St Brendan's Primary School 1581

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August 6, 2025

We gather on Gunaikurnai Country. We pay our respects to their Elders; past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge the ongoing living culture and connection to Country of all First Peoples.





Curriculum Days Student Free Days Week 3 Thursday 7th & Friday 8th Please August



Dear Families and Friends,

This week our year three to six students were given the opportunity to test their numeracy problem solving skills in the **Australian Mathematics Competition.** We had around forty-five students volunteer for the competition including a couple of year five students who were on camp. I'd like to congratulate these students for 'having a go' at a very worthwhile challenge. We look forward to seeing the results later this term.

Our year five cohort had great weather for their camp at Ballarat and were able to explore **Sovereign Hill** unencumbered over the three days. By all account, they had a memorable experience and all returned with a few momentos to remind them of the experience. Thank you to the staff who volunteer to attend these camps, keeping the students safe, happy and focussed.

Thank you to all families for making alternative arrangements for your child/ren this Thursday and Friday, allowing us to conduct **professional learning sessions** with our staff. Over the course of the two days, we will conduct learning in the areas of literacy, numeracy and religious education. These two days provide an opportunity for all staff to hear the same message, for us to workshop together and to refine our practice.

School Refusal: https://lakesent.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/school-refusal

Though many children will refuse to go to school at some stage in their lives, school refusal is very different to truancy. It is a more serious condition than separation anxiety and often stems from a child's anxiety about school. They may be worried about their schoolwork, interacting with other kids, dealing with teachers, playing sports or being away from family. School refusal is a behaviour that can also be accompanied by sadness or depression, physical symptoms and social isolation. This condition is equally common amongst boys and girls, from all socioeconomic groups and across both primary and secondary levels.

"School refusal is a complex issue as there's rarely a single cause. It may be linked to separation anxiety, worries about leaving home, a phobia, depression, social problems or learning difficulties. It can start gradually or happen suddenly."



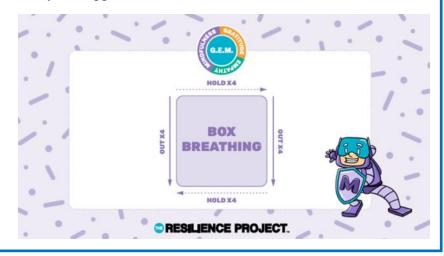
Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Next week, fifty of our athletes will travel to Howitt Park in Bairnsdale to compete in the **District Athletics Carnival**. St Brendan's staff are facilitating the event, and we look forward to assistance from students from Nagle College. Please let the office know if you are able to assist on the day.

Please join us at our **Mary MacKillop prayer** in the church on Monday, 11 August and for our Friday, 15 August assembly in the hall. We always value your support.

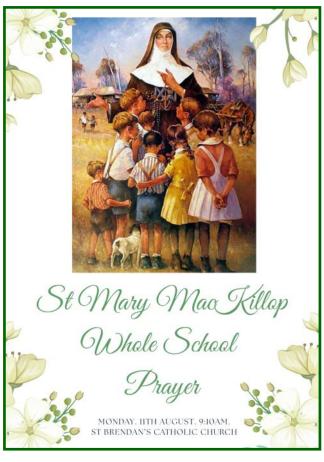
Kind Regards,

Matthew Hamer



		Up Coming Events
	AUGUST	Term 3
Week 3	Thursday 7th	Curriculum Days - Student Free Days 3.30pm Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop
	Friday 8th	Curriculum Days - Student Free Days
Week 4	Monday 11th	9.10am Whole School Prayer: Mary Mackillop
	Thursday 14th	Eastern District Athletics 3.30pm Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop
	Friday 15th	9.10am Year 3 & 3/4 Mass 2.30pm Assembly: Year 5 Blue
Week 5	Tuesday 19th	9.10am Year 2 Prayer
	Friday 22nd	Book Week Parade - Please note change of date 9.10am Reconciliation for Candidates 6.00pm Confirmation
Week 6	Monday 25th	Inform & Empower: Year 1 11.30am VIC SPELL @ Paynesville PS
	Tuesday 26th	9.10am Year 1 Prayer
	Friday 29th	9.10am Year 5 Mass 2.30pm Assembly: Foundation
	SEPTEMBER	
Week 7	Tuesday 2nd	Father's Day Stall
	Wednesday 3rd	Father's Day Stall
	Friday 5th	8.00am Father's Day Breakfast 9.10 Whole School Mass: Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee







