



COMING UP AT OLSH...

Nov 2025

Mon 21st	Gym and Swimming
Mon 24th - Fri 28th	Year 5/6 Camp
Fri 28th	Gym and Swimming

Dec 2025

Mon 1st	Pupil Free Day —Planning Day
Thu 11th	Thanksgiving: Graduation Mass

From the Principal...

Dear Families and Friends of OLSH,

What a wonderful day we had for Mission Day on Friday. It was a shining example of our OLSH community. Thank you to our students for their creativity and enthusiasm, our staff for their dedication and supporting the students and our families and community for their incredible support. Your generosity and spirit truly make a difference that will be felt all the way to South Sudan – supporting the OLSH Sisters important work. We raised an incredible \$2234.

This time of year, is always one of transition and celebration. Our Grade 6 students are preparing to finish their time at OLSH and take their next exciting steps into secondary school. We are so proud of the leaders they have become and the legacy they will leave behind. At the same time, we warmly welcome our Little Chevies, who are beginning their primary school journey with us. It is a joy to see their excitement as they take their first steps into our school community.

Supporting these transitions is a priority for us, and I want to acknowledge the wonderful work that our teachers and Jo Webb our Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader are doing to assist students and families during this important time. Their care and commitment help every child feel safe, supported and ready for the changes ahead. Jo will be available for a Drop-In @ Pick-Up session in the Chevi Centre this Friday – 14 November at 2:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, share concerns or simply connect.

With peace and blessings,

Lisa Hitchcock

Prayer of Gratitude for Mission Day



Loving God,
 We thank You for the gift of our Mission Day,
 for the chance to come together as a
 community of faith and action.
 We are grateful for the generosity shown by
 our students, families, staff and community
 and for the joy of serving others in Your name.
 Bless all those who will benefit from our
 efforts.
 Bless the OLSH Sisters for their missionary
 work.
 May our hearts remain open to the needs of
 others,
 and may we continue to live out Your mission
 of love and compassion
 in all that we do.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

At OLSH we acknowledge and pay respect to the Dja Dja Wurrung people, the original custodians of the land on which our parish school is located. We pay our respects to elders past and present and commit to actively work alongside First Nations People for reconciliation and justice for all.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

W: olshelmore.catholic.edu.au PH: 5432 6254 E: principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au

School News

Congratulations Frankie!

We are so proud of Frankie who competed at the Victorian State Athletics Championships last week, running in both the 800m and 1500m finals. Frankie came 10th in both events, which is an inspiring and outstanding achievement by a determined and hard working athlete! It has been a big year for Frankie competing in the Victorian State Cross County and Athletics Championships. Congratulations, Frankie on an incredible year of running!



Congratulations to Dawn!



Educator of the Year 2025 Victorian Early Educators Awards: Congratulations, Sandra!

We are thrilled to share some exciting news from our Elmore Educator's community! As you well know Sandra Houlahan, is an outstanding early educator from Elmore Kindergarten who has supported so many Elmore children and their families over four decades of dedicated care and service. Sandra has been recognised as the State Early Childhood Educator of the Year for 2025!

This incredible achievement is a testament to Sandra's dedication, passion and commitment to providing the very best start for young children and building a strong and positive community around these children and families. Her creativity, care and ability to nurture and empower each child has made a lasting impact on children, families and the wider community. Please join us in congratulating Sandra on this well-deserved honour!

Grade 5 & 6 Canberra Camp

We have begun our preparations for the Canberra Camp, and the students are looking forward to this amazing experience. Please return permission forms and contact Lisa if you have any questions.

Campaspe Cluster Summer Sports Day

Our students from Years 2-6 and students from across the Campaspe Cluster came together today for the Summer Sports. It was such a great day of tennis, cricket, lawn bowls and tee ball. The students competed in the spirit of fair play, teamwork and fun. Well done. Thank you to Miss Forbes and Mrs Hayes for supporting the students and to Mr Cox from Goornong Primary School for organising such a great Summer Sports!

Gym & Swim Program: Starting Friday 21 November

We are excited to announce our annual Gym and Swim Program for students, beginning Friday, 21 November and running each Friday until 12 December. This program will take place at Jets Gym and Gurri Wanyarra Swim Centre in Bendigo.

What you need to know:

Dates: Fridays – 21 November, 28 November, 5 December, and 12 December.

Locations: Jets Gym & Gurri Wanyarra Swim Centre, Bendigo.

Activities: Students will participate in a fun and engaging gym session followed by swimming lessons.

Important Information for Parents:

A Parent Form regarding your child's swimming ability will be shared via SeeSaw. Please complete this promptly to help us group students appropriately.

A Permission Form will be sent home as a hard copy for you to sign and return. (Please note: PAM is not available for this program.)

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop new skills, confidence and water safety skills in a supportive environment. Thank you for your cooperation in returning all of the forms.

Little Chevies

We look forward to seeing our Little Chevies on Friday 14 November 9am-11:45am. This week the 2026 Foundation students will have a focus on mathematics. Thank you to the families for support the program to ensure a successful transition from kindergarten to school!

