



Newsletter

Term 1| Week 1, Friday 30th Jan 2026

Annunciation Catholic Primary School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome Back!

We hope the holidays brought rest, laughter and precious time together for your family. It has been a joy to welcome our students back to school, already full of stories to share and enthusiasm for the year ahead. The beginning of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement—new learning, new friendships and the opportunity to work with new teachers and classmates as we grow together as a community.

As we begin 2026, we do so inspired by Pope Leo's message, which calls us to be people of hope, compassion and courage in our everyday lives. He reminds us that our schools are more than places of learning; they are communities where kindness is lived, relationships are nurtured and each person is valued as a gift from God. Throughout the year, our students will be encouraged to bring this message to life through small but meaningful actions—showing care for one another, approaching challenges with confidence and contributing positively to our school community.

We look forward to a wonderful year ahead, working in partnership with families to support each child to flourish academically, socially and spiritually.

Take care,
Anna



ANNUNCIATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

4-14 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn 3012 PO Box 431 Altona North 3025 Ph: (03) 9314 6271
Web: www.asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au Email: office@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au



DATES TO NOTE FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT

Day/Date/Month	Event
Monday 2nd February:	8:55 am Assembly (Note new time & day)
Tuesday 3rd February:	11:50 am Beginning of the Year Mass (All invited)
Wednesday 4 th February:	No School for Foundation Students
Monday 9th February:	Term 1 Overviews emailed to families
Wednesday 11th February:	No School for Foundation Students
Thursday 12 th February:	Welcome Picnic & Information Session (save the date)
Friday 13 th February:	Newsletter Published

Term Dates for 2026

	Term Starts	Term Ends
Term 1	Staff: Tuesday 27th January Students: Thursday 29th January	Students: Wednesday 1st April at 1:00 pm Staff: Thursday 2nd April
Term 2	Staff & Students: Tuesday 21st April	Students: Friday 26th June at 1:00 pm Staff: Friday 26th June at 2:00 pm
Term 3	Staff & Students: Monday 13th July	Students: Friday 18th September at 1:00 pm Staff: Friday 18th September at 2:00 pm
Term 4	Staff & Students: Monday 5th October	Students: Tuesday 15th December at 1:00 pm Staff: TBC

WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES FOR 2026:

School closure days play an essential role in ensuring teachers have the dedicated time they need to engage in meaningful professional learning. These days allow staff to deepen their skills, reflect on practice, and collaborate without the demands of classroom supervision. By investing in teacher growth, we ultimately strengthen the learning experience for every student. While we understand closures require planning for families, the long-term benefits for teaching quality and student outcomes make this time invaluable.

CLOSED

Please note the following dates have been allocated as School Closure Days for 2026:

*Wednesday 28th January

*Thursday 28th May

*Tuesday 10th March

*Monday 2nd November

*Thursday 2nd April

THE SACRAMENTS



SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2026:

Our Yr 3 students who are baptised Catholics will be celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this year.

Our Yr 6 students who are baptised Catholics and who have previously celebrated the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

This Sacrament is a Sacrament of Initiation and follows Baptism and Eucharist in confirming your child as a full member of the Church.

Reconciliation	First Eucharist	Confirmation
Parent/Student Workshop Thursday 26th February 6:00 pm at Annunciation, Brooklyn	Parent/Student Workshop Thursday 23rd April 6:00 pm at Corpus Christi, Kingsville	Parent/Student Workshop Thursday 16th July 6:00 pm at St Augustine's, Yarraville
Sacrament of First Reconciliation Thursday 19th March 6:00 pm Annunciation Church, Brooklyn	Sacrament of First Eucharist Masses over 2 weekends in May 23/5 & 24/5 30/5 & 31/5	Sacrament of Confirmation Sunday 9th August 2:00 pm at St Augustine's, Yarraville

CLASS STRUCTURE – 2026

We are pleased to share our staffing allocation for 2026, which enables us to continue providing strong support for student learning and wellbeing across the school. Our class structures and staffing reflect both enrolment numbers and the diverse learning needs of our students, and we are confident that the team in place will offer continuity, care and high-quality learning experiences.

