



# St Josephine Bakhita

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
*Courage. Humility. Forgiveness.*

*Inspired by St Josephine Bakhita we are a community of learners, growing in faith, knowledge, wisdom, and character, to shine as lights of hope in the world.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term Four! I hope all families enjoyed a restful break and are feeling energized for what is always a busy period as we head towards the end of the year.

This term, our school community has many exciting events to look forward to. The school disco, colour run, swim programs, Grandparents Day, and Christmas celebrations are just a few of the events planned. Nearly every week has something extra on, so I encourage you to keep an eye on the school calendar in SIMON/PAM to ensure you don't miss any events.

Term 4 also marks the beginning of our planning and preparation phase for the 2026 school year. In 2026, we will have 4 Foundation classes, 3 Year One classes, a Year 2/3 composite, and a Year 4,5,6 composite class. Unfortunately, due to capacity constraints and limited physical space, we are unable to accept new students in Years 2-6. Our current Years 1-5 students will remain with their current peers for the 2026 school year.

The Foundation teaching staff will soon begin creating the 2026 Year One class lists. This process involves careful consideration to ensure that each child has the opportunity to learn and grow both socially and academically. The teachers are best placed to determine which students work well together and what scenarios will work best for each cohort. We will communicate the new class lists to families on the 2026 Orientation Day in December.

## **School Hats**

A friendly reminder that all students will now be expected to wear their school hat as we head into the warmer months. School hats can be purchased from the Noone Uniform shop in Hamersley Drive, Clyde North.

## **Grandparents / Special Friends Day**

On Friday, the 31 October, we will celebrate our Grandparents / Special Friends Day. This is a special day where we give thanks for the special people in the lives of our students. We look forward to seeing as many grandparents / friends attend as possible. Full details of the day will be sent home to families shortly.

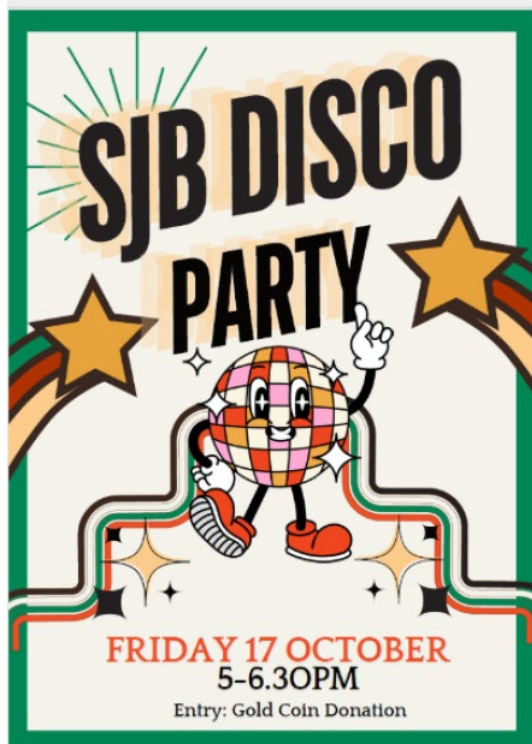
## **Colour Run**

SJB will hold their first fundraising event, Monty's Colour Fun Run on Friday 14 November. Information was sent home today to families detailing how you can help with fundraising. If you need any help, please contact the school office.



### **SJB Disco – Friday 17 October**

On Friday the 17 October we will hold our first ever school disco from 5 – 6.30pm. A permission letter was sent home with the students on Monday. If your child has misplaced theirs, please contact your child's teacher or the school office for another one.



A BIG THANK YOU to St Germain Coles and Spotlight Fountain Gate for generously donating a voucher for the school to put towards decorations and popcorn at the disco. Your support is greatly appreciated.



## School Fees

A gentle reminder that we ask that all school fees are finalised with the Office by the end of November. If you have any concerns regarding the school fees, please contact the Office. We understand that family circumstances can change, and we are here to support families in any way we can.

## Families Leaving St Josephine Bakhita

If your family situation is changing, we would appreciate you letting the Office know. An accurate indication of student numbers assists us enormously. We have a waiting list and if we know you are leaving, we can offer your spot to another family.

