



## 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	<b>Pupil Free Day</b> —Planning Day
Tues 2nd	Advent Liturgy 3pm
Thurs 4th	Learning Showcase
Fri 5th	Gym & Swimming
Mon 8th	Advent Liturgy 3pm
Tues 9th	Statewide Transition Day
Thu 11th	Thanksgiving: Graduation Mass 6pm
Fri 12th	Gym & Swimming
Mon 15th	School Mass 9:30am Advent Liturgy 3pm
Tues 16th	<b>Last Day for students!</b> Subway Lunch
Wed 17th	Last day for staff—Pupil Free Day

### JAN 2026

Fri 30th	Students start Term 1 2026
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## *From the Principal...*

Dear Families and Friends of OLSH,

As we approach the final weeks of Term 4, there is so much to celebrate and look forward to!

### **Swim & Gym Program**

This Friday marks the first day of our Swim & Gym program, which will run over the next four Fridays. Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned their permission forms. If you require another form, please contact the office. If your child is not attending school on Friday, please phone this absence through prior to 9am so the bus can depart on time.

This program is a fantastic opportunity for students to build confidence in the water, develop essential swimming and water safety skills and enjoy a variety of gymnastics and swimming activities. Please note: Friday, 5 December is WATER SAFETY DAY – Children will need to bring a spare T-shirt and shorts to wear over their bathers on this day.

### **Grade 5 & 6 Canberra Camp**

Our Grade 5 and 6 students and I will head off on the Campaspe Cluster Canberra Camp from Monday 24 November to Friday 28 November. The bus will depart from Elmore Primary School at 7:00am on Monday, so please ensure students arrive by 6:30am ready for an exciting week of learning and adventure.

Ms Nihill will be Acting Principal during this week. Thank you to Ms Nihill for stepping into this role and taking care of everyone at school.

### **Little Chevies Transition Program**

Last Friday, our Little Chevies enjoyed a fun numeracy session and met their senior buddies. It was wonderful to see these connections forming! We look forward to welcoming our Little Chevies back on Tuesday 9 December for the Statewide Transition Day, when all students will experience their 2026 classes.

### **Term 4 Learning Showcase**

Please join us on **Thursday 4 December at 3:00pm** for our Term 4 Learning Showcase. This is a special opportunity to celebrate our students' learning and achievements. We can't wait to share this with you!

### **Important Reminder – Pupil Free Day**

**Monday 1 December** will be a pupil-free day as staff plan and prepare for the 2026 school year.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we finish the year, we look forward to seeing you at OLSH!

With peace and blessings,

Lisa Hitchcock

*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](http://olshelmore.catholic.edu.au) PH: 5432 6254 E: [principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olshelmore.catholic.edu.au)

# School News

## Thank You to Our School Advisory Council

A big thank you to our School Advisory Council members who met on Monday evening for our final meeting of 2025. I am very grateful for your guidance and encouragement in my first three terms at OLSH. Your support, insights and commitment to our school community throughout the year have been greatly appreciated. The contributions you provide make a real difference for our students, staff and families.

Thank you!

## Thanksgiving, Graduation Liturgy & Music – Band!

We invite all families to join us for a very special evening on **Thursday, 11 December at 6:00pm** as we celebrate the end of the school year with our Thanksgiving and Graduation Liturgy in the OLSH Church, followed by our students' Music Presentation.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for the blessings of 2025, acknowledge the achievements of our students and celebrate our graduating class as they prepare for the next stage of their learning journey. Our talented students will also share their band and musical achievements from the year!

As is customary, our Grade Five leaders, the Little Chevie's buddies, will warmly welcome the 2026 Foundation students by presenting them with a battery-operated candle. This symbolic gesture represents the passing on of the light of wisdom and faith gained at OLSH.

Information about the dinner will be shared with families closer to the event. We encourage all families to come together for this occasion as a community of faith and learning to celebrate our graduates, students and the 2025 school year.

