



Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Primary School

Principal: Shane Byrne

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Reflection



The spirit of giving during Advent:

The staff and students have begun to think about ways to give to others during the season of Advent from their learning about kindness towards others in the Junior grades to spreading the message of hope in the Senior grades.

As a school, we have also been focusing on how to give to people who need it most this Christmas, and the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal is one way that we, as a community, can support others. This year we have chosen to support the St. Vincent de Paul society.

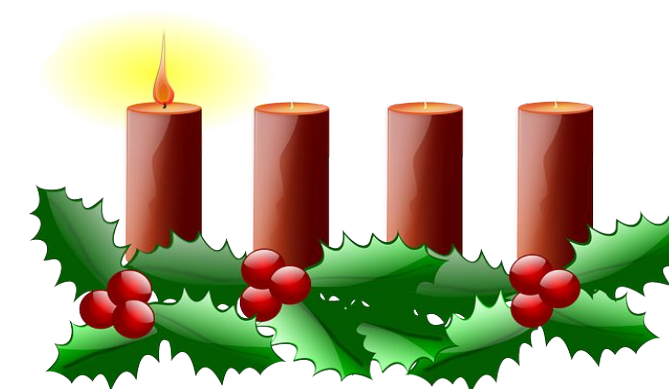
Thank you to those who have already donated items. These items can be brought to school up until **Friday 6th December**.

Let us pray:

Teach me, Lord Jesus, to be generous: to serve You as You deserve; to give, not counting the cost; to fight, not heeding the wounds; to toil, not asking for rest; to labor, not seeking any reward, save that of knowing that we do Your will. Amen.



First Week of Advent - Sunday 1st December



The first candle of the Advent wreath is known as the 'Prophet candle'. It reminds us of the prophets, those special people who spoke God's word to the people and promised that a saviour would come.

Mass Readings for the 1st Sunday of Advent Year C

- **First Reading** Jeremiah 33:14-16 The day is coming when the Lord will fulfil his promises.
- **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1 (R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
- **Second Reading** 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2 Conduct yourself in a way pleasing to God.
- **Gospel Acclamation** Psalm 84:8 Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!
- **Gospel** Luke 21:25-28. 34-36 Be ready for the second coming.

Let us pray: Father, we thank you for sending us the gift of your son, Jesus. Help us during these weeks of Advent to get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth. May we spread the good news of Jesus coming to all those we know. Amen.

Principal: Shane Byrne
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Principal's Message

FETE

This Saturday's fete is the culmination of the work that the Parents Association and the Fete Committee have been involved in over the past 18 months. The level of planning that has gone into the fete has been extensive and thorough. We are looking forward to this important event taking place and demonstrating how a school community works together for a common goal. With the funds being used to replace the Senior Yard adventure playground. Thank you to all those people who have signed up to volunteer on the day and have been involved in the planning and preparation. We encourage all families to attend on Saturday and to bring along family and friends to add to the success of the day.

PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22

With the fete on Saturday setup will begin tomorrow, Friday, in the Senior Yard from 8:30am onwards. This will mean parents will not be able to pick up children from the Senior Yard with all children exiting through Rosebank Ave and Woodland St. This is to ensure the safety of everyone.

STAFFING

As is the case at this time of the school year, there will be a number of changes in the 2025 staffing. After 47 years in Catholic Education and 11 years at our school Marie Ellul has decided to retire from teaching. Marie has been in a variety of roles both at our school and over her career. She has been a Deputy Principal, literacy leader and classroom teacher just to name a few. Her contribution to our school and the positive impact Marie has had on the children she has worked with is something the school will be eternally grateful for. Her gentle and professional manner are just a couple of characteristics which reflect Marie's approach to her teaching. We wish Marie all the best as she spends time with her many grandchildren.

We also have 2 of the schools Learning Support Officers who are retiring. Nola Graham who has been at the school for 18 years and Jeanette Pearson who has been at the school for 11 years have both decided to retire. Nola and Jeanette have worked with many children over their time, supporting them to reach their full potential. Their roles have also been wide and varied with Jeanette also managing the school library and all that it entails. Both Nola's and Jeanette's commitment to the school and their passion for helping the children's learning is their legacy for the school. We wish both Nola and Jeanette all the best for their well earned retirement.