## 2027 Foundation (Prep) Enrolments

We're now inviting applications for 2027 Foundation student enrolments. If your child is starting school in 2027, please contact our Office to request an application form or download it from our website. To secure a spot, kindly complete the enrolment process before the end of the year. After this time, enrolments will be open to the broader community, and we cannot guarantee placement.

## Important Dates for Term 4

Date	Event	Who	Time
6/10	First Day of Term 4	F-5	All Day
7/10	Moonlit Sanctuary Excursion	Foundation	All Day
7/10	Bunnings Vegetable Garden Incursion	3-5	11.15- 1.15pm
8/10	2026 Foundation Families Meet and Greet	New families for 2026	4.30-5.30pm
16/10	Assembly – Year 3-5 Presenting	F-5	2.45- 3.15pm
17/10	School Disco	F-5	5.00-6.30pm
29/10	2026 Foundation Info Night	New families for 2026	6.30 -7.30pm
30/10	Assembly – Year 1-2 Presenting	F-5	2.45- 3.15pm
31/10	Grandparents/ Special Friends Day	F-5	9.00– 10.30am
3/11	School Closure Day – No School	F-5	All Day
4/11	Melbourne Cup Holiday	F-5	All Day
5/11	SJB Talent Show	F-5	2.15-3.15pm
7/11	Mini Boss Incursion	1-5	All Day
13/11	Assembly – FC Presenting	F-5	2.45- 3.15pm
14/11	Colour Run Fundraiser	F-5	2-3pm
17-21/11	Swimming Program	Foundation	45min sessions
19/11	Whole School Mass	F-5	9.00 – 10.00am
21/11	Life Saving Victoria Incursion	F-5	9.00-10.30am
24-28/11	Swimming Program	Years 1-5	45min sessions
27/11	Assembly – FM Presenting	F-5	2.45- 3.15pm
8/12	Whole School Excursion	F-5	All Day
10/12	2026 Orientation Session	Years 1-6 students	9.00 – 10.30am
11/12	Assembly – FPD Presenting	F-5	2.45- 3.15pm
15/12	Family Games / Christmas Carols	Families	5.00 – 7.00pm
16/12	<b>Last Day of School</b> End of Year Mass Christmas Nativity Play	F-5 Families welcome Families welcome	9.00 – 10am 2.15 – 3.15pm
27/1/26	Staff Return for 2026 School Year	Staff	All Day
28/1/26	Staff Professional Learning Day	Staff	All Day
29/1/26	<b>Foundation Students Begin School</b>	<b>2026 Foundation Students Only</b>	<b>All Day</b>
30 / 1/26	<b>Year 1-6 Students Begin School</b>	<b>Years 1-6 and Foundation students</b>	<b>All Day</b>

Kind regards

Kathryn Pepper

# Religious Education

Loving God,

As we begin Term 4, we pause to give thanks for the gift of a new beginning.  
Bless our school community of St Josephine Bakhita with energy, purpose, and hope.  
May this final term be filled with moments of growth, kindness, and joy.

Guide our students as they learn and discover,  
support our teachers as they lead and inspire,  
and strengthen our families as they nurture and encourage.

In this Jubilee Year, help us walk together as Pilgrims of Hope, trusting that *Your word is a lamp for our feet and a light on our path (Psalm 119:105)*.  
Like St Josephine Bakhita, may we live with faith, courage, and compassion.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Prayer for Term 4

### Did you know that October is The Month of the Rosary

The **month of October** each year is dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. The Rosary is appealing and simple. The purpose of the Rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Every time we pray the Our Father we are reminded that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. Praying the Hail Mary reminds us that we are joining with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. In addition, they help to make us aware that Mary was and is still intimately joined with her son, Jesus, in all the mysteries of earthly and heavenly existence. The constant repetition of prayer creates an atmosphere of contemplation.





