

Message from the Principal

Dear Corpus Christi Community Members,

As we begin the new school year, it was wonderful to come together today to celebrate our whole school assembly and hand out the Shining Christ's Light Awards. These awards recognise students who, through their words or actions, have lived out the Gospel values of justice, integrity, respect and dignity. They remind us that our faith is not only something we learn about, but something we are called to live each day. One student from each year level will receive a Shining Christ's Light Award, with presentations taking place at our whole school assemblies held three times per term. In addition to this, students will also be acknowledged and celebrated at year level assemblies and within their classrooms. I am incredibly proud of our students and the way they have begun the school year and continue to shine Christ's light within our school community.



I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge how beautifully our Prep students have transitioned into school life. They have settled into our community and their learning routines with confidence, enthusiasm and joy. It has been wonderful to see them engaging with their learning, forming friendships and becoming an important part of our Corpus Christi family so quickly.

This year we have introduced slightly adjusted bell times to support student learning and ensure smooth, consistent days across the school. The school day begins at 8:45am, with students having ten minutes to settle into their classrooms, organise themselves and set up for success. Formal learning begins at 8:55am, with a two-hour learning block before students head out for 30 minutes of recess. Following this, students return to class for a short eating break before heading out for a further 30-minute recess, returning to class at 2:05pm for the final hour of learning. During the second break students are encouraged to take out their lunch box and eat another snack if they are feeling hungry at this time. They will also be encouraged to have a fruit snack when they go back into class. Please refer to page 7 for more information. These adjustments have been made for two key reasons: to maximise learning time and ensure students are accessing as much of the curriculum as possible, and to ensure we remain compliant with the VEMEA 2022 Employment Agreement, which outlines class time, planning time and supervision requirements for staff. We thank families for working with us as we continue to structure the school day in ways that best support both student learning and staff wellbeing.

Looking ahead, we are very excited that our school fete will be held at the end of this term. This will be a wonderful celebration of our Corpus Christi community, and we hope that everyone will be involved in some way. Please keep an eye out over the coming weeks for communication regarding calls for donations and volunteers. As always, many hands make light work, and we look forward to coming together for this special Corpus Christi community event. After school each day, it is lovely to see families connecting and spending time together. We kindly ask that from 3:15pm, families make their way out of the school grounds so that our after-school care provider can take full advantage of the school's facilities. This helps to avoid any mix-ups between students attending after-school care and those who are with their parents. We appreciate your support with this.

Finally, as we continue through Term 1, we look ahead to the season of Lent, which begins on February 18. Lent is a significant time in the Church year, inviting us to reflect, pray and prepare our hearts for Easter. As a school, students will participate in prayer services on the morning of Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of this important season together in faith. Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we begin another year of learning, faith and community at Corpus Christi.

Warm regards and God's blessing,

Adele Vesty.

Principal

Religious Education

Welcome back to all our families and students! This term will be a busy one with liturgical celebrations and the Sacrament of First Reconciliation for our Grade 3 students.



Ash Wednesday Liturgy:

Lent begins on 18th February. Staff and students will receive 'the ashes'; by being marked with a sign of the cross on their forehead. The ashes are from the burning of the previous year's palms from Palm Sunday. Our Foundation students will receive the ashes the next day.

OUR LENTEN TIME:

During our Lenten journey which lasts for forty days we are invited to reflect upon and renew our own faith. Journeying with each other, encouraging each other to be the best person we can be. Traditionally it is a time where we try to spend a little more time in prayer, practice a little self-denial by fasting or giving up something that we like/love, and assist those less fortunate through almsgiving (donations); also to TAKE UP something for the better of others. We also support Project Compassion. Money donated to project Compassion is used by Caritas (A Catholic relief agency) to assist in the improvement of people's lives all around the world. Connecting to <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/> can give you more information about this.

RECONCILIATION

Our students in Year 3 are preparing to celebrate God's love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance (also known as Reconciliation) on Wednesday 11th March at 6:00pm in St. Andrew's Church. Our Family Faith Evening will be held on Tuesday 17th February, 6:00pm in the MFR. We will be exploring how Jesus shared stories about the need to show forgiveness and to sometimes make better choices.

Upcoming events:

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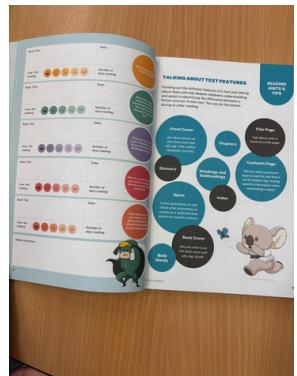
*Yours in partnership,
Richelle Caguin*

Learning and Teaching

As we begin a new school year, we're excited to share the many reading and mathematics resources available to support learning both at school and at home.

In Foundation to Year 2, students will soon begin bringing home take-home readers each week, along with a reading log for families to complete nightly. You may notice that the same books come home more than once — this is intentional. Repeated reading is one of the most effective ways to build accuracy, fluency, and confidence. These readers will start coming home in the coming weeks. Students will also borrow library books to enjoy a wider range of texts. We strongly encourage nightly reading at home. After reading their take-home reader, students are welcome to read an additional book from home or access an online text (from Sunshine online) for enjoyment.