We also have Emma Butcher and Laura Buggy who will be leaving at the end of the school year to have their second child. We wish both of them well as they add to their respective families.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

A reminder that the school will be closed on **Thursday December 5** with staff planning for 2025.

BEGINNING OF 2025 SCHOOL YEAR & TESTING

This year the children in **Years 1 & 2** will be again required to book in for numeracy testing on either Wednesday January 29 or Thursday January 30.

Attached to today's newsletter is the booking details for Years 1 & 2 only.

The numeracy & literacy testing for children in **Years 3-6** will be different than in previous years.

- All children whose surname begins with A-K will be required to attend school from 9:00am - 11:30am on Wednesday January 29.
- All children whose surname begins with L-Z will be required to attend school from 9:00am - 11:30am on Thursday January 30.

There is no need to book the children in for these sessions. They are expected to attend on the days indicated.

The change is due to a number of different tests being introduced which will provide more relevant data on the children's strengths and challenges.

We thank you in advance for your support of this change as the school makes these changes to achieve even better outcomes for the children.

PREP INFORMATION EVENING & ORIENTATION

This week we welcomed the 2025 Prep children who had the first of their 3 days of orientation. It was great to see the energy and enthusiasm they brought with them. Next Thursday they will return for their second orientation session and again on December 4 where they will get to meet their Prep teacher for 2025. We look forward to all these experiences providing a smooth transition into the school.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association AGM will take place on **Thursday, December 9 at 7.00pm** in the school staffroom.

SEMESTER 2 SCHOOL REPORTS: nForma APP

This semester you will receive your child's semester report via the new nForma Parent App. This is the first time that we will be using the nForma Parent App, therefore, it is necessary for each family to follow the instructions to have access to your child's Semester 2 school report. Please see the Audiri app notification sent out on the 11th November for further information.

We ask you to please download the nForma Parent App as soon as possible, so that you can contact us if there are any issues prior to Semester 2 reports becoming available on **Wednesday 11th December**. An Audiri app notification will be sent to the school community once the reports are available for you to access using the nForma Parent App.

Shane Byrne
PRINCIPAL

“St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience.”

Learning Diversity & Student Wellbeing

As we approach the end of the year, we begin to think about 2025 and what this looks like for our incoming preps and our future Year 6 leaders. This week, we began the Buddy Program by taking our Year 5 students on their first kinder visit. We are visiting three different kinders across the next couple of weeks with our first visit being St Aidans on Wednesday.

The Year 5s prepared for their visit by selecting some toys, games and books from home to share with the future preppies. We took them along to St Aidans where we paired them up with a kinder child and they spent the time getting to know each other, developing relationships and sharing stories about school life. Our Year 5 students stepped up, demonstrating their maturity, compassion and patience as they navigated these new connections. We were extremely proud of their ability to make the little children feel at ease.

On return to school, the Year 5s are writing letters to their buddies to present at the last orientation session. Something which the new preps treasure for many years to come. We are greatly looking forward to seeing these relationships blossom over the coming year.



Rebecca Glenton
Learning Diversity and Student Wellbeing Leader

Sports News

Whole School Athletics Carnival

Talk about the race that stops the nation! Last Thursday, St. Vincent's hosted its annual Athletics Carnival, and it truly was the race that stopped the school. The sun shone brightly on a fantastic day filled with athletic achievements from Prep to Year 6. Even the teachers joined in the fun, competing in the captains' relays. Some teachers might have overexerted themselves, with one exclaiming, "I think I've done a quad!"

The morning saw Year 3 to 6 students participating in various track and field events, including sprints, hurdles, long jump, and discus. The competition was fierce, with all house teams showing great spirit. Meanwhile, the Prep to Year 2 students engaged in novelty relay races in the center of the field, working together in their house teams to complete eight different relays.

After lunch, the senior and junior groups swapped events. The junior students competed in mini races, rubber chicken throwing, long jump, and other fun activities, while the seniors completed in the novelty events. The day concluded with mixed-age group relays and the highly competitive captains and staff relay. The cheering from the sidelines was similar to that of the Melbourne Cup, making it truly the race that stopped the school! The final event was the St. Vincent De Paul teachers' dress-up stakes. We're still waiting for the photo finish to determine the winner!