Commitment Mass

On the 3rd of August, Sadie, Josie, Ivy and Amity attended their Confirmation Commitment Mass.

A Commitment Mass is a Mass we attend to show we are going to celebrate our Confirmation. It also helps us prepare for it.

We had to stand up on the steps with our parents standing behind us. We got a gift from the parishioners including prayer cards for everyday of the week. We then had to turn around while our parents drew a cross on our foreheads. After that we handed out letters to the Parishioners who wanted one. We all had one letter each which was about ourselves and for them to pray for us during our Confirmation. After that we then had to carry gifts down the aisle to give them to father during Communion.

We all had a good time and are excited to complete our Confirmation.





BLUEBACK

Descriptive writing

Blueback is set in a remote place called Longboat Bay, near Longboat Bay is a place called Robbers Head close to the sea. The sea had a jetty and would stink. Around the jetty were fig trees and apricots. There were oranges and lemon trees in the orchards as well as olives and mulberries. In the sea there were crayfish, brilliant schools of red Nannyai, wrasse, sweep, scalyfins, blennies, foxfish, blue devils, abalone and fish of so many colours darting in between bright coral and kelp in the shimmery, luminous, dark green sea.

Olivia C

coastal environment introduced in the opening chapters.
They also created their own vision of the Blueback fish, using details from the descriptive language of the novel to guide their illustration.

Blueback is set in Longboat Bay, a clear y that is home of the reef off Robbers

Students wrote a setting

description based on Tim Winton's novel Blueback, using descriptive language to capture the natural

The book Blueback is set in Longboat Bay, a clear water bay that is home of the reef off Robbers Head. Many colourful fish live and feed in this bay. Abel and his mum Dora catch abalone to eat and sell. It is a remote place and the Jackson family must catch or grow their own food, collect their own rain water and survive without electricity or running water. They are surrounded by a natural reserve.

Blueback is set in Longboat Bay, a fictional town surrounded by wildlife and thriving bushland. Abel and his mother live in a shack and love to swim within the sleek crystal clear blue-green water and collect abalone and fish for dinner. The ocean is thriving with coral, seaweed and fish. It feels like a calm, cosy and peaceful place for fishermen as well as nature lovers.

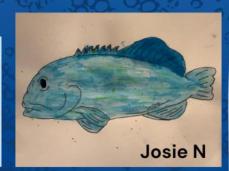
Hazel

Longboat Bay is a secluded, exquisite and a serene place recognised for its bluebacks, fish and luminous sea. This bay lays on the Australian coast where Abel and his mother stay in a small house, no electricity, no TV, no running water but just pure embraced beauty.

Leanne

BLUEBACK DESIGNS









In the serene town of Longboat Bay the luminous water shimmers from dusk to dawn, the sun glistens on the water's surface and the smell of fresh fish and salt lingers in the air. A place where pearl bubbles float and the pinks, yellows and reds of the coral contrasts against the deep sea blues. Here every shape and colour is unique, no two fish are the same, the massive rocks form spiralling tunnels and magnificent archways stand tall. Resting on the sea floor shimmering abalone shells shine through the depths luminating, reflecting off the sun's rays. The fish power through the waves and gropers craft plans carefully. Crayfish hide in the nooks, silver fish dart in schools and divers take it all in. This world that's hidden under the surface full of mystery and awe.