Remembrance Day

We had a very moving Remembrance Day Liturgy at school yesterday. Together, we paused to reflect on the courage and sacrifice of those who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces and to pray for peace in our world. Thank you to our families for joining us, students for leading us, Ms Nihill for planning the liturgy and to our teachers for supporting the students.

Lest We Forget

School News

Pupil Free Days Term 4 2025

Monday 1 December – 2026 Planning Day
Wednesday 17 December – Staff Day
Thursday 18 December – Magnify Day
Friday 19 December - Magnify Day

2026 Pupil Free Days

We have received the 2026 pupil free days from Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd (CESL). We have one remaining day to allocate to our professional learning and practice here at OLSH. We have allocated a 2027 Planning Day on Friday 4 December 2026. The final day will be decided in Term 1 2026 to support staff professional learning.

Term 1 2026

Tuesday 27 January - First Day for School Staff
Wednesday 28 January - Staff Preparation
Thursday 29 January - Staff Preparation
Friday 30 January – OLSH Students Commence

Term 2 2026

Monday 20 April CESL Learning & Teaching Seminar
Friday 5 June CESL Student Wellbeing & Safeguarding

Term 3 2026

Wednesday 5 August CESL Staff Spirituality Day

Term 4 2026

Monday 2 November CESL Report Writing Day
Friday 4 December 2027 Planning Day
Tuesday 15 December CESL Students Finish
Wednesday 16 December CESL Staff Finish

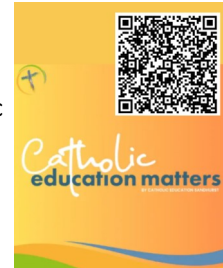
Let's Bee Better Readers

Our sessions will be held outside, now the weather is heating up—Finally!



Magnify Sandhurst

There are some great insights into Magnify Sandhurst and Catholic Education on these locally produced podcasts.



2026 Foundation Enrolments

Still Open

Statewide Transition Day:
Tuesday 9th December 2025
9:00am- 2:30pm

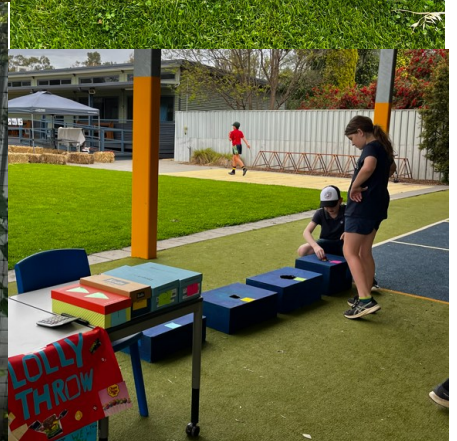
Foundation Transition Program - Little Chevies
Friday Oct 24th - 9:00am - 11:00am
Friday Oct 31st - 9:00am - 11:45am
Friday Nov 7th - 9:00am - 11:00am* OLSH Mission Day
optional but must attend with a parent
Friday Nov 14th - 9:00am - 11:45am
Tues Dec 9th 9:00am- 2:30pm

- ★ Friday 24 October 9am-11am
- ★ Friday 31 October 9am-11:45am
- ★ Friday 7 November 11am-2pm: Mission Day attend with families
- ★ Friday 14 November 9am-11:45am
- ★ Tuesday 9 December 9am-2:30pm: Statewide Transition Day

All Welcome

Contact us for more information:
03 5432 6254
principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au

Mission Day



Catholic Identity

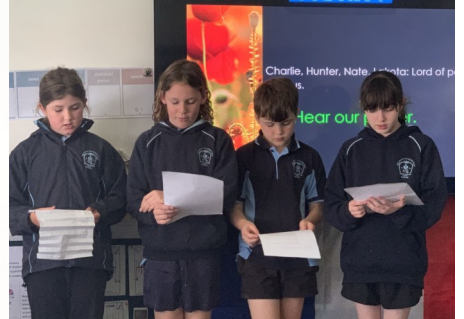
Remembrance Day Liturgy.

Yesterday, on Remembrance Day, we paused to honor those who had served and sacrificed in times of conflict.

May the world come to know the Love of the Heart of God that brings peace to all people.

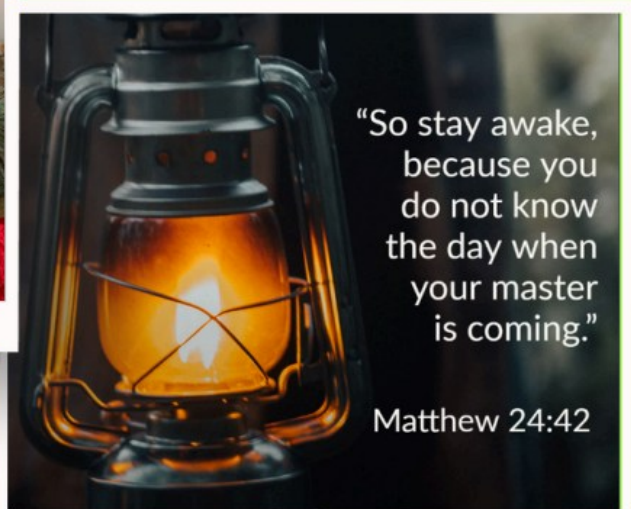
Lest we forget.