In a close finish, Donovan (Red) House emerged victorious, while Parker (Blue) House took home the Team Spirit Award. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day for everyone involved.

Congratulations to all the students for their participation and a big thank you to the staff and parent helpers for their support.



Will Kingston
Sports / PE Co-ordinator

The Ministry of Altar Servers

Our Parish is seeking to revive the Ministry of Altar Servers at our Sunday Masses. Students who have received First Holy Communion may train to become an altar server.

If your child is interested, please collect an information and consent form (available from the Parish Office or the priests after Mass) and return it as soon as possible.

Details of training will be advised in due course. If you have any questions, please see Fr Tony.

2024 School Fees

A reminder that all school fees were due on **Friday 23rd August**. For details please refer to the statement that was emailed on 12th February 2024. If you have any concerns about your financial situation and are experiencing hardship, please contact Mr Shane Byrne (principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au), so that a confidential financial arrangement can be discussed.

Years 1 & 2 Maths Assessment Student Interviews



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Maths Assessment Student Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 29th January and Thursday 30th January, 2025** between 9:00am until 3:20pm for **Year 1 and Year 2 students only**.

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**. Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS WILL OPEN on Friday 13th December, 2024 at 9:00am
BOOKINGS CLOSE Thursday 24th of January, 2025 at 1pm.

Booking code:

taf5s

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter the school event code.

Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Reminder: Please be on time for your appointment as interviews are strictly 20 mins only. Please take your child to their classroom for their interview.

2025 Term Dates

TERM 1

Wednesday 29th January (Prep)
Friday 31st January (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Friday 4th April
(Note: Easter 18th - 21st April)

TERM 2

Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 4th July

TERM 3

Monday 21st July – Friday 19th September

TERM 4

Monday 6th October – Tuesday 16th December

2024 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal



2024 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal



This year at St. Vincent de Paul Primary School we will be collecting donations for the St. Vincent de Paul Society, who support children who may not receive presents during Christmas. To support the St. Vincent de Paul society it would be fantastic if you could bring **ONE donation per family** from the list below:

- Toys for children
- Children's books
- Puzzles
- Dress up costumes
- Children's colouring books & pencils and crayons
- Art supplies: canvas, paint, brushes, sketch pads
- Board games
- Items for older children (teenagers) - deodorant packs, beach towels, perfume spray packs, Christmas stockings, body lotions, caps or hats



We would very much appreciate it if these items were **new**. Please **do not wrap the items** as per the request of the charity. Please bring your toy donation to school with your child.

Donations will need to be brought to school between Monday 11th November and Monday 2nd December.

Thank you, Year 6 Mini Vinnies and Mrs. Petrie.

2025 Sacramental Dates

Year 3 Reconciliation

- Parent Information Evening:
 - 7:00pm Thursday 20th February
- Year 3 Family Mass:
 - 6:00pm Saturday 22nd February
- Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 - 3:45pm - 5:00pm Tuesday 4th March
 - 3:45pm - 5:00pm Thursday 6th March



Year 6 Confirmation

- Parent Information Evening:
 - 7:00pm Thursday 15th May
- Year 6 and Prep Family Mass:
 - 6:00pm Saturday 17th May
- Sacrament of Confirmation Masses:
 - 10:00am and 12:00noon Saturday 28th June

Year 4 First Holy Communion

- Parent Information Evening:
 - 7:00pm Thursday 21st August
- Year 4 and Year 1 Family Mass:
 - 6:00pm Saturday 23rd August
- Sacrament of First Holy Communion Masses:
 - 6:00pm Saturday 11th October
 - 9:30am Sunday 12th October
 - 6:00pm Saturday 18th October
 - 9:30am Sunday 19th October

Year 6 Student Market Day



2025 School Closure Days

- ❖ Monday 3rd March
- ❖ Tuesday 1st April (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Wednesday 21st May
- ❖ Thursday 31st July
- ❖ Wednesday 17th September (Learning Conferences)
- ❖ Monday 3rd November
- ❖ Thursday 4th December

Library Books and Take Home Readers

Please ensure that all school library books and take home readers are returned before the last day of school.



Thankyou

Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on **FRIDAY 29th November 2:25 pm** in the hall. Please note that not all classes are presenting awards on this day.