Sadie



Abel is a 10 year old boy who lives with his mum at Longboat Bay. Abel is a quiet kid who often daydreams about things like 'What do fish think when they die?' Abel finds it hard to trust people so he will often keep things to himself. He loves going for a swim out in the ocean and seeing his friend Blueback, a huge friendly fish with fins like ping pong paddles, eyes the size of a golf ball and massive pegs of teeth.

Character Traits

The Year 6 students were introduced to the main character, Abel. They analysed his traits and used evidence from the text to write a description of his character.

Abel is a 10 year old boy who lives with his mum in a shack. Abel is very adventurous and is very caring. Abel isn't really interested in school as he sits there and day dreams about a friend he met while abalone diving. He met Blueback, a blue groper which he visits annually as he has a life on the water. He also has a life in the bush where he looks after ducks and transports seaweed. Abel is a Jackson, they have lived in Longboat Bay for over 100 years. Abel spends time outdoors because he has no access to technology.

Isla B

Maddi W

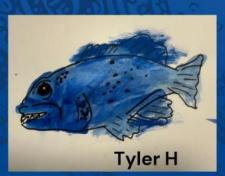
Abel is a ten year old boy that lives with his mum on the coast of W.A in Longboat Bay. He is a quiet boy, which is seen when Merv the bus driver asks him "Have you been catching many fish?" and Abel responds with very few words. He shows he is brave by always wanting to go down into the ocean with a giant animal he only just met. He loves to learn and explore new things.

Sunny E

Abel is an open minded 10 year old boy who sees snorkelling as part of him. Something also really special to him was Blueback, a blue groper Abel adores, but despite his bond with Blueback he decides to keep the lingering thought in his mind at school and doesn't want Blueback to unfold to others.

Leanne N

BLUEBACK DESIGNS

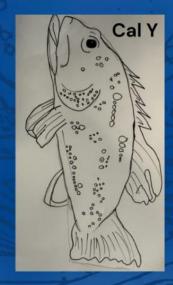














Writing

In Year 4/5 we have been learning about how to make our characters more interesting and adding more information in our writing. Some of our drafted work appears below. We look forward to sharing our finished pieces of writing with our families. Next, we are learning about creating exciting problems. By Brok Kennedy

Sam by Evie McMeeken

Munch Munch Squawk! That's Sam taking some fish 'n' chips. Why, you may ask. Well, Sam's a villain. He LOVES hot chips, he comes out every summer and he is an awesome flyer! Sam also doesn't look like a seagull...He's ratty looking, has no hair and is missing a toe. But all villains have a reason why they are a villain. Last year, Sam was getting fed some hot ships when the so-called "hero" Sean flew in and stole it! After that, he went into a huge depression and that's when he became the villain.

Chippy the Chipmunk by Ava Corrie

Chippy the Chipmunk is a speedy, cheeky little chipmunk who lives with his embarrassing parents in the hollow of a willow tree. Wherever he goes, mischief follows as well as his stupid pet leaf, Autumn. Chippy wears mini orange shorts to cover his weakness, tickles! He hates cranberries and anyone around him!



How did you make sure you had more green time than screen time?

Blake - I played rugby and I a lot of soccer.

Jaxon - I went mountain bike riding two days in a row and played footy.

Ava – I went on a bike ride with my parents. When I went to Bright, I went to the playground almost every day. Leanna – I made sure that I had set a screen time on my device to make sure I had some green time outside.

Ben - I went Lake Tyers Beach. We went fish, ing bike riding

Kobe - riding my bike

Jordan M - I played a soccer game and basketball game and soccer training

What was your favourite thing you did on the holidays?

Emmet – I went to the hotpools in Metung with my mum, grandma and my cousins Kim, Isla and Elery Aaliyah – I baked sprinkled confetti yoyos, s'more cookies ,white chocolate and raspberry cookies, a vanilla slice and samosas.

