

Term 2, Week 2, 2026

## Principal's News

Dear Families,

Our student leaders represented Cana at the Melton Dawn Service on ANZAC Day. Their sense of reverence and respect was awe-inspiring as they laid a wreath at the Cenotaph. Thank you to Milana, Scarlet, Xavier and Frankie and their families for supporting their attendance.



**Parent teacher interviews:** Term 2 Parent Teacher Interviews/Learning Progress updates will take place on next Thursday May 7th between 9am-7.30pm. **There will be no school for students on this day, however students can attend the interview and be part of the conversation if you feel it would be beneficial.**

The weather is still up and down with some quite warm days mixed with cooler weather- keep using common sense and dress for the weather for the next few weeks until winter well and truly sets in. I will be in communication if this changes.

## Important Dates

**Student Free days for the year:**

**Thursday May 7th 2026**– Parent Teacher Interviews/Learning Progress Updates

**Wednesday October 21st**- Parent Teacher Interviews/Learning Progress Updates

**Monday November 2nd**- Staff Time in Lieu

**Friday November 27th**- Planning and Preparation for 2027

**Wednesday December 16th**- Staff Time in Lieu

**Thursday December 17th-** Staff Time in Lieu

**Term Dates:**

**Term 1:** Monday February 2nd- Thursday April 2nd 2026- Students finish at 1pm

**Term 2:** Monday April 20th- Friday June 26th- Students finish at 1pm

**Term 3:** Monday July 13th- Friday September 18th- Students finish at 1pm

**Term 4:** Monday October 5th- Tuesday December 15th-Students finish at 1pm

**Term 2 dates:**

**Tuesday April 21st-** Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation Family Night

**Monday April 27th-** School Closure Day- Staff Faith Formation- no school for students

**Wednesday April 29th-** Family Workshop Cyber Safety at 7pm

**Sunday May 3rd-** Sacrament of Confirmation for Year 6

**Thursday May 7th 2026–** Parent Teacher Interviews/Learning Progress Updates

**Friday May 8th-** Mother's Day Stall

**Monday May 11th-** Mother's Day Open Classroom Morning

**Tuesday June 16th-** Hot Chocolate and Pyjama Day fundraiser

**Tuesday June 23rd-** Italian Day

**Child Safety News**

**Child Safe Standard 3- *Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.***

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission-driven and legal responsibility to uphold and actively promote the wellbeing and safety of every student entrusted in our care. Our commitment to the protection of students is enabled in nurturing, respectful and safe communities where the uniqueness and sacred dignity of every young person are celebrated, and they can flourish in their learning and development.

What does this look like in a school environment, particularly here at Cana?

- **Creating Opportunities for Student Voice:** We create formal structures such as student councils and leadership programs, but we also include fewer formal opportunities so all students, especially the most vulnerable, can have their voice heard.
- **Acting on Student Feedback:** We listen deeply to what students are telling us and we respond to concerns, suggestions and ideas. This includes making sure students are aware when we have acted on their feedback.
- **Building Staff Capacity:** Our staff receive professional learning, so they understand the importance and benefits of listening to and responding to student voice. This also includes training for staff regarding how to incorporate student voice, agency and empowerment in their daily interactions and decision making.

## Curriculum News

### English

#### Regular Home Reading

A reminder to keep up your regular reading practice at home. Reading regularly fosters an appreciation for literature and helps to consolidate the skills learnt at school.

Thank you for your continued support.



#### Melton Council Short Story Competition

The Melton City Libraries Short Story Competition returns for 2026, inviting writers and storytellers of all kinds to take part in its 21st year. Open to anyone aged 5+ who lives, works, or studies in the City of Melton, entries can be submitted in a range of creative formats—from written stories to video, voice, or mixed media. Submissions open on 4 May 2026 and close at 11:59pm on 10 July 2026, with prizes awarded across Junior, Teen, and Adult categories.

Please visit the website below for further details if your child is interested in submitting an entry.

<https://www.melton.vic.gov.au/Out-n-About/Libraries-and-learning/Libraries/Short-Story-Competition>

#### Humanities and Social Science - HASS

You may have noticed in your child's recent classroom newsletter that the area previously labelled Inquiry has been presented differently. We would like to advise that our Inquiry units will now be referred to as Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), reflecting a more explicit focus on History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business. This change aligns with the Victorian Curriculum, which emphasises the development of students' historical understanding, geographical knowledge, civic awareness, and critical thinking skills. This terminology will also be reflected in your child's upcoming school report.