PREP BLUE	Isla Garra Hudson Melideo	THREE GREEN	Andreas Liapis Sienna Godino
PREP GOLD	Nandi Donga Benjamin Situ	FOUR BLUE	Levi Vitali Eva Haydon-Callegari
PREP GREEN	Aiste Skimbirauskas Noah Zada	FOUR GOLD	Emma Bristow Jayden Liu
ONE BLUE	Olive Russell Daniel Muccillo	FOUR GREEN	Adele Conte James Laverde
ONE GOLD	Alexis Ahern Olivia Giansiracusa Piper Nolan	FIVE BLUE	Declan McIldowney Oliver Torres
THREE BLUE	Eamonn Williams Adriana Randello	SIX GOLD	Hamish Evans
THREE GOLD	Francesca Ambrosino Eva Hamdorf		



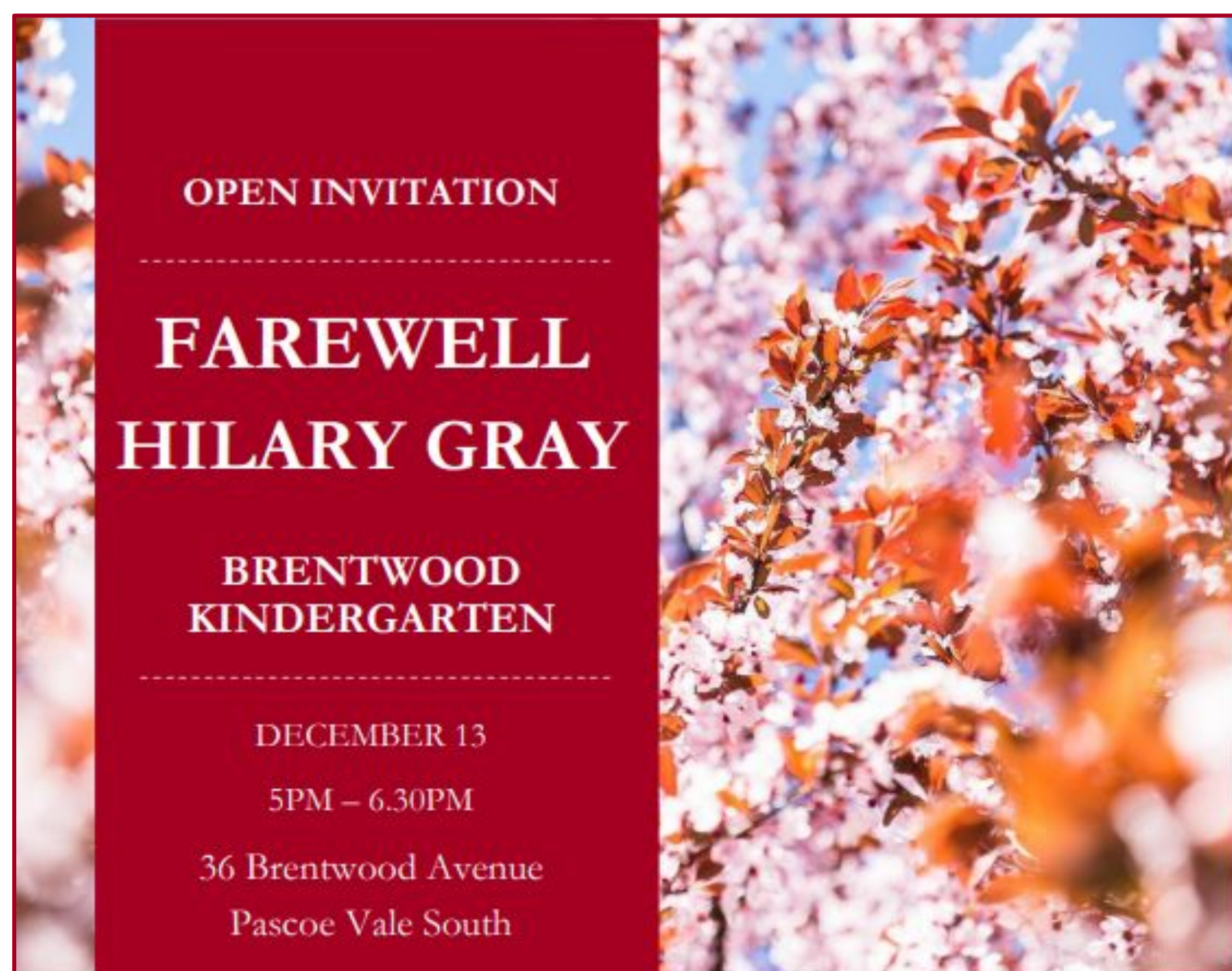
Brunswick Lacrosse



**u10, u12, u14, u16
Boys & Girls
Launching April '25
Recruiting now**

**Come and Try Lacrosse
Thursday Dec 5, 12, 19
Fleming Park 5:30pm
Free, everything provided**

Brentwood Kindergarten - Farewell to Hilary Gray



PAST & PRESENT staff, children and families are invited to come and celebrate the end of an era at Brentwood, as Hilary ends 25 years of teaching at the kindergarten.

Hilary has dedicated herself to delivering high quality education to Brentwood children for 25 years and has been one of the reasons for Brentwood's success.

In Hilary's words 'Brentwood has been and will continue to be a very special and valued part of my life, especially as I also attended kindergarten as a child.'

Please
RSVP



<https://forms.gle/JBKS4xqsyyx87hvY6>

Important Dates

NOVEMBER 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1 Zoooper Dooper Day Year 1 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	2	3
4 School Closure Day	5 Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday	6 Music Soiree	7 SVDP Athletics Day	8 Expressions of Interest for School Advisory Council CLOSE	9	10
11 Remembrance Day	12	13 Year 2 Green Mass 10am	14 Prep 2025 Parent Information Night 7pm	15 Year 3 Assembly 2:25pm (Hall)	16 Year 2 & Year 5 Family Mass 6pm	17
18	19 Prep 2025 Orientation - Session 1	20 Prep Mass 10am	21 School Advisory Council Meeting	22	23 School Fete	24
25	26	27 Yr 1 Gold Mass 10am	28 Prep 2025 Orientation - Session 2	29	30	

DECEMBER 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3	4 Year 1 Blue Mass 10am Prep 2025 Orientation - Session 3	5 School Closure Day	6 Zoooper Dooper Day	7	8
