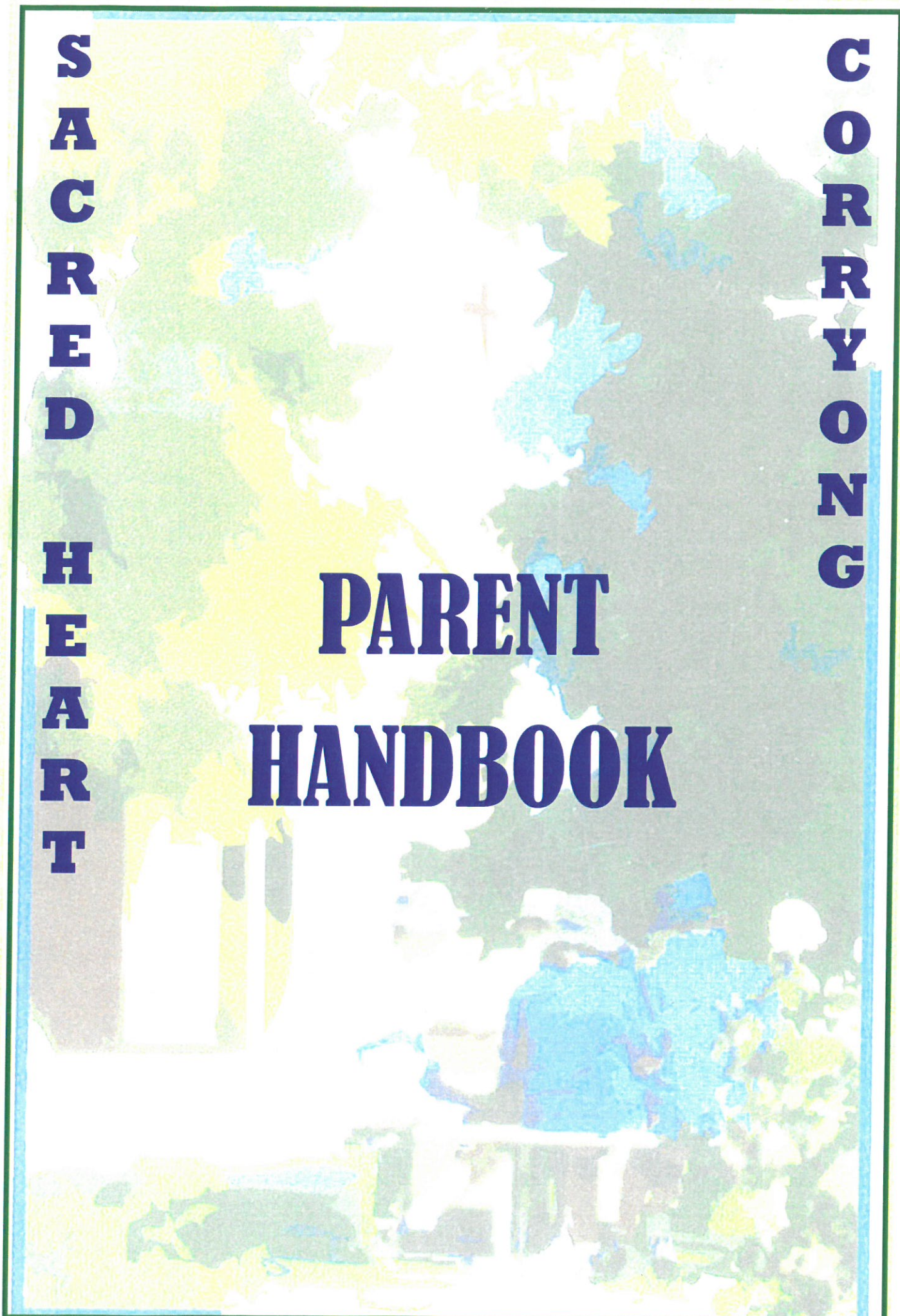


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PARENT HANDBOOK



111 - 115 Hanson Street Corryong
P.O. Box 213 Corryong Victoria 3707

T: 02 6076 1138 F: 02 6076 2080
principal@shcorryong.catholic.edu.au



Dear Parents,

Starting school is an exciting time in the life of each child. School will provide them with the challenges and opportunities they are ready for. Our school is a safe and supportive learning environment with a strong focus on literacy and numeracy skills.