Leadership

Principal & Religious Education Leader	Mrs Anna Yorston
Deputy Principal, Learning Diversity, MHIPS & Wellbeing Leader	Ms Lucy Vassallo
Learning & Teaching Leader (Wed, Thurs & Fri)	Mrs Belinda Ward
Literacy Leader (Thurs)	Mrs Teresa Holland

Administration

Mrs Naina Padukone (Mon-Fri)
Mrs Deanne Fitzgerald (Mon)

Teachers

Year Foundation/Year 1	Miss Jodie Russell
Year 2/3	Ms Mary Guastalegname
Year 4/5	Mrs Teresa Holland (Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri) & Miss Denise (Thurs)
Year 5/6	Miss Daniella Romano

Learning Support Officers

Year Foundation/Year 1	Sidonie Shields
Year 2/3	Christine Christodoulou
Year 4/5	Connie Velardo
Year 5/6	Marta Llorens Martin

Specialists

Science & Performing Arts/Music (Thurs & Fri)	Mrs Therese Hughes
PE (Fri)	Miss Denise
Intervention (Tues & Wed) & Digital Technologies (Fri)	Miss Shruti Lad
Japanese (Fri)	Mrs Pippa Murray

WELCOME PICNIC: THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY (5:30-7:00 PM)

This is an opportunity for you to meet other families in the school and your child/ren's classroom teacher.

We'll start the night in the school yard with a family picnic (BYO) followed by an information session in the classroom. In these sessions teachers will discuss the curriculum, expectations, homework etc. You will also be able to ask questions. We will stagger the sessions for families that need to attend more than one.

Please note that as this is a school event, NO ALCOHOL is permitted.

Sessions will be as follows:

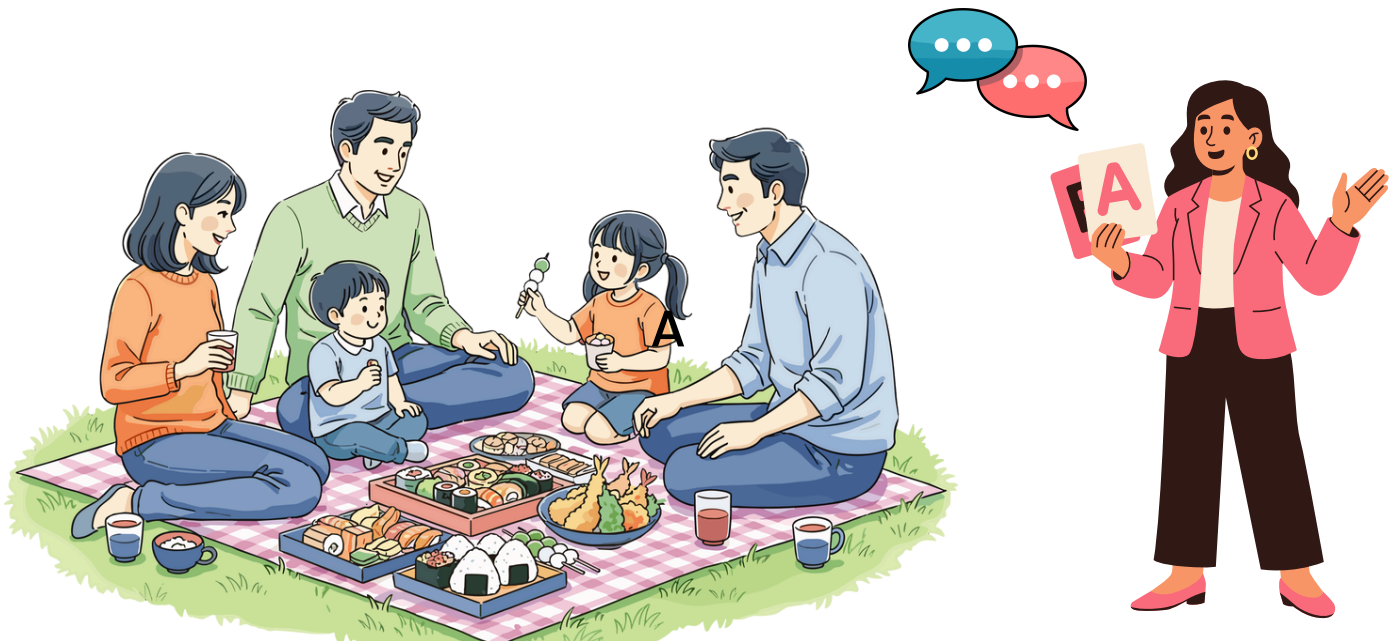
F-1 session: 6:00pm

Yr 2/3 session: 6:15pm

Yr 4/5 session: 6:30pm

Yr 5/6 session: 6:45pm

Each session will run for approximately 15 mins. Toddlers are to remain with their parents. School aged students can remain in the yard to be supervised by staff.



CHANGES TO ASSEMBLY FROM THE BEGINNING OF 2026:

From the beginning of 2026, our whole-school assembly will move from Friday afternoons to Monday mornings and will now take place fortnightly rather than weekly. Assemblies will be held in the even weeks of each term from **8:55 am–9:25 am**. This change has been made to ensure we maximise quality teaching time for our students and to support the shift in our Specialist timetable on Fridays. We understand that this adjustment may take some getting used to. **Our first school assembly for 2026 will be held this Monday, 2nd February** and we would love to have as many parents as possible attend.



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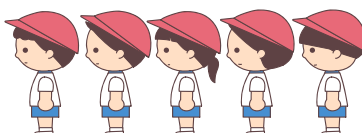
DAILY TIMETABLE:

We kindly remind you of the importance of ensuring your child arrives at school on time each morning. A punctual start to the day sets the tone for focused learning and helps your child make the most of their school experience. Morning routines often include key learning activities that support academic progress and social connections with peers. We greatly appreciate your support in helping your child arrive on time, ready to learn and engage with the day ahead.



Time	Task	Note
8:30-8:45 am	Staff in classrooms	Gates open & School Leaders on duty
8:45-8:55 am	Students enter the classroom	Unpack, Get ready for the day, Morning Prayer
8:55-10:55 am	Learning Block 1	X 2 hours
10:55-11:05 am	Eating Time	In classroom
11:05-11:25 am	Lunch 1st Duty	1 x teacher & 1 x LSO on yard duty
11:25-11:45 am	Lunch 2nd Duty	1 x teacher & 1 x LSO on yard duty
11:45-1:45 pm	Learning Block 2	X 2 hours
1:45-1:55 pm	Eating Time	In classroom
1:55-2:10 pm	Recess 1st Duty	2 x teachers on yard duty
2:10-2:25 pm	Recess 2nd Duty	2 x teachers on yard duty
2:25-3:25 pm	Learning Block 3	X 1 hour
3:25 pm	Bell rings	Teachers walk students outside for dismissal

Students are to line up under the shaded area in roll order at the beginning and end of the school day.



COMMUNICATION:

As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining strong communication between home and school, we would like to share some helpful guidelines for emailing your child's teacher. Clear and effective communication plays a vital role in supporting student success, and these protocols will ensure your inquiries and concerns are handled efficiently.

Use a Clear Subject Line: Ensure the subject line of your email clearly indicates the purpose of your message. This helps teachers identify and prioritise emails for a timely response.

Maintain a Professional Tone: Use a polite and respectful tone in your emails. Positive and professional communication strengthens the partnership between home and school.

Include Your Child's Details: Always include your child's full name and year level in your message. This is especially important if you have multiple children at the school and ensures teachers can respond accurately.

Be Specific: Provide detailed information about your concerns or questions. Specific examples, dates, or context can assist teachers in understanding and addressing your inquiry effectively.