Across the school, students also have access to a range of high-quality online learning platforms through Google Classroom. These include Timetable Rock Stars, NumBots, Sunshine Online Readers, and Epic Books. Students will practise accessing these at school, and login details will be shared with families via the student diaries. You are encouraged to ask your child to show you how to log in and explore these resources at home.



For older students, borrowing additional library books from our school library each fortnight is encouraged during our formal library lessons. A wonderful way to support reading at home is simply by talking with your child about what they are reading and what interests them.

Please keep an eye out for further information as we continue to share resources and support materials throughout the term. If you would like further instructions and direct links to resources, please visit our resources section of the school website or use the QR code.

*Yours in partnership,
McLabe Craig and Danielle Cuthbert*



Wellbeing

WELCOME TO THE RESILIENCE PROJECT. Families



Why wellbeing?



1 in 4 primary students
experience high levels of depression or anxiety.¹



1 in 3 secondary students
experience high levels of depression or anxiety.¹



2 in 5 adults
experience a mental disorder in their lifetime.²

¹State of the Nation Report 2024

²Australian Bureau of Statistics: National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing, 2020-2022.

School wellbeing program

With staggering statistics among children, young people and adults in Australia, The Resilience Project is working to drive change through a preventative approach by building a culture of wellbeing in schools.

Based on the evidence-based principles of **Gratitude**, **Empathy**, **Mindfulness** (GEM) and **Emotional Literacy**, our program equips students with lifelong wellbeing habits and **empowers families to support wellbeing at home**.

The whole-school wellbeing program involves explicit teaching through our **evidence-based curriculum** alongside wellbeing habits being integrated in school routines.



Supporting wellbeing at home

We know that when schools, families and communities speak the same language around mental health, our young people thrive. Throughout the year, you'll receive resources to help you develop wellbeing and resilience at home.



Proven impact

Through multiple independent evaluations, students participating in our School Wellbeing Program have shown **measurable improvements** compared to students at schools that aren't involved.



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to learn more.



The Imperfects podcast

[On this podcast](#), founder of The Resilience Project Hugh van Cuylenburg, his good friend Ryan Shelton, and only one of their brothers, Josh van Cuylenburg, talk to a variety of interesting people who vulnerably share their own struggles and imperfections, or expertly pass on their wisdom on the subject of imperfection. Whether it's in The Vulnerabilita House, The Academy of Imperfection, or with their resident psychologist, Dr Emily, The Imperfects are here to find some valuable takeaways we can all apply to our own imperfect lives.



Wellbeing

We're proud to be partnering with

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

in **2026** to build a resilient school community.

Learn more about The Resilience Project:



theresilienceproject.com.au

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Well done and Congratulations to our

Shining Christ's Light



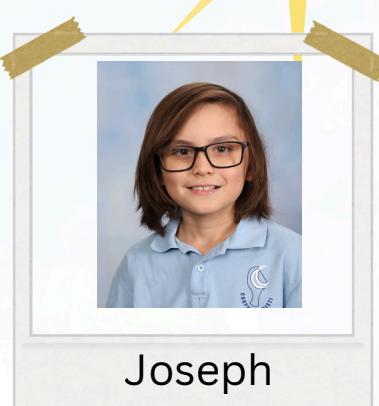
Patrick (Paddy)



Mary



Quentin



Joseph



Elias



Emily



Heidi

BRAIN BOOST: FRUIT BREAK

IN THE MORNING AND THE AFTERNOON, WE CAN HAVE A FRUIT BREAK IN CLASS.

IT NEEDS TO BE:

- QUICK TO EAT
- QUIET AND LOW-MESS
- NUTRITIOUS AND FILLING
- EASY FOR LITTLE HANDS TO MANAGE
- STORED IN A SMALL, SEALED CONTAINER IF REQUIRED

IT CAN INCLUDE:

- APPLE OR PEAR SLICES
- BANANA (CUT IN HALF)
- GRAPES
- MANDARIN SEGMENTS
- BERRIES
- CARROT STICKS
- CUCUMBER STICKS
- CHEESE CUBES OR SLICES
- BOILED EGGS (PEELED)
- WHOLEGRAIN CRACKERS

TIP FOR FAMILIES:

PACK THE SNACK WHERE YOUR CHILD CAN ACCESS IT EASILY AND PRACTISE OPENING CONTAINERS AT HOME.

COMING SOON!
Zooper Doopers
can be purchased
Every Monday & Thursday
at the new time of 1:35pm



LOST PROPERTY !!!
PLEASE LABEL CLOTHING AND
CONTAINERS so they can be
returned to owners, and please
encourage your children to look after
the clothing and items that belong to
them. Lost Property is located near the
Art Room opposite the front office.



Lunch Orders

Please ensure your child's class is updated when ordering lunch orders through Sunrise Takeaway and TK Tuckshop. This helps ensure your child receives their lunch order in the correct classroom and on time.