For children, starting school is a major change in their lives. Our school has formed strong and positive relationships with the Kindergarten enabling children to visit our school for special events, such as *Bluearth* and concerts. Senior students are supportive of learning programs in the kindergarten setting. This positive relationship eases the children's transition to our school.

Play and inquiry based learning activities are used to stimulate students' wonder and creativity that will equip them for a rich understanding in life's journey. Each student in Foundation is globally connected through access to their individual iPad.

Well-being and spiritual development is central to all we do with our students at Sacred Heart School. We understand the development of the whole person: spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically and academically.

Our approach is to place the child at the centre of learning to ensure we are creating an interactive learning environment which will allow them to achieve consistently their personal best. Our staff are committed to providing a nurturing environment that encourages creativity and the love of learning.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Sacred Heart School, Corryong.

Michael O'Riley
Principal

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History

Our story...

Our school has a long history...

Fr. Leo Lacey had the drive and vision to establish a Catholic School and the school was built in 1962.

In August 1963, a crowd of over 400 people watched the blessing and official opening of the new Catholic school and convent in Corryong by His Grace Bernard Stewart, Bishop of Sandhurst.

The school opened for students in February of 1964 with an intake of 80 pupils. The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart belong to an Australian order of religious women founded by Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Dan Cronin donated the land for the farm and parents formed the Farm Committee managing the property which enabled the Sisters to be supported to teach at our school. The first principal of the school was Sister Eugene and her assistant was Sr. Ligouri.



At Sacred Heart, the school and parish continue to breathe in unison.

Sacred Heart caters for children from Foundation to Year 6, along with young adults who have special learning needs.

School Information

What you need to know...

School Hours

School Commences at	8.55am
Morning recess	11:10am – 11:30am
Lunch	1:40pm – 2:10pm
Dismissal	3:10pm

On the last day of each term, students are dismissed at 2.10 pm.

School Newsletter

The Newsletter goes home each Thursday.

Buses

A school bus service operates each day and is administered by the bus co-ordinator at Corryong College Junior Campus. All queries should be directed to the College Bus Co-ordinator.

Transition Programme 2017

Parent Information Evening:
Thursday, November 17th 2016
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
School Library

Orientation Days:
Tuesday, October 11th
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Friday, October 21st
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 15th
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

If children are travelling on a different bus or visiting a friend, written permission needs to be provided to the front office by parents, and this is sent to Corryong College by the school.

Religious Education

Faith, Hope and Charity...



Religious Education is founded on the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels and leads the children to a deeper understanding of God's presence with us.

We offer a contemporary religious education program that has an inclusive approach, respecting other cultures and religions. Students and staff are invited to put their faith into action in a number of ways:

- The personal self. We focus on guiding students as they develop knowledge of themselves and maintain responsible, healthy and positive attitudes towards life.
- Outreach. Our students are encouraged to become actively involved in Outreach programmes, through supporting projects such as 'Project Compassion', Catholic Charities, St Vincent de Paul, Josephite International Mission and Caritas.
- Prayer. Prayer is a key element not just within the Religious Education program but throughout the whole life of the school community and is vital in developing a relationship between ourselves and God. Each class is involved in Daily Prayer experiences. These may take the form of formal prayers, whole class shared prayer, individual petitions, song, dance, meditation or silent prayer.
- The Sandhurst Diocese "Source of Life" program enables all students to engage in experiences of the Gospel and the story of the people of God.
- Our sacramental program offers Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist, which is run in conjunction with the Sacred Heart Corryong Parish.

Our faith is celebrated through meaningful liturgical celebrations. Our stewardship of the earth is expressed in our work in the school gardens and awareness of sustainability.

Student well-being

The heart of the matter...



At Sacred Heart School we endeavour to assist each student to develop their full potential. As a Foundation-Year 6 School community we nurture the social, spiritual and emotional development of our students to promote well-being and assist them in developing the skills to continue to care for and respect themselves and others.

Staff and parents are well aware of the need to equip students with capabilities that will enable them to develop lifelong resilience and understand how to use their strengths.

In partnership with families and the boarder educational community we develop relationships and educational vision and learning experiences that are focussed on the wellbeing of every student to ensure the best possible outcomes, a love of learning and a deep engagement with faith and life now and into the future.

Our school strives to ensure that, in partnership with parents, the well-being of every student is foremost in the school's commitment to ongoing improvement.

Sacred Heart School is committed to a whole school approach to promoting mental health and wellbeing. We work together to enhance the development of school environments where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and useful. Sacred Heart is a child safe school.