Please note: As Fr Caldwell will be away for this celebration, he will celebrate Mass for us on Monday 15 December at 9:30am at the church.

## School Fees 2025

We thank our families for their ongoing support in meeting school fee commitments. As we approach the end of the year, we kindly ask that all school fee accounts be finalised in the coming weeks. If you would like to discuss your account or require assistance, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with Lisa.

## 2026 Charity Ball Fundraiser

Please note the Charity Ball will be held on 21 February 2026. We will once again be looking for volunteers to

support this important fundraising opportunity for our school. More information will be shared before the end of the year.

## 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

## Social Media Restrictions – 10 December 2025

From 10 December 2025, age-restricted social media platforms will have to take reasonable steps to prevent Australians under 16 from creating or keeping accounts. Find out how social media age restrictions affect educators and can help you support your students' online safety.

The changes aim to protect under-16s from pressures and risks they can be exposed to while logged in to social media accounts. These come from design features in the platforms that:

- encourage them to spend too much time on screens – for example, by prompting them with “streaks” or streams of notifications and alerts, and pressuring them to view disappearing content

increase the likelihood of exposure to negative, upsetting or manipulative content served up in their feeds by algorithms.

These features have been linked to harms to health and wellbeing – including increased stress levels, and reduced sleep and concentration.

The delay provides under-16s with the time to:

- learn about social media's benefits and risks
- build digital, social and emotional skills
- understand the importance of reaching out for help if things go wrong.

While the responsibility rests with the platforms themselves to take reasonable steps to prevent under-16s from having accounts, we can all play a part.

This may have impacts for under-16s that have used these platforms as a way of communicating and connecting with others. Please be aware that there is information and support available please access the eSafety Commissioner or contact Lisa for more information.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/industry-regulation/social-media-age-restrictions/faqs#download-the-shareable-assets>



# School News

## Subway Tuesday 16 December

Students will be able to enjoy a delicious Subway lunch at OLSH on our last day of the 2025 school year - Tuesday 16 December. Please log on to Canteen Hub to place your orders.

## Magnify Sandhurst

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



**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School - Elmore**

# LITTLE CHEVIES FOUNDATION 2026 TRANSITION



- ★ 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



# Catholic Identity

Little Chevies  
JOIN US FOR THE  
THANKSGIVING  
LITURGY AND THE  
“HANDING OVER  
THE LIGHT  
CEREMONY.”

6pm  
Thursday 11th  
December.  
OLSH Church



## 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

## Going to Secondary School: what to expect

Children often have mixed feelings about starting Secondary school. They might be:

- excited about new friends, subjects and teachers
- nervous about learning new routines, making new friends or even wearing a new uniform
- worried about handling an increased workload.

You might also worry about these issues, and about whether your child will have the confidence and skills to handle them.

These worries are all normal. Secondary school also means a move from the familiar to the unknown, and a whole new way of doing things .



## Relationships

Your child will meet new peers and make new friends and establish or re-establish her position within a peer group.

## Schoolwork

Your child may need to adapt to new teaching and assessment styles, cope with a wide range of subjects, adjust to having different teachers in different classrooms, become more responsible for his own learning, manage a new study and homework load, and learn a new and more complex timetable.

## Getting around

Your child will have to adjust to a new school campus, find her way around, get to class on time with the right books and materials, and cope with new transport arrangements.

***“When children are making the move to Secondary school, parents have the biggest influence on how smooth the transition is. Your child’s friends do influence how your child feels about the move, but your support has longer-lasting effects.***

## Preparing to start Secondary school

Talk with your child about what they most looking forward to and about what they are worried. Really listen when your child shares his feelings about secondary school.

- Listen to your child’s worries but also get her to look at the positive things about the move. For example, you could highlight the new opportunities your child will have by talking about extracurricular activities your child could choose at the new school.
- Talk with your child about friendship worries. For example, you could ask what your child’s friends are saying about secondary school. You could also talk about how your child might stay connected with old friends and make new friends at high school.