Suggest Availability: If you need to arrange a meeting or phone call, propose times that work for you. This helps streamline scheduling and ensures a productive discussion.

Allow Time for Responses: Please remember that teachers are busy teaching throughout the day and may not be able to reply to emails immediately. If your matter is urgent, we encourage you to contact the school directly via phone at 9314 6271.

Respect Confidentiality: Be mindful of privacy and avoid sharing sensitive information about other students or families in your correspondence. We value your role in your child's education and appreciate your cooperation in following these guidelines. Working together, we can create a positive and productive environment for all students.

Please see below for the email addresses of Annunciation staff:

Jodie Russell: **Yr F/1 teacher**

Mary Guastalegname: **Yr 2/3 teacher**

Tessa Holland: **Yr 4/5 teacher/Literacy Leader**

Daniella Romano: **F/1 teacher**

Therese Hughes: **Science/Music teacher**

Denise Horner: **PE teacher/4/5 teacher**

Pippa Murray: **Japanese teacher**

Shruti Lad: **DT/Intervention Teacher**

Belinda Ward: **Learning & Teacher Leader**

Naina Padukone: **Office Administrator**

Lucy Vassallo: **DP/LDL/Wellbeing & MHIPS Leader**

Anna Yorston: **Principal/Religious Education Leader**

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lvassallo@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

principal@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au



SCHOOL FEES



School Fees will be live in the CDFpay app on the 30th of January. This will ensure that when parents log into CDFpay for the first time, their 2026 fees will be visible!

CDFpay have recently made some updates to help resource hyperlinks in our templates, please download the latest versions of templates from CDFpay Resource Hub to make sure they are always up to date!

[CDFpay Resource Hub](#)



Downloading the app (for families):

Please follow these instructions to register for a CDFpay account:

1. Search 'CDFpay' on the App Store (Apple) or Google Play store, download the app, then click 'Sign up now'. Alternatively, scan the QR code or enter the following link in your web browser:
<https://user.cdfpay.flexischools.com.au/register>
2. Enter and confirm your email address, then click 'Sign up'.
3. Tip: CDFpay automatically links your school fees when your CDFpay email matches the primary email address on file at your school. If the emails don't match, you can manually link your school fees by selecting the 'School fees' tile on the home page and following the on-screen instructions. Check your email inbox and follow the prompts to complete your account registration (check junk/spam if lost).

Note: Only one parent or guardian per account code will be able to link and manage school fees in CDFpay.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING – STRENGTHENING LITERACY AT ANNUNCIATION

On Tuesday, our staff took part in a professional learning day focused on the UFLI Literacy Program (University of Florida Literacy Institute). This high-quality, research-based program supports the explicit teaching of foundational reading skills, including phonics, decoding and spelling, in a clear and structured way.

UFLI is designed to help students build strong early reading foundations through short, targeted lessons that are engaging and responsive to student needs. It supports consistency in teaching practices while allowing teachers to closely monitor progress and provide timely support where needed.

All staff were active participants in the professional learning, engaging thoughtfully with the program and reflecting on how it can be implemented effectively across classrooms. This shared learning experience reinforces our collective commitment to consistent, high-quality literacy practices throughout the school, ensuring that students experience a common and supportive approach to learning as they move through the year levels.

We are excited to be introducing the UFLI Literacy Program in our Junior classes this year as part of our ongoing commitment to improving literacy outcomes for all students. We look forward to partnering with families as we support our youngest learners to develop confidence and success in reading and writing.



PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are required to assist in the making of some UFLI resources such as the sample below. All materials will be provided. If you're able to assist, please email Ms Belinda Ward: bward@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au OR Ms Tess Holland: tholland@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



CLASSROOM CUISINE – Term 1

Classroom Cuisine has updated their menu for Term 1. They have added a Wrap with Chicken, Mayonnaise & Salad and Prawn Rice Paper Rolls. We are committed to supporting local Victorian producers and businesses. Their subsequent courses now include an ANZAC biscuit and Yo Yo biscuit from the Red Hill Cookie Co., and Dried Pineapple Pieces from Peels, which are absolutely delicious!