Everyone's needs are respected as students are validated for who they are and encouraged to grow into all they can be.

Teaching & learning

Our core purpose...

At the heart of all teaching and learning is a curriculum that is relevant to the times and the child.

With the knowledge that all students learn differently and at their own pace, our teachers use a differentiated approach, endeavouring to engage students based on their prior knowledge and interests. Learning is relevant and enjoyable.



Student happiness, improved student learning outcomes and opening the possibilities to holistic development are our core purpose.

The early years are important and we ensure our students are well-prepared for the primary years through:

- Our experienced and cohesive Early Years Teaching Team
- Strong partnerships with parents throughout the school
- Specialist lessons in Italian, Wellbeing, PE, Visual Arts and Sustainability
- Daily fitness to promote life long healthy choices
- Early Years Assessment which is conducted for all students to ensure early intervention programs are implemented if needed
- Provision of Reading Recovery for students in Year 1
- Australian Curriculum is currently being implemented
- A strong focus on sustainable living and practice
- Access to the Seasons for Growth program for students experiencing grief and loss
- Encouraging students to be kind hearted and analytical thinkers



Extra Curricula Swimming, drama and camps...

During the year, all the children have swimming lessons at Corryong Pool as part of their Physical Education Program. Children have an opportunity to prepare for the inter school swimming sports and have opportunities for water safety awareness.



The students from Sacred Heart participate in inter-school swimming, athletics and cross-country events with neighbouring small schools. We encourage and provide opportunity for children to advance to zone, regional and state level and celebrate successes and participation. We have a strong focus on Bike and Outdoor Education.

Musical and Drama Productions.

Every second year we present a whole school production. This is a significant event involving all children and the broader community. In addition each year students participate in the regional Kids on Stage performance. Year 5/6 also perform in the Festival of the Sacred supported by Melbourne based choreography company A3.

Excursions and Camps.

Connecting with our local community through excursions to places of interest is integral to our teaching learning program.

Borambola outdoor camp (2017)

Melbourne urban camp (2017)

Children in Grades 2/3, 4, 5 and 6 have the experience of a camp each year.

Parent Partnerships Working together...

The Sandhurst Diocese is committed to its Parent Leadership and Family Engagement Strategy: *Schools Without Borders*. In 2016 we will continue to build on parental engagement as we recognise our shared hopes to build every child's achievement, life chances and spirit of service.

Parents are leading initiatives to increase the engagement of families in the education of their children in fulfilling the Church's mission to understand parents as the primary educators. Parents have a voice in the governance and future directions of the school through participating in

Community Conversations. Our commitment to parent engagement is informed and inspired by the research and practice of contemporary parent educators and leaders who affirm the importance of:

- parent connectedness (*the capacity of families to support their children's learning and their own*)
 - community links (*engaging in mutually beneficial activities to include all as partners in raising local children and youth*)
 - personalised curriculum (*connecting students to their learning*)
 - community based enhanced learning (*engaging the disengaged*)
- (Otero et al, 2011, Hawker Brownlow)



Healthy Children

Some suggestions...

Students are encouraged to:

- Bring only water to school to drink
- Bring a piece of fruit for fruit break each day
- Wear a hat in Terms 1 and 4 whenever outside
- Avoid processed foods when packing lunch boxes
- Minimise wrappings when bringing lunch to school - Nude food day each Thursday

A number of fresh foods are grown in our school garden, for students to harvest and cook with. Class involvement varies depending upon curriculum focus and availability.

Due to the very cold weather in Corryong, parents organise hot lunch Mondays throughout Term 2 and Term 3. For special days and school celebrations, a sausage sizzle is normally provided for students.

Sport Striving...

Participation in sport is part of the daily rhythm at Sacred Heart School.

Daily Fitness Each morning the whole school gathers for fitness activities. Fitness sessions build stamina, develop coordination and foster fun in students, with the principles of *Bluearth* embedded within activities.

Weekly Lessons Twice each week students participate in sports lessons with a fully qualified PE teacher. Specific skills and games are explicitly taught. These include traditional sports such as football and netball, as well as creating opportunities for students to experience other sports: racquet ball, golf, surfing, baseball, kayaking, soccer, table tennis, gymnastics, basketball, cricket, tennis, cycling and bushwalking.

Annual School Carnivals Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics (with local schools) and Winter Sports Carnival.