# 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



# School News



## Make the journey to primary school as safe as possible for your child.

The TAC has developed a range of new resources just for Prep families – engaging content and simple, practical advice to help parents and carers establish safe travel habits from day one.



Scan this QR code and view the resources to spark important conversations about safe travel to and from school.

Helping our youngest students travel safely to and from school is a priority we all share.

Let's work together to make every school journey a safe one.

# School News

## The Safe Migration Project Starting Primary School

Dear School Leader,

Keeping your youngest students safe on their journey to and from school is a priority we all share.

That's why we're excited to share the TAC's Safe Migration Project with you. This initiative is designed to give parents and carers practical tips to help their children travel safely to and from primary school.

We've created engaging, easy-to-follow resources that you can share with parents and carers to support safe travel habits from day one. These resources are ready for you to pass on to your school community and use at times when family safety is already front of mind, such as during Prep orientation or when welcoming new students.

### How can your school help?

Scan the QR code below to view the resources and:

- Share our video and supporting fact sheet with parents and carers to spark important conversations about safe travel to and from school.
- Integrate our PowerPoint slides into your Prep orientation sessions.
- Pin up the enclosed poster on your school's noticeboard for Prep parents to see.

### What else will the TAC send to your school?

We'll send you more ready-to-use resources over Term 4 2025 and Term 1 2026, including newsletter content and social media tiles that promote safe travel choices to school, making it simple to share with your school families.

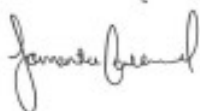
By sharing these resources, you'll empower parents and carers to feel more confident about their children's safe travel while reinforcing your school's role as a proactive community that prioritises student safety and wellbeing.

To improve access for diverse communities, the fact sheets have been translated into multiple languages.

If you have any questions about these resources, please contact the TAC Education Team at [roadsafetyeducation@tac.vic.gov.au](mailto:roadsafetyeducation@tac.vic.gov.au).

Thank you for working with us to support safer journeys for Victoria's newest school families.

Warm regards,



**Samantha Cockfield**  
Executive General Manager of Road Safety  
Transport Accident Commission (TAC)

Scan the  
QR code to  
get started



# 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>



## EAGLEHAWK CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

FRIDAY  
NOV 28, 2025

4.30PM  
to 7.30PM  
FREE ENTRY



Canterbury Park Gardens, Eaglehawk

EAGLEHAWK  
CHILDREN'S  
FESTIVAL

FRIDAY  
NOV 28, 2025

4.30PM  
to 7.30PM  
FREE ENTRY



CANTERBURY PARK  
GARDENS, EAGLEHAWK

ART AND CRAFT  
CHAIR-A-PLANE  
JUMPING CASTLE  
FACE PAINTING  
CIRCUS ACTIVITIES  
SPORTS ACTIVITIES

BBQ, MINI HOT DOGS,  
SAMOSAS, DRINKS  
AND PANCAKES - ALL  
\$2 EACH  
FREE FRESH FRUIT  
GIVEAWAYS + MORE!

For more information visit  
[www.facebook.com/eaglehawkchildrensfestival](http://www.facebook.com/eaglehawkchildrensfestival)



## ELMORE BOWLS CLUB

TIME  
6.30PM  
FOR 7PM

## FREE SOCIAL BOWLS NIGHTS

DATES  
WED 26th  
NOVEMBER  
3rd & 10th  
DECEMBER

WE'D LOVE TO SEE NEW AND  
EXPERIENCED BOWLERS

- ✓ Bowls available for you to use
- ✓ Wear flat shoes or try barefoot
- ✓ Sausage sizzle get together after
- ✓ Come and have fun!!!

FOR INFO  
KEITH - 0414 851901  
IAN - 0493 727582