Jordan L - I practiced tackwondo, and I now know a High Kick

Evic - I went to the football at Marvel Stadium

Mia – The best thing I did on the holidays was seeing my cousins in Melbourne and playing hide and seek with them Jack – I went to my cousin's birthday party. She was turning 11. and my cousin came down from Melbourne Harvey – playing soccer

Where did you go on the holidays?

Blaise – I went to Darwin and went to heaps of places like jumping crocodiles, mud crabbing and I saw a lot of crocodiles

Heaven – I went to Egypt I went to the Red Sea (Hurghada) and Cairo and a couple of other places that I don't know the name of.

Brok - I went to Melbourne and watched Richmond vs Essendon and had so much fun. I went to Orbost to play footy and won and played soccer at Bairnsdale it was a fun holiday

Lenni – I went to Sydney and saw my uncle. I went to Luna Park. I went to shopping centres. I went out for dinner. I went on the Ferry.

Elise - I went to Melbourne and Gumbaya World

Daniel - I mainly stayed home, but I went shopping and to Melbourne to see stuff.



Lions Club Speech

Years 4/5 Red and 5 Blue did their Lions Club speeches, and we were split into our year levels. The Year 4 topic was creative inventions and the Year 5 topic was technologies. We also had to time ourselves. Year four speeches had to be three minutes. Year fives had to be four minutes, year fives got a longer time because their topic was harder. I was the winner of the Year 4 competition and have been invited to represent Year 4 at the Lions Club Competition along with Ella O'Rourke (Year3), Willow Watson (Year 5) and Elan Jakobi (Year 6), on September 4th at 6 pm at Mechanics

Geography

In Geography, year four are focusing on Animals, different habitats and terrains. We have started learning about rainforests, deserts, jungles, savannahs and the Antarctic. We are also focusing on the different animals that live in these places and the climates of all the different habitats. When we do geography, we also focus on marking places on maps about where the places are and where the animals live. We also found out what the weather is like in their habitats and how that habitat supports the animals to be healthy. We have also learned about flora and fauna, In Year 5 for geography, we have been learning about mapping. We got to pick a sticky note from a paper bag, and the country on it was the country we were doing. We have to research the country and what it has had to do with Australia and how we interact with that country. By Lenni McLeod and Mia Nguyen.



An Interview with Ivy O'Donnell by Aaliyah Dollman.

On Thursday, July 24th, Ivy O'Donnell and Shiloh Eiseman represented our school at the State Cross Country in Melbourne. I interviewed her about the day and her experience to find out more information about how good their time was.

Q: What Place did you come? A: Ivy O'Donnell came 77th out of 93 other contestants from around the state

Q: How did you feel about the Cross Country? A: I was really proud of myself, even though it was tough and it was my first time representing at State level. It was scary at first but fun by the end.

Q: What would be your goal next year if you make it to state level again? A: To improve on this year's result, maybe get a better position.

Q: What did the course look like? A: At the start, it is narrow, but there are lots of hills and you get really puffed out, and too many potholes full of water.

Q: What was your favourite part about the day?

A: Crossing the finish line.

Q: Who took you along on the day? A: My family, including Mum, Dad, Nan & Pop.

Capabilities

Hi! Were Jack and Ava from 4/5 Red, and were here to talk to you about capabilities. During the capabilities, the girls and boys split up to discuss different aspects of bullying.

The subject the girls have been doing is "relational bullying (social bullying)", if you don't know what relational bullying is, it's something when you fight with your friends or someone close to you. We've been talking about what we should and shouldn't do when we come face to face with relational bullying. As we go through the process, it is helping some of the kids who struggle with relational bullying.

In capabilities, the boys have been taught how to work out if someone's actions are bullying or just being mean. We acted out role plays based on a scenario and we talked about whether we thought it was bullying or not. We are going to keep learning about this in Term 3.



