



## NEWSLETTER No. 1

Friday, 31st January, 2025



### DIARY DATES

#### TERM 1

#### FEBRUARY

Wednesday 5th	Prep Rest Day
Wednesday 12th	Prep Rest Day
	Yr 3-6 Swimming
Thursday 13th	Yrs 3-6 Swimming
Friday 14th	Yrs 3-6 Swimming
Saturday 15th	Heyfield Timber Festival
Sunday 16th	Heyfield Timber Festival Parade
Tuesday 18th	Yrs 3-6 Swimming
Wednesday 19th	Prep Rest Day
	Swimming Carnival Yrs 1-6
Thursday 20th	Yrs 3-6 Swimming
Friday 21st	Yrs 3-6 Swimming (last session)
Monday 24th	HDSSA Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 26th	Prep Rest Day

#### MARCH

Tuesday 4th	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)
Wednesday 5th	Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass
Friday 7th	Student Free Day
Monday 10th	Labour Day Public Holiday
Sunday 30th	Duck Cup

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! I hope you all had a wonderful and restful break and are ready for an exciting year ahead. To our new families joining our St. Michael's community, a very warm welcome to you. We are thrilled to have you as part of our school and look forward to an enriching and engaging year together. At St. Michael's, we believe that strong partnerships between home and school are essential for a child's success. When families and educators work together, students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. We encourage open communication and collaboration to support your child's learning journey.

### TERM DATES 2025



<b>TERM 1</b>	- 29 January—4 April
<b>TERM 2</b>	- 22 April—4 July
<b>TERM 3</b>	- 21 July—19 September
<b>TERM 4</b>	- 6 October—19 December

#### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	—Monday 10 March
Good Friday	—Friday 18 April
Easter Monday	—Monday 21 April
ANZAC Day	—Friday 25 April

#### STUDENT FREE DAY

Friday 7 March

Over the first few days of school, our dedicated teachers have been focused on building positive relationships and strong connections with their students. Creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment is a top priority, ensuring that all students feel valued and supported as they settle into their new classrooms. We look forward to catching up with all families very soon. We are in the process of confirming the dates for, 'Meet and Greet' Parent Teacher Interviews along with our Annual Welcome Back family dinner and Boot ball competition.

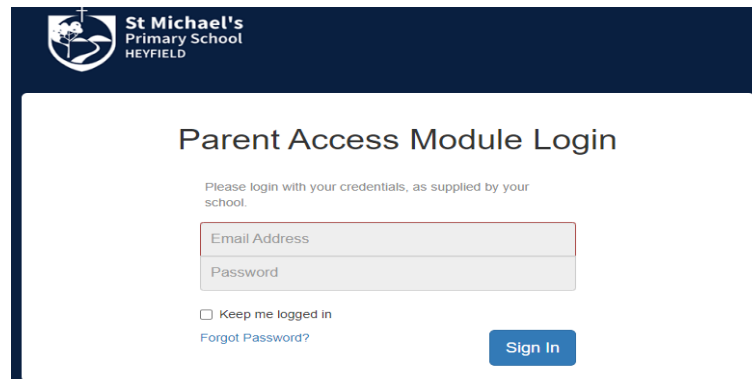
### SCHOOL CAPTAINS' MESSAGE

We look forward to leading St. Michael's in 2025 and helping everyone throughout the year. Please come and see us if you need anything. We are also looking forward to developing our leadership skills this year. Millie, Oliver, Emmy and Wally.



St Michael's Primary School acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gunaikurnai people, traditional custodians of the land on which the school is built. As a school community, we commit to walk alongside our First Nations people for reconciliation, truth and justice.





At St. Michael's we continue to use PAM. PAM works in conjunction with our administration system. As you are aware, PAM allows parents to access a range of features. In 2024, the main features that you had access to with PAM were:

-Parent Notified Absences: This section will allow you to submit a Parent Notified Absence for your child (ren).

-Parent Teacher Interviews: This section will allow you to make Parent Teacher Interview bookings when an interview run is opened by the school. -Student personal details- can be updated by you.

-Student medical details and profile- can be updated by you.

-Provide consent and permission for your child(ren) participation in excursions and camps- the medical details and profile will be attached with this, so you shouldn't need to fill out the same details for each permission note.

-Student Assessment Reports.

In 2025, these features will continue. As a school we will also begin to use some other features. These include:

-Daily Messages: This can show school messages to families. These messages may also be sent as an email.

-Calendar: The Calendar can show school wide events and school activities.

-Sick Bay/ First Aid notification: This can notify families of any required information regarding First Aid.

There is an App available called, SIMON Everywhere, that can be downloaded free from the App Store or Google Play. The App includes the same features that you will find on a laptop or iPad when you log into PAM. There is no need to download the App if you are happy to use PAM via an internet browser. Once the App is downloaded you just need to search for St. Michael's Heyfield.



