled at St Joseph's School have the right to feel safe and be safe. The safety and wellbeing of children in the school's care will always be our first priority and the school will not tolerate child abuse. The school will create a child-safe and child-friendly environment where children are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety. Particular attention is paid to the most vulnerable children and young people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with a disability, children who are unable to live at home, international students, and LGBTQIA+ students.
The full policy can be accessed via our school's website:
http://www.sjpenshurst.catholic.edu.au/policy-documents.html
The school's **Child Safety Officer** is the Principal, Mrs Katie Calvert.
We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and well-being and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures, and practices.
If you have any suggestions, comments, or questions, please contact the Principal either by phone or email principal@sjpenshurst.catholic.edu.au

Working With Children Check

The Working with Children Check is a screening process for assessing or re-assessing people who work with or care for children in Victoria.
A detailed look is taken into at the criminal history and relevant professional conduct findings of applicants to ensure we're helping to protect children from sexual or physical harm.
The check assists in protecting children from sexual and physical harm by ensuring that people who work with, or care for, them are subject to a screening process.
There is one assessment process for the check, but you must choose between 2 application types:

1. Volunteer
2. Employee

If you're getting paid for child-related work (excluding reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses), you'll need to apply as an employee. Apply online at Service Victoria.

St Joseph's Penshurst is an Allergy Aware school.

allergy AWARE

Supporting Our Catholic Community

Your savings can do more than grow; they can strengthen Catholic schools, wellbeing programs, and communities right here in the Diocese of Ballarat.

For more than 50 years, CDF has helped make this possible, from a brand-new learning centre at Emmanuel College to student wellbeing initiatives like the Paw Pals Therapy Program. Through the collective support of our community, funds are directed back into parishes, schools, and healthcare services across the Ballarat region.

Earn a competitive return rate of interest, while supporting the life of the Church close to home.

By choosing to save with CDF, you can help care for the life of our Church today, while supporting future generations.

Visit catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund or call 1800 134 135 to find out more.

Thank a First Responder Day – a day to say 'thank you'

Thank a First Responder Day 2026 will be held on Wednesday 10 June to encourage the community to give thanks for the incredible work first responders do and the families that support them.

In 2025 first responders and their families across Australia received an outpouring of gratitude from the community. Events were held across the country, cards and mementos were dropped at stations and messages of gratitude flooded social media. Check out some of the highlights on the photos link below.

Thank a First Responder Day is an initiative of Fortem Australia, an independet not-for-profit supporting the mental health and wellbeing of first responders and their families.

You are invited to join the Western Trinity to celebrate Catholic Education Week

Venue: St Joseph's Primary School
67 Read St, Coleraine

Date: Friday May 29th

Time: 10am-2pm

Mass starts at 10.30am

Our school cares about the safety and wellbeing of our students and their families. Sometimes things at home or in a relationship are not OK or families can be worried about the wellbeing of their children or young people.
The Orange Door can help you to get the support you need, quickly and easily. It's free and you don't need a referral.
The Orange Door
The Orange Door can help families. They provide support for concerns with parenting, relationships, and family violence.
The Orange Door is a free intake and assessment service for:
• families requiring support for their child or young person's wellbeing or development
• families needing parenting support
• young, isolated, or unsupported families
• individuals and families experiencing family violence
• adults using family violence
• young people using violence in the home.
If you contact The Orange Door, they can help by:
• working with you to identify the help and support you need
• supporting you with the wellbeing and development of your child or young person
• helping you make a safety plan if someone is making you feel unsafe • connecting you to services that can help like counselling, accommodation, mental health and drug and alcohol services, parenting support groups, services for children, financial help, or legal assistance
• supporting you to access funding for basic living expenses and some other costs • supporting you to change abusive or controlling behaviour.
Each Orange Door location across Victoria has their own phone number and email. Students and their families can also visit their local Orange Door in person for support, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm for support. No appointment is needed.
Our local Orange Door is located at 571-575 Raglan Parade Warrnambool 3280 and can be contacted on 1800 271 180.
How schools connect with The Orange Door
Our school might talk to a student and/or their family about The Orange Door. We might encourage them to contact their local Orange Door to get advice and help if needed.
Ideally, a student and/or their family will get in touch with The Orange Door to seek advice and support.
Sometimes, schools might make a referral to The Orange Door without the student or their family's knowledge or consent. Schools will do this if:
• informing a student and/or family increases the risk to their safety or wellbeing • not linking a student to support increases the risk of their safety and wellbeing.
You can learn more about:
• The Orange Door and how they can help you and your family at www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au
• how our school keeps our students safe by reading our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and our Child Safety Code of Conduct on our schools web page www.sjpenshurst.catholic.edu.au