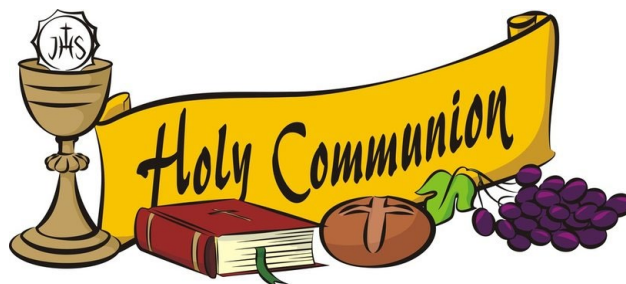
## St Thomas the Apostle

St Thomas the Apostle Parish News can be found on this link:  
<https://stthomasap.org.au/parish-news>

### First Holy Communions

Congratulations to Maclaïne and Angelina on making their First Holy Communion recently. This is a very important and special occasion on their faith journey. We wish them both every blessing of this rich sacrament!

Maclaïne made her First Holy Communion at St Thomas the Apostle Parish, while Angelina made hers at her home parish of Our Lady Help of Christians.



# LEARNING AND TEACHING

## Maths in Every Culture: Share Your Traditional Games

At St Josephine Bakhita Catholic Primary School we believe learning happens best when it's meaningful, engaging — and fun! That's why we're on the lookout for **traditional or cultural games from around the world that involve mathematics**. Whether it's counting, measuring, strategy, or problem-solving, we want to bring these rich, diverse experiences into our classrooms.

Do you know a game from your culture that teaches **math skills in a playful way**? It might be a game you grew up playing with family, one that's still enjoyed in your community today, or even a lesser-known gem that deserves the spotlight.

We're especially interested in games that:

- *Involve **counting, logic, patterns, shapes, or numbers***
- *Can be played by children aged 5–12*
- *Reflect **cultural traditions, languages, or stories***
- *Can be adapted for use in a classroom*

By sharing these games, you'll be helping our students:

- Discover new ways of thinking about maths
- Celebrate cultural diversity in fun, hands-on ways
- Build global awareness while learning through play

### How You Can Help:

If you know of a game (or can ask someone in your family or community), please get in touch! You can:

- Send us a written description of the game
- Share photos or videos (if available)
- Come and chat to us about the game
- 

Please contact: [pamela.mckillop@sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pamela.mckillop@sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au) and [sarah.manaelski@sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sarah.manaelski@sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au)

Let's celebrate the many ways maths is woven into cultures around the world — and inspire our students to see maths as something meaningful, joyful, and universal.

Thank you for helping us make learning an adventure for everyone!



# Student Wellbeing

## Thoughtful Parenting Kit

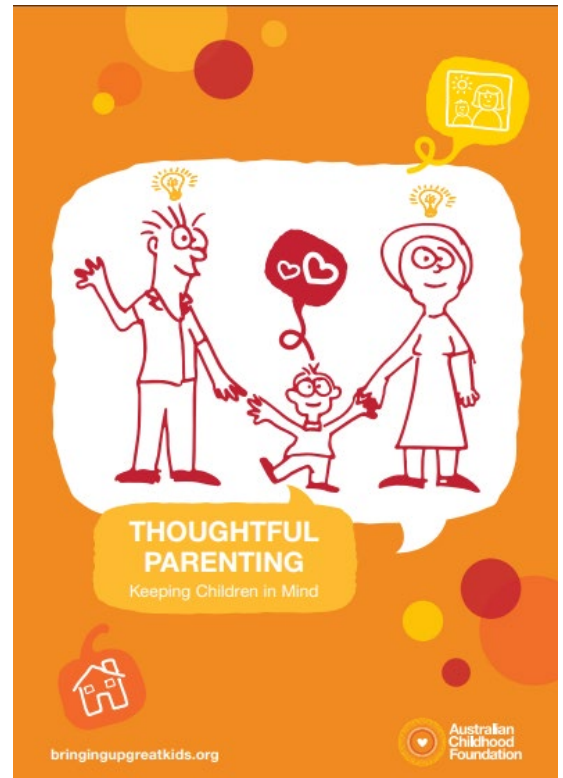
The Australian Childhood Foundation has launched the Thoughtful Parenting Kit to help families reflect about their parenting.

This may be a useful resource to encourage reflection so that we can all support one another in the important work of raising children.

The Kit gives all parents a chance to think about what is important to them about their parenting. It aims to generate discussion between parents. Each chapter explores a specific theme that is relevant to parenting – the issues, the joys and the challenges.