Sibling Relationships

A SchoolTV topic supporting modern-day parenting



In this edition of SchoolTV - SIBLING RELATIONSHIPS

Sibling relationships are often a child's first and longest-lasting social connection. These bonds can offer companionship, support and opportunities to develop important life skills such as empathy, negotiation and conflict resolution. However, like all close relationships, sibling dynamics can be complex. Differences in temperament, age, needs and parental attention can all contribute to tension or rivalry. It's not uncommon for children to compete for attention, especially during times of change or stress.

As a parent or caregiver, your role in shaping the tone of sibling relationships is vital. Creating a home environment that celebrates each child's unique strengths and avoids direct comparisons helps reduce rivalry and fosters mutual respect.

By listening without judgement, teaching emotional regulation, and supporting each child's individuality, you can create a family culture where siblings feel secure and valued. This edition of SchoolTV offers insights to support young people in developing positive, lasting sibling bonds that can remain strong well into adulthood.



We hope you take time to reflect on

the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

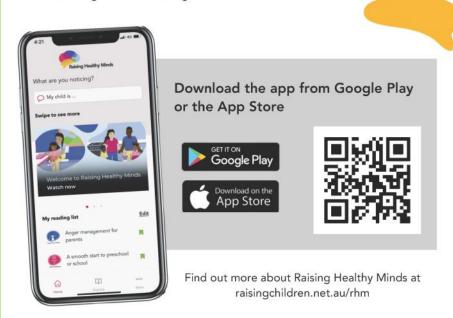
Here is the link to the **Sibling Relationships** edition of SchoolTV https://lakesent.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/sibling-relationships-au



Do you have a question about your child's emotions, behaviours and wellbeing?

The Raising Healthy Minds app is a FREE, personalised pocket resource to help you raise confident, resilient children.

Co-designed with parents and experts and funded by the Australian Government, the app offers a mix of quick-read articles, videos and animations designed to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing from birth to age 12.



The Raising Healthy Minds app is a free, personalised, pocket resource to help parents and carers raise confident, resilient children. Co-designed with parents and experts and funded by the Australian Government, Raising Healthy Minds aims to support children's social and emotional wellbeing with evidence-based information.

You'll find information on topics like dealing with worries and making friends, as well as ideas for day-to-day life, like creating family routines, looking after yourself as a parent, and building strong relationships.

The app offers a mix of quick-read articles, videos and animations aimed at parents and carers of children aged 0-12 years. You can tailor information to the age of your child and opt-in to receive helpful tips.

Raising Healthy Minds provides simple-to-use information at your fingertips with clear actions you can start today.

Download from Google Play or the App Store or go to <u>raisingchildren.net.au/rhm</u> to learn more and raise a healthy mind



When picking up and dropping off your child we ask all parents to observe the following procedures at St Brendan's CPS.

Collecting Students from School Grounds – Child Safety As you would understand, child safety is the number one priority for schools. As circumstances evolve, we want to ensure we have the best possible practice in place. Please note the following requirements for collecting students at the end of the day.

Collecting from the church gate -

Students in years Foundation, One and Two will remain with their class teacher at the end of the day just outside their classroom. The church gates will be open at 3.15pm, at which time parents are required to enter the school grounds to collect their children from the class teachers. This action is in place to avoid situations where students leave the school grounds and run into the church gate car park area without an adult being present.

Please use the appropriate car park entry and exit.

Please do not drive across the footpath to enter or exit the car park. We have students and other pedestrians using the footpath.

Collecting from the administration office

Please enter the gates and collect your child from the junior classroom area or your child from years Three to Six may meet you just inside the gates. Students are not to leave the grounds and cross the car park area without an adult walking with them.

If dropping students off in the morning, you must also walk them into school. Please do not use the disabled parking bay without permission to do so.