Thank you to Irene Nihill for attending our liturgy and reading the Gospel. The students participated beautifully and were very respectful during the Last Post and Reveille.



Advent Invitation

@OLSH



“So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming.”

Matthew 24:42

Advent Liturgies Schedule
Tuesday 2 December – 3:00 PM
Monday 8 December – 3:00 PM
Monday 15 December – 3:00 PM

Chevie Centre
All welcome

TRANSITION



As we draw closer to the end of the year, schools, students and families will be preparing for the next year. Whether students are starting school, moving up through the classes or preparing for graduation/ secondary school. Transitions can be emotional and challenging.

Tips for families:

Here are some ways to help your child adjust smoothly.

Talk about it. Encourage open conversations about what's changing and what will stay the same. Normalise any feelings of anxiety or excitement.

Visit and Visualise: Participate in transition days scheduled for the next year classes and if attending Secondary School going to the new school on these days.

Create routines early. Establish routines early. This might include adjusting bedtimes and discussing travel to school if this means taking a new way to and from school. Routines provide a sense of security during transitions. Sleeping, hydrating, eating nutrient rich foods and moving body supports well-being and coping with change.

Stay positive: Children take cues from adults- express enthusiasm and confidence about the upcoming school year. Communicate openly: Have frequent, open conversations with your child about their feelings, both positive and negative. Listen to their concerns and offer reassurance.

Stay connected. Keep in touch with teachers and the school wellbeing team if your child seems worried or withdrawn. Early communication helps to support them effectively.


Week 7/8 Newsletter will focus on transition support to Secondary School for the Grade 6 families.

Child Safeguarding

Volunteering at OLSH – Volunteer Applications

At Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, the safety and wellbeing of our students is our highest priority. To uphold our commitment to child safety, ALL Volunteers are required to review and acknowledge our Child Safe Code of Conduct, Staff & Students Professional Boundaries Policy and Photography & Video Policy and Procedures. Additionally, Volunteers must complete a Volunteer Registration form and successfully complete the CESL School Volunteer Induction before commencing their role as a Volunteer.

We deeply value the contributions of our Volunteers and appreciate your support in maintaining a culture of care and protection. Thank you to all of our volunteers who have already completed their applications and for the valuable contributions you make to OLSH. Together, we can continue to provide a safe and nurturing space for every child to thrive.

For more information regarding volunteering, contact us or click on the link to complete the Volunteer Registration form. [Volunteer Registration Form](#) or scan the QR Code. 

All Volunteers will be asked to:

- Complete a Volunteer Registration form (including personal details, Working with Children Check (WWCC) and 2 personal referees), please inform your referees they will be contacted by the school in relation to your volunteering.
- Once you have completed the Volunteer Registration form and are approved to Volunteer at the school, you will be sent an email with a link to access the required training: (Please note – Completing this induction replaces the previous onsite induction interview)
- CESL School Volunteer Induction; and
- Read and acknowledge the Child Safe Code of Conduct, Staff & Students Professional Boundaries Policy and Photography & Video Policy and Procedures.

All Volunteers will be required to update details at the start of each year and inform the school of any changes to your circumstances or updates to your WWCC. All Volunteers will need to complete the CESL School Volunteer Induction and read and acknowledge all relevant safeguarding policies at the start of each school year even if an existing Volunteer.

All information received regarding volunteering and providing referee details will be maintained in line with CESL Privacy Policy.

Please direct your referees to complete their initial referee check online using the QR Code below.

If you have any questions, or would like support to complete your application, please contact the school.

Volunteer Application



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School Elmore is a



Child Safe School

we are committed to child safety at all levels
As a child, you have the right

- to tell someone if you are unhappy
- to have fun and do activities you enjoy
- to have a say and be heard
- to be provided with information
- to be allowed to be a child and be treated with respect
- if you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child, to feel proud and strong in your own culture

If you do not feel safe, you can talk to one of our Child Safeguarding Officers.

Mrs Lisa Hitchcock
Ms Denise Nihill
Mrs Kim Portwine
Miss Lizzy Forbes

As a school community we work together to ensure we are child safe and that we empower student voice



Volunteer Referee Check Online Form QR Code



Community News

WEEKLY SWIMMING LESSONS

AT ELMORE POOL THIS SUMMER!

~ From Beginners to Squad Level Classes ~



**for more info and
to enrol, scan the QR**

or go to

<https://tinyurl.com/ElmoreSwim25-26>



ELMORE

GET FIRE READY!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR FIRE RISK?

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER

7 PM

ELMORE FIRE STATION

61 HERVEY STREET, ELMORE

The Elmore Fire Brigade invites you to come along to a free Community Information Session about fire safety to assist you about how to be best prepared for this fire season.

- Could a fire reach my place?
- What if the road is closed?
- Will someone knock on my door to tell me to leave?
- What about the kids?
- What about my pets?



Bushfires happen every year. Spend time now and learn how you can keep you, your family and your friends safe from fire this season.



For further information on how to prepare your property for fire scan QR code or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au