Healthy, Interesting and Affordable Lunch Packs, Delivered to School

ANNUNCIATION – Term 1, 2026 – Wednesday!

Order until 8:30am on the day!

2 Course Lunch Pack from \$6.45!

Choose a Main Course item, then select 1 or 2 items from the Snack/Drink Menu to make up a 2 or 3 Course Lunch Pack

Main Course Menu	2 Course	3 Course	Snack/Drink Menu
BAKERY – All items freshly baked this morning!			
Cheese & Vegemite Scroll (V)	\$6.45	\$8.95	FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES Apple pieces, +\$1.00
Savoury Bite 'Little Frank' Roll	\$6.45	\$8.95	Lemon juice, Cinnamon & Brown Sugar +\$1.00
Topped with Only Cheese Roll (V)	\$6.45	\$8.95	Fresh Fruit Combo Freshly Chopped Included
Cheese & Bacon Roll	\$7.45	\$9.95	Orange Segments Freshly Chopped Included
Scroll with Ham & Cheese	\$9.95	\$12.85	Watermelon Pieces Included
Frankfurt 'in a blanket' with Sauce & Cheese (2)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Whole Fruit – Apple Included
			Whole Fruit – Banana Included
			Bag of Grapes Included
			Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum Included
			Cherry Tomatoes, Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers Included
			Corn Wheels & Lightly Steamed Broccoli Included
			Edamame (Lightly Salted) Included
PIZZA / SAUSAGE ROLLS / GOZLEME / PASTIZZI / QUESADILLA / PUFF PARCELS – SERVED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE!			
Ricotta & Spinach Pastizzi (2) (V)	\$7.45	\$9.95	BAKERY – SWEET
Margherita Pizza TWIST(V)	\$8.95	\$11.45	ANZAC Biscuit Included
Sausage Roll with Sauce	\$8.95	\$11.45	Choc Chip Cookie Included
Margherita PITA Pizza (V)	\$8.95	\$11.45	Cinnamon Doughnut Included
Quesadilla (Chicken) served with Sour Cream (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Cornflake Cookie Included
Tandoori Chicken Puff Parcel with Mango Chutney (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Finger Bun with Sprinkles Included
Ham & Pineapple Pizza Slice	\$10.95	\$13.65	Hot Cross Bun Included
BBQ Chicken Pizza (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Lamington Included
Lamb & Beef Gozleme (H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Blueberry Muffin +\$1.00
Mushroom & Spinach Gozleme (Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Carrot Cup Cake (GF/DF/Vg) +\$1.00
Spinach & Cheese Gozleme (V)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Choc Cup Cake (GF/DF/Vg) +\$1.00
			Jam Drop Biscuit (GF) +\$1.00
			YoYo Biscuit +\$1.00
SUSHI HAND ROLLS (2pc) – Soy Sauce (GF) Provided			
Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (H)	\$12.30	\$14.80	SUSHI
Crispy Chicken (Schnitzel) Hand Rolls (H)	\$12.30	\$14.80	1pc Tuna Sushi (GF) +\$1.00
Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (GF)	\$12.30	\$14.80	
Avocado Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$12.30	\$14.80	POPCORN / HARVEST SNAPS
Cucumber Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$12.30	\$14.80	Popcorn –Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted Included
Vegetarian Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$12.30	\$14.80	Popcorn –Lightly Salted Included
Tofu Hand Rolls (GF, V)	\$12.30	\$14.80	Harvest Snaps (GF/DF/Vg) Included
RICE PAPER ROLLS (2pc) – (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday only)			
Chicken Rice Paper Rolls (GF, H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	DRIED FRUIT / LEGUMES
Prawn Rice Paper Rolls (GF, H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Lime & Black Pepper Chickpeas Included
Vegetarian Rice Paper Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Roasted Chickpeas Included
			Balsamic & Sea Salt Fava Beans Included
			Dried Pineapple Pieces by "Peels" +\$1.00
SANDWICHES/ ROLLS/WRAPPS/SOFTSHELL TACOS			
Strawberry Jam Sandwich (1.5) (Vg)	\$7.45	\$9.95	DIPS WITH MINI RICE CAKES / CORN CHIPS
Vegemite Sandwich (2) (Vg)	\$8.95	\$11.45	Avocado Dip with Mini Rice Cakes +\$1.00
Soft Shell Chicken Taco with Salsa, Cheese & Salad (2)	\$8.95	\$12.85	Spicy Capsicum Dip with Mini Rice Cakes +\$1.00
Plain Cheese Sandwich (2) (V)	\$9.95	\$12.85	Spring Onion Dip with Mini Rice Cakes +\$1.00
Simple Salad Roll (Vg)	\$9.95	\$12.85	Tzatziki Dip with Mini Rice Cakes +\$1.00
Cheese & Salad Roll (V)	\$9.95	\$13.65	Corn Chips with Salsa (GF) +\$1.00
Wholegrain Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	YOGHURTS / BOWLS / CUPS
Roast Beef, Chutney, Cheese & Lettuce Roll	\$10.95	\$13.75	Raspberry Jelly Cup Included
Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Strawberry Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers) +\$1.00
Mild Salami & Salad Roll	\$11.50	\$13.75	Vanilla Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers) +\$1.00
Wrap with Chicken, Mayonnaise & Salad (H)	\$11.50	\$14.95	Chia Bowl with Banana, Coconut & Strawberries +\$1.00
	\$12.75		Stewed Rhubarb and Apple with Custard +\$1.00
SALADS / PICNIC BOXES / POKE BOWLS			
Fresh Fruit Salad –Main Course Size (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75	DRINKS
Ham Picnic Box (GF)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Apple Juice (Nippy's) Included
Vegetarian Picnic Box (GF, V)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Orange Juice (Nippy's) Included
Greek Style Salad with Feta & Olives (GF, V)	\$12.75	\$14.95	Chocolate Milk (Nippy's) Included
Mexican Inspired Salad with Corn Chips (GF, Vg)	\$12.75	\$14.95	Strawberry Milk (Nippy's) Included
Tortellini Pasta Salad (V) (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday only)	\$12.75	\$14.95	Full Cream Milk Included
Poke Bowl with Teriyaki Chicken (H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	
GF SANDWICHES & WRAPS			
GF Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	
GF Cucumber & Ham Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	
GF Wrap –Ham & Salad	\$12.75	\$14.95	