Zone and Regional Competitions: Football, Netball, Soccer, Cricket, Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics. Primary students participate in the Small Schools competitions for the Upper Murray.



Emerging Technologies Contemporary global learning...

Rapid and continuing advances in information communication technology are changing the way people share, use, develop and process information, problem solve and access technology in school and beyond.

Today's students need a richer and more engaging curriculum that meets the demands of an increasingly globalised and interconnected world. Access to wikis, blogs, webcasting, distant experts, mentors and wider communities/classrooms open up exciting opportunities and create powerful education.



We see technology as a digital device that enables learning and extends student knowledge in an engaging fashion.

At Sacred Heart School all students from Year 1 have a 1:1 laptop. Foundation students have access to 1:1 iPads. Coding is taught at our school.

Moving to digital teaching has required staff to inquire how they could transfer their 'effective' teaching strategies to incorporate digital tools and technologies in order to enhance and extend the learning experience – there will always be a place for direct instruction and explicit teaching.

Inclusive Education Celebrating diversity...

All children can learn. At Sacred Heart we welcome all students and journey alongside them. We validate students for who they are and guide them towards responsible citizenship, aware of their many needs and interests. We aim to grow students in goodness, skilling them to stay in the local community, to move away and most importantly to have the choice.



All students learn within inclusive classroom environments with specialist, individualised support provided as needed. We are committed to supporting all of our students in their learning. At Sacred Heart School, everyone belongs.

Students are appreciated for who they are as individuals and their presence enriches our school environment. The contributions to the school of all students, is valued.

All students are challenged with learning opportunities which are appropriate to their particular needs and talents. At Sacred Heart School, we are proud of our culture of inclusion.

Safety

Our small size is our strength...



The safety and well-being of all students is paramount. Away from the distractions of the main shopping street, at Sacred Heart School students are accommodated in contemporary facilities with a rural outlook.

At Sacred Heart School our small size is our strength. Our small community will benefit your child in many ways, including greater access to opportunities and support.

The intimate family nature of our school enables us to know each child and their families. This allows the school to prepare your child for their future. We aim to do this by creating a welcoming environment based on acceptance and trust.

We believe that all children have the right to be heard and respected, and to feel a sense of belonging to their family, school and community, enabling them to be successful learners.

We have a number of initiatives and programs designed to keep our children safe:

- P.B.I.S. Positive Behaviour Interventions and Support.
- Blueearth; a program designed to promote exercise as a habit, to address the integration of body, mind and spirit through participation and cooperation in physical activity.
- Bike Education alerts students to road safety and skills them up as road users.
- Pro-active approach to cyber-safety and bullying and harassment through explicit teaching, awareness raising and respectful, responsible behaviours.
- A Chaplain / Youth Worker engages with students of all ages.
- Water Safety is taught at the beginning and end of each school year.

School Fees

2016 Fees and levies...

	ANNUAL	WEEKLY
1 child family fee	\$834 per year	\$16.04 per week
2 or more children	\$1260 per year	\$24.23 per week
Levies F-2	\$241 per year	\$ 4.63 per week
Levies 3	\$535 per year	\$10.03 per week
Levies 4	\$605 per year	\$11.63 per week
Levies 5-6/L.L.C.	\$745 per year	\$14.33 per week

The Levies include ALL costs associated with school camps, stationery, books, excursions, technology including individual laptops, photocopying, art and craft materials and other costs involved in teaching and learning programs.

The cost of camps and other activities are subsidised by the school to keep these experiences affordable and to ensure that all students can participate and are included.

Uniform

We belong...

Our school uniform looks smart and is comfortable to wear. Black school shoes are to be worn all year round. As part of our sun safe policy, a navy blue school hat with logo is to be worn in Terms 1 and 4. Hats and pre-loved uniforms may be purchased from school (gold coin donation). Other items can be purchased from Brunella School Wear in Wodonga.



Boys

Grey shorts

Pale blue polo shirt with school emblem

Grey socks

Summer

Grey long pants

Light blue long sleeved polo shirt with emblem

Royal blue fleece jacket with emblem

Grey socks

Winter

Sports

Navy tracksuit pants or navy sports shorts, gold polo shirt with school emblem. White socks

Girls

Blue and white checked dress

OR Navy blue shorts

Pale blue polo shirt with school emblem

White socks

Blue, grey, white checked pleated skirt

OR navy blue pants

Lt blue long sleeved polo shirt / emblem

Royal blue fleece jacket with emblem

White socks / Navy tights