### Mathematics

#### Year 3 TTRS

Year 3 students now have access to Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), an engaging platform designed to help students develop fluency and confidence with their multiplication facts.

Login details have been sent home, allowing students to access the program both at school and at home.

Regular times tables practice plays an important role in supporting mathematical understanding.

Frequent use of TTRS helps students to:

- Improve speed and accuracy with multiplication facts
- Build confidence when solving maths problems

- Strengthen overall problem-solving skills
- Develop automatic recall, allowing them to focus on more complex thinking in class

We encourage students to use TTRS regularly at home in short, consistent sessions to support their learning and reinforce classroom teaching.

### **TTRS - Victoria Rocks Competition**

We have enrolled to compete in the TTRS Victoria Rocks competition. This is a fun, state-wide event where students answer times tables questions to earn points for their school.

The competition will run from Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May, with students able to participate between 7:30am and 7:30pm each day.

Students can take part from both school and home using their login details. Each correct answer earns points, and results are based on overall participation and effort across the school. To keep things balanced, students can play for up to one hour per day during the competition.

This is a great opportunity for students to stay motivated, practise regularly, and celebrate their progress in a fun and engaging way. We encourage all students to get involved and give it a go!



### **Religious Education News**

On Sunday 3rd May, our Grade 6 students will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Martin Ashe and our Parish Priests. We ask our community to keep these students in your prayers as they go forth, guided by the Holy Spirit, to live out their faith with courage and love.

#### **A Prayer for our Newly Confirmed**

Loving God,

We thank you for the Grade 6 students of Cana who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. We ask that the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit—Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord—take deep root in their hearts.

As they move forward from this sacred day:

- May they be witnesses of hope in their families and at school.
- May they use their unique talents to enrich the world around them.
- May the fire of your love keep them courageous in their faith and compassionate in their actions.

Guide them always, that they may walk in the light of Christ and bring his peace to everyone they meet. Amen.

**Masses at Cana:**

Please continue to join us through our fortnightly liturgies as we gather in faith, celebrate together, and grow as a community.

<b>Group A</b>	<b>PC, PH, 1M, 1S, 2C, 2N, 3C, 3W, 4K, 5M, 5V, 6G</b>
<b>Group B</b>	<b>PJ, PT, 1R, 1T, 2A, 2M, 3M, 3S, 4G, 4S, 5W, 6S</b>

<b>Week TERM 2</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Group in the hall</b>	<b>Class - Group Leading Mass</b>	<b>Theme</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Group A</b>	<b>5M/5V</b>	<b>Mother's Day</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>4G/4S</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Group A</b>	<b>6G</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>1R/1T</b>	<b>Sacred Heart of Jesus</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>	<b>Group A</b>	<b>3C/3W</b>	

## Learning Diversity

This term in our Learning Diversity section of the school newsletter, we will be highlighting the role of Allied Health Professionals and the important work they do in supporting students. Allied health professionals, such as speech pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists, and paediatricians, play an important role in supporting students' learning, wellbeing, and development. Throughout the term, we will share insights into each role and how they work closely with families to support children to thrive both academically, socially, and emotionally.

### What is the role of a **SPEECH PATHOLOGIST** and how can they help?

A speech pathologist supports much more than a child's ability to correctly articulate sounds in words. While clear speech is one aspect of their role, they also work across a broad range of communication and learning areas. This can include supporting children to:

- understand and use language
- develop vocabulary
- follow instructions
- express their ideas effectively
- improve listening skills
- develop early literacy skills such as reading, writing, and spelling
- learn and appropriately use social communication skills, such as taking turns in conversation, understanding non-verbal cues, and building relationships with others.
- learn and develop safe swallowing and eating skills.



Through these areas, speech pathologists help children to communicate confidently and participate more fully in their learning and everyday interactions.

For more information about the role of a speech pathologist and how they can potentially support your child, please see the links below:

- Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne – Speech Pathology  
<https://www.rch.org.au/speech/>
- Speech Pathology Australia  
<https://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au>
- SPELD Victoria  
<https://www.speldvic.org.au>
- Raising Children Network (Australia) – Speech and Language  
<https://raisingchildren.net.au/guides/a-z-health-reference/speech-pathologist>
- Better Health Channel (Victoria) – Speech and Language Development  
<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/servicesandsupport/speech-pathologists>

## Building Calm and Consistent Classrooms: The Power of Routines

At Cana, we believe that a peaceful mind is a ready mind. As part of our ongoing commitment to student wellbeing and academic success, our staff and students have been focusing on a vital strategy: the explicit teaching of routines.