TK Tuckshop:

You can update your child's class by going to Settings → My Children → Class.

Sunrise Takeaway:

You can update your child's class by going to Menu → My Account → Manage Users → Edit, and then selecting the new class.

Monday and Friday

TK
TUCKSHOP



www.schoollunchonline.com.au
Monday - Friday



NEWSLETTER

The Countdown Begins

With less than 50 days to go, the countdown is well and truly on for our Inaugural Corpus Christi Fete, arriving at our school this March. Our fete committee has been working through the holidays and we've locked in some exciting rides and attractions and booked fantastic live entertainment – all will be revealed soon!

So, lock in **Saturday March 28th, 2026** and keep an eye on our socials – rides, entertainment, and surprises are just around the corner!

Sponsor Update

The community support keeps flowing, and we

are so grateful! Thanks to our **amazing sponsors** for helping us create a day to remember for all our Corpus Christi families.

Sponsorship opportunities are still open – **contact us** to be part of the fun!
fete@ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

STANMORE

CERAMICS



CROSS CREATIONS



G.J. Gardner. HOMES
WYNDHAM CITY



Insight
VISION CARE

Talent Show

We're looking for amazing performers from the Corpus Christi community to take to the stage.

Whether you can sing, dance, act, perform magic, juggle, do comedy, play an instrument, or wow us with something completely unique, we want to see you shine!

Stay tuned – more news from Senior Leadership is coming soon!

Community Stalls

Calling all Corpus Christi families with small businesses! Show off your skills, treats, and treasures at our fete.

Want a stall? Complete our **Expression of Interest form** now and join the fun.

Help Wanted!

Our first-ever fete is almost there – and we need your help!

Swap Your Gold Coin for a Chocolate Treat! On Friday, 20 February, dress casually for our free dress day and bring a bar or block of chocolate for the Coin Toss stall.

Lucky Jars Stall – Fill a clean jam jar (approx. 250ml) with toys, stickers, stationery, or wrapped lollies and **turn each jar into a mini treasure chest** for our little fete-goers!

Donate **soft drink cans** (375ml) or **bottles of water** (600ml), and help keep everyone refreshed on fete day.

All donations to be dropped off at the front office at your convenience.

Extra donations – Have a prize or special item to donate to our Easter raffle?

Email us: fete@ccwerribee.catholic.edu.au

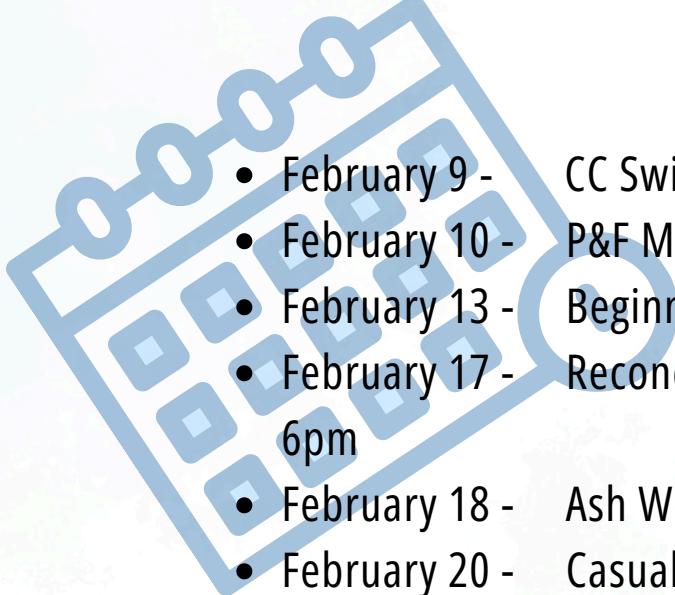
Stay in the Loop

Our fete now has a home online! Visit www.corpuschristifete.com.au for all the latest updates.

Follow us here:



2026 Term 1 - Important Dates



- February 9 - CC Swim Team Training (7:45am - 9:15am)
- February 10 - P&F Meeting - 6pm
- February 13 - Beginning of Year Mass - 11.45am
- February 17 - Reconciliation Family Formation Evening - 6pm
- February 18 - Ash Wednesday
- February 20 - Casual Clothes Day with a chocolate donation for the School Fete
- February 24 - Twilight Family Night - 5pm-7pm. Open classrooms at 4.30pm.
- February 24 - District Swimming Carnival
- February 25 - Foundation 2027 Info Session - 9.30am & 6.30pm
- February 27 - Whole School Assembly - 2.05pm
- March 3 - Grade 5 / 6 Camp Rest Day
- March 3 - School Advisory Council Meeting 6pm
- March 4-6 - Grade 5 / 6 Camp
- March 5 - Division Swimming Carnival
- March 11 - NAPLAN begins for Yrs 3 & 5
- March 27 - Casual Clothes Day with a touch of orange for Harmony Day
- March 30 - Stations of the Cross - 2.15pm
- March 31 - Regional Swimming Carnival
- April 2 - Holy Week/Easter Prayer Service and Whole School Assembly - 11.30am
- April 2 - **End of Term 1 - 12.30pm finish**