



20 October 2025

Dear St Joseph's Primary School community

I write to inform you that Nicholas Murrell has been appointed as Principal of St Joseph's Primary School, Warrnambool. Nick will commence this new position at the beginning of the 2026 school year.

Nick has served the community of St Pius X since the beginning of 2024 as a professional and effective leader, and prior to this appointment, Nick was Principal of St Patrick's Primary School, Koroit, for four years. He has also taught at and held various positions of leadership at St Joseph's after beginning his teaching career at All Saints Primary School, Portland.

During his time at both St Pius X and St Patrick's, Nick has ensured a positive learning culture that is inclusive, innovative and grounded in Gospel values, as evidenced by the structured approach to literacy. In terms of student wellbeing, Nick has prioritised inclusion and wellbeing for all students, particularly through the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework. He has also continued to enhance Catholic identity through recontextualised prayer, meaningful liturgical celebrations and an engaging religious education program.

Nick is a highly qualified educational leader, having completed his Master of Educational Leadership, a Graduate Certificate – Educational Interventions and a Bachelor of Education – Primary. Nick has always valued lifelong learning, having participated in various leadership programs such as the Country Diocese Leadership Program. He has contributed significantly to our Diocesan education community as a member of the DOBCEL Family and Community Engagement Committee.

Nick is actively engaged with his local parish, Star of the Sea Catholic Parish, South-West Coast, having served on the Infant Jesus, Koroit, Parish Leadership Team.

The selection panel were most impressed with Nick's vision for St Joseph's Primary School, along with his desire to ensure improved educational outcomes for all students. His experience as a leader within a number of Catholic primary schools within the Diocese makes him an ideal person to be appointed as the next Principal of St Joseph's.

I offer my congratulations to Nick. I also extend my appreciation to Matthew O'Brien as the outgoing Principal, for his outstanding leadership of St Joseph's Primary.

I ask you to join me in wishing Nick all the best in his new role and welcome him to the St Joseph's community.

Yours sincerely

Tom Sexton
Executive Director