GF = Gluten Free, DF = Dairy Free, H = Halal, V = Vegetarian, Vg = Vegan

Descriptions, dietary and allergen information available on our website.

www.classroomcuisine.com.au



ORDER NOW

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CASTING CALL

We're searching for:

KIDS AGED 10 - 12 YEARS OLD

To play the leads in a new ABC kids series, in association with the ACTF and the team behind shows such as:

Little Lunch, The InBESTigators and Dear Life.

MUST BE BASED IN/AROUND MELBOURNE

Production for this project will run from
March to September 2026.

Must have good availability across this period.

THESE ARE PAID ROLES

NO ACTING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Parents/guardians - please follow the link below for more project and application information.

www.nathanlloyd.com.au/gristmill



Nathan Lloyd Casting have cast such projects as:
Do Not Watch This Show, Knee High Spies, The InBESTigators,
Little Lunch, Love Me, Surviving Summer & Safe Home.



Sunday 1st March

12PM-5PM

**Parkingon HarvesterRd Sunshine
withshort walkoverrail footbridge**

Community Festival
in the



**H.V. McKay
Gardens**

120 Anderson Road, Sunshine

**Food,marketstalls,free facepainting,
live performances, sporting activities, games
and prizes**

**Free gift for children that attend
'Singalong for the Kids' at 12:30!**



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