SchoolTV | KEYPoints

Dealing with Conflict

Conflict is a natural part of life and an important aspect of healthy relationships. Whether it occurs at home, at school or online, disagreements provide opportunities for children and young people to learn how to communicate, understand different perspectives and manage emotions. However, without guidance, conflict can become overwhelming, leading to heightened emotions, damaged relationships and avoidance behaviours.

For families, supporting children through conflict means helping them build the skills to respond calmly, think clearly and communicate respectfully. When parents model positive conflict resolution and maintain open, supportive communication, young people are more likely to develop confidence in handling challenges. Working together with schools, families can turn everyday disagreements into valuable learning experiences that strengthen relationships and emotional wellbeing.

Practical ways to support children in dealing with conflict:

1. **Model calm and respectful behaviour**

   Children learn by observing adults. Demonstrating calm communication, active listening and respectful disagreement sets a powerful example.

2. **Encourage open communication**

   Create a safe space where your child feels comfortable expressing their thoughts and feelings without fear of judgement.

3. **Teach emotional awareness**

   Help your child recognise and name their emotions. Understanding feelings is the first step in managing them effectively.

4. **Pause before responding**

   Encourage taking a moment to breathe and think before reacting. This can prevent escalation and support more thoughtful responses.

5

Focus on problem-solving

Guide your child to consider possible solutions and outcomes rather than placing blame. This builds independence and confidence.

6

Promote empathy

Encourage your child to consider the other person's perspective. Developing empathy can reduce conflict and improve relationships.

7

Set clear and consistent boundaries

Establish expectations around respectful behaviour and reinforce them consistently. Boundaries provide a sense of safety and structure.

8

Support repair and resolution

Teach the importance of apologising, making amends and rebuilding trust after conflict. Repair is a key part of healthy relationships.

9

Recognise patterns of conflict

Help your child reflect on recurring issues and identify triggers. Awareness can lead to more effective strategies over time.

10

Work in partnership with the school

Maintain communication with teachers and staff to ensure consistent messages and support across home and school environments.

SchoolTV

A FREE WEBINAR

Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience

PART 2

Supporting Primary & Secondary students

Join us for an exclusive webinar featuring international experts Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer, as they share valuable insights into recognising early signs of concern and practical approaches to supporting the wellbeing of young people.

This webinar is **Part II of a series.**

In this session, topics include:

- Staying Calm and Connected
- Building Daily Routines
- Meeting the Needs of Neurodivergent Learners

Suitable for: Parents, grandparents, carers, educators, school leaders, !

Duration: 45 minutes

Online, Wednesday
10 June, 2026
7.30 pm

Dr Emma Woodward

Emma is recognised for her work as a child psychologist and TEDx speaker, keynote presenter, trainer and facilitator. She is also a regular SchoolTV presenter.

Dr Joe Stammeijer

A specialist in forensic psychiatry and a lecturer in medical education focusing on innovative practice and professional leadership. Joe is also a contributor to SchoolTV.

Don't miss out.
FREE event.
Scan or click the button to register.

Register here