9 Parents Association AGM	10 Prep Nativity Play	11 2025 Transition Day	12 Year 6 Graduation Ceremony & Dinner	13 Zoooper Dooper Day	14	15
16	17 *End of School Year Mass - 10am *Year 6 Assembly 12:00 noon (Hall) *Last Day of Term 4 - 1:30pm Finish	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
30	31 New Years Eve					

JANUARY 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Australia Day
27	28	29 Preps only begin school Yr1-Yr6 - Testing Day	30 Preps only at school Yr1-Yr6 - Testing Day	31 Yr 1-Yr 6 begin school All students at school		

TheirCare News



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

We are thrilled to announce that bookings are now OPEN for our own January Holiday Program at our school, and this theme is 'Level Up'. Our epic adventure kicks off on January 6th at St Vincent De Paul Primary and we are inviting all 2025 Prep students to join the fun! This is a perfect chance for your children to make new friends, explore exciting activities and smoothly transition into Term 1 2025 but most importantly HAVE A BLAST!

Get ready for a jam-packed program featuring amazing excursions that will make these holidays unforgettable, including:

- MOVIES - Catch the action with Moana 2 and Sonic the Hedgehog 3
- SUPER DUPER SUPER PARK - Let the fun and adventure begin
- BOUNCE - Jump, flip and soar new heights
- AUSTRALIAN SPORTS MUSEUM (MCG) - Get behind-the-scenes look at Aussie sport history

There will also be exciting INCURSIONS and IN HOUSE fun days.

This holiday program you won't want to miss!

Secure your spot now and get ready to LEVEL UP January 2025!

PUPIL FREE DAYS

We're thrilled to announce that bookings are now open for our PUPIL FREE DAYS this December.

Dates to remember:

- Thursday December 5th (bookings close Friday 29th November)
- Wednesday December 18th
- Thursday December 19th

What's included:

Breakfast and afternoon tea snack

What to bring:

Please pack your child with a healthy morning snack, lunch and water bottle. Our service is a NUT-FREE ZONE, so we kindly ask that you avoid sending anything with nuts (like Nutella, Peanut Butter or snack bars that contain nuts)

Thanks so much for your understanding and support.

Warm regards, Lisa