It can be accessed here:

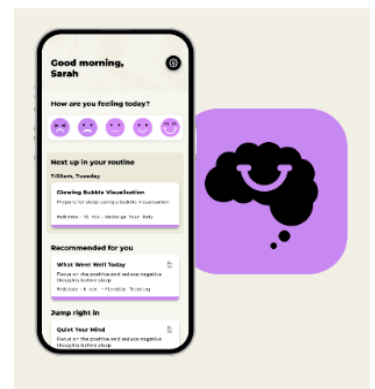
[Thoughtful Parenting Kit](https://www.bringingupgreatkids.org/thoughtful-parenting-kit)



## Smiling Mind

Smiling Mind is a free app to help your wellbeing.

- It is designed for all ages.
- It teaches skills to deal with difficult feelings or situations.
- It helps to recognise emotions.
- You can search for specific content.
- There are over 700 pieces of content to help you.
- There are resources for kids, teens and adults.
- It can help to track your wellbeing.



Download now for free:





## **SPECIAL REPORT: World Mental Health Day**

World Mental Health Day, observed on 10 October each year, is a global initiative that highlights the importance of mental health to overall wellbeing. It serves as a timely reminder that mental health challenges can affect anyone: children, teens, and adults alike.

This day is not only about reducing stigma, but also about strengthening awareness, encouraging open conversations and ensuring young people know where to turn to for support. By acknowledging World Mental Health Day we can help reduce stigma to build more compassionate and supportive environments.

Parents and caregivers play a central role in shaping the mental health of their children. World Mental Health Day is an opportunity to pause and reflect on the pressures young people face in today's world and how we can best support them. Whether it's helping them find balance between school, technology and rest, encouraging open conversations about feelings, or modelling healthy coping strategies ourselves, taking small steps at home can make a big difference. By engaging with resources and discussions on this day, families can strengthen their understanding of mental health and contribute to a culture where seeking help is seen as a sign of strength, not weakness.

For additional resources and further information on World Mental Health Day visit the [Mental Health Foundation](#) website.

**St Josephine Bakhita School TV - [World Mental Health Day](#)**



On Tuesday, students in Year 3-5 created our very own St Josephine Bakhita vegetable garden with the help of Tia from Bunnings. The garden links to what students have been/will be learning within our Religious Education, Science, Design and Technology and Business and Economics units.

A big thank you to Bunnings Clyde North for donating all of the materials and giving our students such a hands-on learning experience.

### ***Student reflections-***

It was really fun building the vegetable garden and planting the plants. I also learnt that when plant's leaves turn brown they have too much water. - Prisha
I liked learning about how different plants grow. - Himmat
It was really fun learning how to garden and what you need. - Ariana
It was fun learning how to grow some of our plants: marigold, basil, tomato, strawberries, carrots and parsley. I also learnt that planting tomato and basil together help each other grow. - Toshika
I really enjoyed the Bunnings incursion and participating in the gardening. - Iris
I enjoyed digging and planting our new plants. - Katy
It was cool to see how to get the plant out of the pots and into the garden beds. - Angelina
I learnt that fertiliser helps provide nutrients to the plants and help them grow. - Shiva
I learnt how many weeks some plants need to grow. - Asma





# Learning Awards

Our learning awards focus on our School Wide Expectations

## Inclusive, Respectful, Reflective, Safe

Foundation PD	Foundation M	Foundation C
Ayra- Reflective Ahmad- Respectful Kelsey- Respectful Aarjan- Reflective	Joseph- Reflective Jasmine- Inclusive Onelly- Safe Aarish- Reflective Rafael- Respectful	Kayden - Respectful Yarra - Respectful Stella - Respectful Kairav - Safe Japnoor - Reflective
Year 1-2 M	Year 3-5 F	Specialist
Eloise - Reflective Samuel- Safe Irene- Respectful Skyler-Inclusive	Neoh - Reflective Maclaine - Inclusive Mannat - Reflective Iris - Respectful Ariana - Reflective	Xander 1/2M- Reflective Asma 3-5F- Reflective

These awards will be given out at our assembly on **Thursday 16 October at 2.45pm.**

All families are warmly invited to attend.