You may have heard about a new sense of rhythm during our transition times. Specifically, our whole school has been practicing a universal "**Cue to Start**" and refining our **movement routines** for lining up after recess and lunch.

### Why Explicitly Teach Routines?

While it might seem simple, knowing exactly *how* to move from the playground to the desk is a powerful tool for a child's emotional regulation. When expectations are clear and predictable:

- **Anxiety is Reduced:** Students don't have to guess what comes next or worry about "getting it wrong."
- **Cognitive Load is Lowered:** By making transitions automatic, students save their "brain power" for the high-level learning happening in the classroom.
- **A Sense of Belonging is Fostered:** Moving together with a shared purpose reinforces our identity as a respectful, cohesive Catholic community.

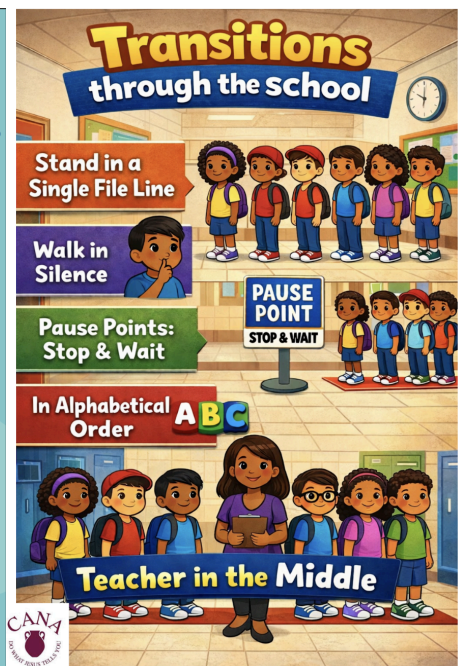
### Our Current Focus: The "Cue to Start" & Moving as a class around the school

We aren't just telling our students to "line up" or to "listen"; we are coaching them through the steps until they become second nature.

### How You Can Help at Home

Consistency is the key to success! You can support this wellbeing strategy by:

1. **Asking your child** to demonstrate the "Cue to Start" signal they learned this year. You can initiate this with the phrase "Ready, Set".
2. **Using similar cues** at home (e.g., a 5-minute warning or a specific phrase before transition times like dinner or bed).
3. **Celebrating their progress** when they show independence in their morning or evening routines.



We are so proud of how our students have embraced these new rhythms. Thank you for your continued partnership in helping our children grow.

## News from the P and F Committee

Hello Cana Community,

Next Friday, 8th May, we will be holding our Mother's Day Stall. A variety of gifts will be available, with prices ranging from \$1 to \$8. A note outlining the items and their prices will be sent home shortly.

We kindly ask that children bring small notes or coins for their purchases, and a bag to safely carry their items home. We hope this special stall helps our students celebrate the wonderful people in their lives this Mother's Day.

### Term 2 – Dates for Your Calendar:

Friday 8th May – Mother's Day Stall

Tuesday 16th June, Hot chocolate & PJ day.

Wednesday 17th June – Tony's Pies Fundraiser

### More details to come!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Cana P&F Fundraising Committee

### Interschool Sports Results:

## Round 7 vs Emmaus

Sport	Mixed team result	Girls team result
AFL	Cana 112 Emmaus 7	No girl team
Soccer	Cana 1 Emmaus 0	Cana 5 Emmaus 0
Tennis	Cana 4 Emmaus 6	Cana 3 Emmaus 7
Netball	Cana 3 emmaus 13	Cana 1 Emmaus 15
Teeball	Cana 10 Emmaus 8	Cana 10 Emmaus 6



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools

## Child Safety

MACS has zero tolerance for any form of child abuse and is deeply committed to upholding and embedding the highest standards of child safety across our schools.

We are guided by our Catholic faith and the unique and unrepeatable dignity of every person in our care. We are dedicated to creating an inclusive and protective environment where every child can feel and be safe.

We are responsible for inspiring and enabling every child to flourish and enrich the world.

Child safety is a shared responsibility between MACS, its employees including its Board, Executive Leadership Team, School Principals, teachers, staff and the wider community.

[macs.vic.edu.au](https://macs.vic.edu.au)