## Mental Health in Primary Schools Program (MHIPS)

Suzi Herbert is continuing in the role of Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL) in 2025. MHWLs are classroom teachers who work across the school to implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. She is also the Learning Adjustment Leader at St Michael's.

Suzi's role as the MHWL is to build the capability of the whole school about mental health and wellbeing, provide support to staff to better identify and support students with mental health needs, establish clear pathways for referral for students requiring assessment and intervention, and monitor and evaluate student progress.

As part of this role, Suzi will also be running sessions with some students to support their social and emotional wellbeing. These sessions supplement the weekly classroom wellbeing program used in every classroom. They will be conducted as a small group or individually, according to the level of support that is required. Focus areas may include separation and anxiety, social skills and awareness, self-regulation and personal management, and emotional learning support. The focus will be dependent on the needs of your child.

This semester, we are fortunate to have Tegan McKay visiting us once every fortnight. Tegan is a practising Psychologist and founder of the Mindful Hub, based in Sale. She will be providing our staff with professional learning in the area of Mental Health and helping teachers to identify students' emotional and behavioural needs through classroom observations. She will also be conducting classroom sessions on relevant topics for our students, such as cyber safety, managing friendships and positive communication. In consultation with staff, Tegan may work with some individual students and small groups, to provide support in areas such as managing anxiety, emotional regulation and social skills. These one to one and small group sessions will require parental consent.

## CLASS DOJO

All grades will be using Class Dojo again this year to enhance communication between home and school. We have also have school story on Dojo which will communicate whole school messages to families. We strongly recommend that you sign up when you receive the information—it is a simple and easy way to keep in contact with your child's teacher.

**Please be aware that during the school day, classroom teachers do not have time to check and/or respond to Dojo messages as they are too busy teaching. Please ring the office if you have a message to pass on.**

## FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

We welcome our new Preps who have made a great start to the year. We have been amazed at how organised and confident they are even though it's only been a short time. They've also impressed us with their independence, in the classroom and outside in the playground.

We welcome Jordan, Olivia, Jett, Remi, Sonny, Javier, Ashlee, Annie, Paisley and William, and we pray for God's blessing as they begin school life.

## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday during the holidays and this week.

Ruby	4th January
Aiden	9th January
Ged	20th January
Kobe	24th January
Remi	25th January
Heath	26th January
Harper	28th January
Mitchell	29th January
Eli	30th January
Tommy	30th January



## PARKING ZONE REMINDER

At drop off and pick up times, please make sure not to park in the area between the sign posts at the Davis Street entrance to the School. **This area is reserved for School buses only** and if a car is parked there it makes it difficult for the bus to deliver and pick up the students in a safe manner.

If you park on Davis Street to collect your children, it is also important to park on the school side of the road.

Davis Street is far too busy at pick up time and children should not be crossing the road on their own. Children are to remain inside the school grounds until they are collected by a parent/carer.



## SCHOOL LUNCH ORDER REMINDER

If your child gets a lunch order on a Friday do not include:

- ◆ Fizzy Drinks
- ◆ Lollies
- ◆ Chewing Gum

## FINANCIAL CONCESSIONS

Financial concessions are available to eligible families. It is important to note, when concessions are provided, there is no impact on the overall school funding situation.

These concessions may include the Camps Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) of \$150 per child. Concessions are available through the following two categories.

### Category 1: Eligible, means-tested Centrelink Concession Card holders:

A family in which the fee payer holds an eligible, means-tested Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) is automatically eligible for a school concession. There is a simplified application form and streamlined approval process.



fee

### Category 2: Special Consideration:

A family experiencing genuine financial difficulty and not eligible under Category 1, is encouraged to apply for a fee concession. This application requires detailed information in order that an equitable assessment may be made of eligibility for and level of a fee concession.

**Application forms are available from the school office and only need to be completed if this is a new application. Current concession holders do not need to reapply.**



Truth

## School Fees Schedule 2025

Fees - Per Family	
Family Fee	\$1,362

Levies - Per Student							
	Prep	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Curriculum*	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Book Levy**	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>
Excursion***	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>
Big Day Out	<u>\$ 50</u>	<u>\$ 50</u>	<u>\$ 50</u>				
Camp				\$150	\$150	\$360	\$360
<b>Total Year Level Levy</b>	<b>\$420</b>	<b>\$420</b>	<b>\$420</b>	<b>\$520</b>	<b>\$520</b>	<b>\$730</b>	<b>\$730</b>

\*Includes Compulsory Stationery Purchases

\*\*Book List Items Purchased by School

\*\*\*Includes Excursions, Incursions, Swimming, Gymnastics and Sport

*If families experience difficulty paying fees or other school expenses, please contact the office at your earliest convenience. Payment plans can be arranged to suit individual circumstances. Plans are also available for eligible Health Care card and Pensioner Concession card holders.*

## Student Free Days 2025

28/01/2025

07/03/2025

06/06/2025

04/07/2025

06/10/2025

03/11/2025

28/11/2025

16/12/2025- Students Final Day of 2025