Collecting from car line

Typically, St Brendan's staff are there to organise students into cars at the end of the day. If you wish to park and collect your child, please use the crosswalk and an adult must walk with their child/ren. Drop off at the beginning of the day should take place at the bus stop area.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Regards,

Matthew Hamer

Principal



St Brendan's Op Shop has second hand school uniform available.

St Brendan's School uniform available \$3.00 per item unless otherwise marked.

Open 10am-3pm Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday.





Uniform Reminders



JEWELLERY is restricted to the following - a wrist watch, no more than one small plain matching pair of studs or sleepers in the ear lobe - gold, silver or gemstone, a religious medallion on a chain to be worn under clothing.



Fashion jewellery, make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

HAIR is to be kept neat and tidy at all times. Hair longer than collar length, must be tied back completely. This is to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Headband, hair ties, ribbons, scrunchies and clips must be blue, black or brown.

It is not appropriate for children to come to school with dyed or inappropriate hair styles as deemed by the Principal.



RESILIENCE PROJECT.

Parent & Carer Hub

When supporting your children's mental health, we know the best outcomes happen when we work together and practise.

Head over to our Parent & Carer Hub to learn more about the evidence-based strategies being taught in the classroom, so you can enhance their impact at home. You'll find activities you can practice to support your family's wellbeing.



Scan this QR code to learn more about our Parent & Carer Hub.



To learn more about The Resilience project, head to:











DON'T FORGET LUNCH ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FRIDAY.

ORDER MUST BE IN THURSDAY.

MANY YUMMY OPTIONS
INCLUDING HONEY CHICKEN:



Lunch orders are available on a Friday and are supplied by Mamma Vu's Kitchen.

- All orders will need to be in by Thursday morning – before 12pm for lunch on Friday
- . NO LATE ORDERS will be accepted
- Please make sure that all orders are on a brown paper lunch order bag with the correct money
- Siblings will require one bag each
- Name and class needs to be clearly stated on the bag

Please see attached menu and please take note of



Lunch Order







Kids Classes

Term 3 After School art classes
Mondays 4:15 to 5:15pm
Various mediums including graphite pencil,
chalk pastels, charcoal, coloured pencils,
water paint, acrylic paint and air dry clay.
Paxart Studio Lakes Entrance
NDIS Supported
Bookings and enquiries PH: 0408 500 451





of the school and
the church are NOT drop off zones.
If you enter these car parks you MUST
walk your children
into the school.

DROP OFF ZONE is via the Mary MacKillop
Hall carpark only.
The Disabled Parking spaces are for
people with permits only.

Thank you.

A reminder that the **car park** at the front

FREE | BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED AGES 5 - 12

LEGO Club 2025



Junior LEGO enthusiasts are invited to attend our after-school LEGO Club sessions

Head into your local library and flex your creative muscles making the LEGO builds of your dreams!

Donations welcome: the library will gladly accept donations of old or new LEGO brand pieces for our LEGO Club collection.

This is an unsupervised event - attendees must be accompanied by an adult.

SHIRE LIBRARIES

EAST GIPPSLAND

Bairnsdale Library Tuesdays 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm

> Lakes Entrance Service Centre Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

> Orbost Service Centre Mondays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

> Paynesville Service Centre Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

> Omeo Service Centre Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Mallacoota
Service Centre
Wednesdays
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

FREE NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED



We're Back!



Join us for our first Rhymetime session of 2025!

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore the magic of stories and the joy of reading. Enjoy engaging tales that inspire creativity and imagination, along with fun songs and rhymes!

Rhymetime sessions are designed for children under 2 years and their parent/carers and run for approximately 30 minutes.

Bairnsdale Library Wednesday 5 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am

Lakes Entrance
Service Centre
Wednesday 5 February
11.00 am - 11.30 am

Orbost
Service Centre
Thursday 6 February
10.00 am - 10.30 am

Paynesville Service Centre Monday 3 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am

Mallacoota Service Centre Tuesday 4 February 10.00 am - 10.30 am





