

"Pursuing fullness of life for all by inspiring faith, lifelong learning and community engagement"

# St Malachy's School



## Term 4 Calendar

### November

Thursday, 28th: Years F-2

Excursion/Sleepover

Friday, 29th: St. Malachy's Got Talent @ 2.30 p.m.

### December

Sunday, 1st: Community Carols Night @ St. Malachy's Church, 7 p.m.

Monday, 9th: Swimming program begins

Tuesday, 10th: Orientation Day Years F-6

Tuesday, 10th: Mum's cuppa @ 8.30 a.m.

Wednesday, 11th: Graduation Mass & Gathering @ 5 p.m.

Friday, 13th: Reports go home

Wednesday, 18th: School finishes

### January 2025

Wednesday, 29th: School resumes


## Principal's Message


Dear Parents,


As the end of the school year and the "silly season" approaches, we are keeping our focus on maintaining routines and learning structures over the next few weeks. Students are completing the final assessment tasks as teachers begin preparing the end of year reports.

With the weeks flying by, we kindly remind you to save the date for our **Community Christmas Carols Night at St. Malachy's Church on this Sunday, 1st December at 7 p.m.** The students have been practising for some time and are excited to share their performances with you. Students, please wear your school uniform.

Additionally, please keep our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass in your calendar:

 Wednesday, 11th December

 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the church

 Followed by a light supper, catered by Kings Katering.

We look forward to celebrating these special events with you and wrapping up another wonderful year together!

Warm regards,

-John

God of the heavens and the earth, You call us to share in the care of your creation and to bring food and fruitfulness from paddocks and farm. Hear our prayer for all who make their living on the land and make us grateful for the work of their hands and for the generosity of your provision.

Amen



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Principal: John O'Sullivan

"Preach the Gospel at all times and if necessary, use words." This quote is popularly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
President: Chris White

We acknowledge the traditional owner groups of this land. We learn, work, live and recognise their connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging, believing we can walk together for a better future.

## Mini Vinnies

On Friday, we are having a zooper dooper stall at school for \$2. The money will go towards backpacks for the homeless. Thank you.  
- Matthew

## Parental Leave 2025 announcement

At the end of Term 1, 2025, both Gabi Chadwick and Rosina Thomson will be taking Parental Leave to prepare for the arrival of their new babies.

We are thrilled for them and wish them both the very best of health during this exciting time for their families.

In the coming weeks, we hope to confirm staffing arrangements for their classes once applications close and interviews are conducted. After interviews, I hope to be in a better position to announce the classroom match up with teachers.

We are actively and widely advertising for their replacement positions through both newspapers and social media.



### St. Malachy's School Edenhope

St. Malachy's School is seeking to appoint suitably qualified teachers to the following position/s commencing at the start of the 2025 school year.

#### **Classroom teacher/s**

#### **Full time/negotiated part time**

Experienced and graduate teachers are encouraged to apply.

For further information, please visit

<https://teacherson.net>

or contact Principal, Mr. John O'Sullivan on 5585 1396 or email

[josullivan@smedenhope.catholic.edu.au](mailto:josullivan@smedenhope.catholic.edu.au)

Applications close 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2024.

#### CHURCH MASS TIMES

1st Sunday: 9 a.m.

2nd Sunday: 9 a.m.

3rd Sunday: 11.15 a.m.

4th Sunday: Lay led @ 10 a.m.

## Water, sand & Tonka trucks!



Have you made yourself a cuppa and checked out SchoolTV? It covers a wide range of topics and let us know what you think of it.

## Mum's Cuppa

Tuesday, 10th December

@ 8.30 a.m.

(Statewide Transition Day)



# Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader role

The Australian Government is funding a new role in schools from 2025. This new Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader role will support students, staff and parents at school.

Congratulations to Carine Bezuidenhout, our School Counsellor, who has accepted this position. Carine will continue in her counselling role for 3 hours a week which is separate from the new M.H.W.L. role. The new M.H.W.L. role has a teaching component, so each class will have Carine teaching a 1 hour Social and Emotional lesson as part of the Health Curriculum.

- The role of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader is to:
- Build capability of the whole school with regard to mental health and wellbeing (identification, promotion and prevention),
  - 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.

The role provides a pro-active focus for the promotion and prevention of mental health and wellbeing through assessment and implementation of context-relevant programs, approaches and initiatives based on a broad and extensive knowledge of the needs of the school.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader role is not a clinical role and is not designed for direct intervention. The role is seen as a key conduit in creating referral pathways once a teacher or other staff member identifies a concern in the classroom.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders are provided mandatory training in mental health literacy, supporting emerging needs, and building school capacity and receive ongoing support and professional development through structured and regular attendance at Learning Communities. Training is developed and facilitated by the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at University of Melbourne, supported by Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

There's more information on the role overleaf.

## St. Malachy's Got Talent

It's that time of the year where our St. Malachy's students get to show off all their talents, skills, abilities, etc. It kicks off at 2.30 p.m. on Friday afternoon and families are welcome to join us if they wish.

## The First Week of Advent – December 1

Advent Sunday is what many Christians call the first day of Advent. The theme of the first week of Advent is hope. This theme emphasises the hope Christians have in the coming of Christ, reminiscent of the anticipation of the Messiah in the Old Testament.



# Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Leader role

### Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) program

The Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System highlighted that primary schools provide opportunities to identify children with mental health and wellbeing challenges, who can then be referred to treatment, care and support.

The Mental Health in Primary Schools program is being expanded to every government and low-fee non-government primary school in Victoria, including Catholic schools. Scaling up across the state from 2023, by 2026 every primary school will be able to employ a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader to implement a whole-school approach to wellbeing.

The Department of Education and Training has been piloting the Mental Health in Primary Schools program in Victorian schools since 2020 in partnership with the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne. Evaluation of this pilot program has shown that 95 per cent of Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders consider the Mental Health in Primary Schools model has improved their school's capacity to support students' mental health and wellbeing needs.

Participating schools receive funding to employ a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL), a qualified teacher registered or eligible for registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT), to work across the school to implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing for students, staff and families based on a broad knowledge of the needs of the school community.

### Key responsibilities

Operating in collaboration with their school, leadership and wellbeing team where relevant, the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader will:

- Promote a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing to students, staff and families
- Attend mandatory training and participate in ongoing learning communities led by the University of Melbourne
- Support teachers and school staff to expand their capacity to embed evidence-based mental health strategies, interventions and programs and build mental health literacy to identify and support primary school students with mental health concerns
- Collaborate with school staff to inform, influence and provide input into teaching and learning relating to mental health and wellbeing. Provide support to schools staff and classroom teachers to build their capabilities to embed mental health into the classroom
- Work with school leadership and wellbeing teams to embed whole school approaches to mental health into school planning and strategic processes. Coordinate clear referral pathways internally (within school) and externally (to community services) for students identified as requiring further assessment and intervention
- Proactively work with and support regional staff, school wellbeing and leadership teams, teachers, parents/carers and other external agencies to coordinate targeted mental health support for primary school students.
- Contribute to the school's existing wellbeing team.
- Knowledge of mental health and wellbeing roles, initiatives, and funding in the Catholic sector.

### Library reminder

It's time to return Library books to our school in preparation for 2025.

Students with outstanding books will receive a list of books to search for.