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## Child Safe Standards Working With Children

St Josephine Bakhita has zero tolerance towards child abuse and is therefore committed to complying with the Ministerial Order No. 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards – Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises. All parents/guardians wishing to help in the classroom or attend excursions **MUST** have viewed and completed the **PARENT HELPER INDUCTION VIDEO** and **QUESTIONNAIRE** and hold a current **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CARD**.

Further details are available from the school office or the Justice Department website. All parent/guardian helpers must sign in at the office before proceeding to the classrooms. Your current Working with Children card must be displayed at all times when working in the classrooms and attending excursions.

### Volunteer Induction

Are you ready to volunteer at our school? Before you start, please complete our online volunteer induction. This important step ensures you're familiar with our school's policies, procedures, and expectations.

The online induction can be found on our school website under Child Safety and involves:

<https://www.sjbclidenorth.catholic.edu.au/child-safety/st-josephine-bakhita-volunteer-induction->

- Watching our induction video
- Reading through associated policies
- Completing a short quiz
- Signing our Volunteer Code of Conduct
- Providing the school with your WWCC card which has been linked to the school

By completing the online induction, you'll be ready to make a positive impact on our school community. If you have any questions or need help, don't hesitate to reach out. We look forward to having you on board!





### Term 4 - Week 1 at OSHC

Firstly we would like to welcome all the families to a great term 4.

We had a great start to term 4 with a Lego Challenge which children are very fond of up to now.

Children were also engaged in doing the Spring has Sprung craft showcasing their persistence by working on it for a few days until they completed it. They also showed interest in Rock Emotions where they drew different emotions on rocks. They also did the craft on the senses whilst having conversations about the 5 senses. We also made little sweet treat boxes thereby resourcing our own learning on how to assemble a box.

We also had very productive group times where children shared about their holidays, their Lego creations and also presented a Bush Dance as a group.

This week for DS Superstars Friday we are having an Arts and Crafts Day where the children will be provided with different art and craft resources to do their choice of arts and crafts showcasing their creativity.

If you have any queries about enrolment or bookings please drop in to DS Sports OSHC and we are happy to assist you.

Have a great week!

Sajani, Shea and Lorraine - DS Sports OSHC



Dear St Josephines Bakhita Parents & Carers,

We have concerns raised to council about parents driving unsafely around your school precinct. To keep all students and pedestrians safe, please follow these recommendations around your school precinct.

Please note Wild Goose Way and surrounding streets are **40km** speed zone (new signs being installed) along Wild Goose Way and around the school precinct.

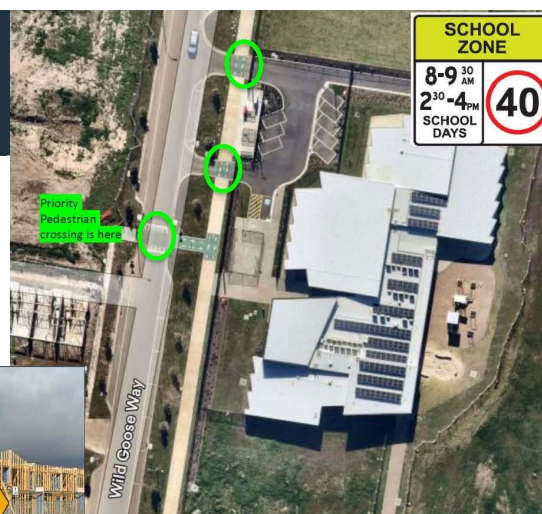
Please do not perform U-turns or pull into driveways near the school frontage on Wildgoose Way – this is dangerous for all pedestrians and drivers. We recommend driving further along the road and utilising the roundabouts or side streets away from the school to turn around safely.

Please do not use the staff carpark as a drop off pick up zone or park in this area – this is strictly for staff only.

Please note the pedestrian crossing outside the school is a **PRIORITY PEDESTRIAN** crossing, meaning that drivers must give way to pedestrians and let them cross the road.

Please be aware of pedestrians at all times.

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For more information visit:

[www.casey.vic.gov.au/safe-around-schools](http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/safe-around-schools)

[Drivers sharing the road with pedestrians - Transport Victoria](#)