

SMCM PRINCIPAL REPORT TO SAC – TERM 3 2026

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

- Annual Review Meetings for all staff are underway. It has been a great opportunity to hear the staff's positive feedback on this year's Professional Learning and continued reflections on the implementation of the Science of Learning. Staff have provided positive feedback on the improved engagement and behaviour of students this year and the positive relationships they have established.
- Capital works update:
 - Our new Soccer Pitch is due for completion before the end of the term.
 - Stage 4 building Tender Process is underway with a builder to be appointed shortly. Construction work will begin in Term 4.
- 2027 Planning:
 - *"Like many sectors across Australia, Catholic education is navigating a period of significant change. Rising operating costs, capped government funding growth and the significant impact of recent Enterprise Bargaining Agreement negotiations require all education providers to carefully consider how they allocate resources to support teaching, learning and student wellbeing across our schools."*
 - *"We are working closely with MACS to review and understand our budget for next year and we are exploring all available options to manage any additional costs responsibly. • Our focus is on long-term sustainability and ensuring our resources are directed where they have the greatest impact on student learning and outcomes. • While some difficult decisions may be required, our commitment to providing a high-quality Catholic education for current and future generations remains unchanged."*
- Enrolments:
 - Enrolment meetings for Prep siblings have been completed with 104 places offered for Prep 2027
 - We are now meeting with families for other year levels looking to enrol in 2027.
 - Projected enrolment for 2027 is 650 students

EDUCATION IN FAITH

- This term we have celebrated our Mary MacKillop Feast Day with Year 4-6 Mass, Prep - Year 3 liturgy, dance lessons and performance and student learning activities.
- Our Mini Vinnies Winter Appeal was a huge success and I extend my thanks to the school community for their support. This is an important opportunity for our students to put the Catholic Social Teaching principles into action..
- Our First Eucharist Sacramental Family Faith Night was well attended by families. The Sacrament of First eucharist was a significant Parish celebration.
- Sarah has been participating in the Inspired to Lead MACS professional learning program. Sarah will travel as a guide with other MACS leaders to Greece and Turkey on Pilgrimage over the September holidays.
- Sarah, Jess and I attended the MACS RE Symposium engaging with other Catholic School Leaders and the opportunity to listen to keynote speakers and attend workshops.

LEARNING & TEACHING

- NAPLAN data has been released. Our Year 3 students are above State and National average in every area. Our Year 5 student growth is above the State and national growth averages in every area.
- Congratulations to our Prep students who celebrated 100 days of School!
- Our Year 6 students attended a two night camp at Campase Downs in Kyneton
- Extra curricular experiences this term include: Prep Aboriginal Storytelling incursion, Year 2 excursions to the local Aboriginal Gathering Place and local community Walk, Year 3 excursion to CERES, Year 4 excursions to St Patrick's Cathedral and Healesville Sanctuary and upcoming Year 5 visit to SMC and excursion to Melbourne Museum and Year 6 excursion to the Australian Institute of Sport
- Sporting events this term included T-ball, Volleyball and District/Divisional Athletics

- Book Week celebration including our parade, daily story time, art showcase, author visits and performance was a wonderful celebration. The introduction of Book Flix has been incredibly well received with students engaging in reading a variety of books and discussing reading.
- Maths competitions with APSMO and Matific have had strong results and participation from students.
- Staff engagement in MAP Professional Learning and learning walks , Flourishing Learners Network

STUDENT WELL BEING

- This term the focus from our FARM Code has been R - Respect with a focus on respectful language and manners. This was incorporated in our work in Bully No Way Week
- Year 5 Online Puberty night was well attended and offered an opportunity for parents and children to begin an open conversation about the changes children experience with puberty.
- The NCCD August census was completed with 27% of our student population receiving support through this funding program.
- Parent Support Group meetings for students receiving Substantial and Extensive levels of support.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- This term's community events have included Grandparents Morning, Book Week Parade and this week Father's Day Stall and morning
- We finish this term with our first ever Spirit Week including a Staff vs Students sports game, opening of our Soccer Pitch, Talent Show, Celebration of Learning, Colour Run and Sports Colours Day.
- MACSSIS Surveys have been sent to 240 families. The feedback from families informs our decision making and will be utilised during our 2027 School Review.

Claire Pitcher - Term 3, 2026