



St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 9 | 7 June 2023



News from the Principal

Dear Families,

As a school that is committed to child safety, this Friday's school closure day will be used for **Sarah Morgante** to work with the whole staff to develop an understanding of the new 11 Victorian Child Safe Standards (MO 1359) and re-embed a culture of safety and wellbeing, focussing on practices currently in place across the school. We will also examine in detail PROTECT - Identifying and Responding to All Forms of Abuse in Victorian Schools and explore the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

In relation to child safety, one aspect of our organisational culture, that St Mary's School staff is proud of, is the way student behaviour is managed, so that everyone is safe, valued and respected. At the beginning of each school year, class and year level cohorts dedicate time to setting clear expectations that create a safe and supportive learning environment within our school. Now at mid-year, staff, students and families are familiar with expectations. Most students are very well mannered, kind and considerate and the overall day to day student behaviour is excellent.

Approximately five years ago, students were formally consulted about our values of safe, respectful and responsible and the behaviours that imitate these. Students' responses were collated to create a child-friendly behaviour expectations matrix. Complementing this, classroom and playground behaviour management flowcharts were created and all students are familiar with them and assist them to monitor their own learning and behaviour, as well as helping the students to understand the impact of their choices. Please follow the link to the [behaviour matrix](#) and [behaviour flowcharts](#) on the school website.

As part of our **School Wide Positive Behaviours and Respectful Relationships** initiatives, respect, positive attitudes and behaviours are promoted and modelled and taught during our social, emotional learning sessions. These sessions teach our students how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. We have also

recently introduced **The Resilience Project**, in an effort to teach the importance of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness.

As a school community, we appreciate that we all make various choices. At St Mary's School our focus is helping students to make the choices that help them to maximise learning and development. No child's behaviour is perfect and they are not expected to always make the best choice. As adults, it is our responsibility to support children to learn from their poor choices. When dealing with behaviour that may involve students making undesirable or harmful choices, staff use a restorative approach that helps students to reflect on their feelings and how they may be a trigger for choices made. Helping students to understand their feelings can assist in understanding the choices made. Parents and caregivers may like to use the Restorative Practices approach at home to support the conversation around choices your children are making.

When a student's unacceptable behaviour negatively impacts learning, play, others or is unsafe, usually after their third reminder/warning, they are given a 'pink slip'. This usually requires them to meet with members of leadership for a restorative conversation in an effort to redirect them to more positive behaviours. The 'pink slip' has recently been updated and if your child receives one, families will be notified by their classroom or specialist teacher via email or phone call. We appreciate families' support in assisting the school in the management of student behaviour.

Like every school, we have students with additional behaviour needs. These students have strategies to use, receive regular support to re-regulate when needed and most have a behavioural support plan. Staff are also working closely with their families and the students' support teams.

Please take advantage of the upcoming extra long weekend to prepare for the final two weeks of this term, before the holidays.

Kind Regards, Annice Lappin

Upcoming Dates in 2023

TERM 2

Week 7

Wednesday 7 June

PFA Meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm

Thursday 8 June

Lunch Order Day: Pizza

Division Soccer Lightning Premiership,
Year 5/6 selected students

Friday 9 June

STUDENT FREE DAY

Staff Professional Learning

Week 8

Monday 12 June

SCHOOL CLOSED: King's Birthday

Tuesday 13 June

School Advisory Council Meeting

Division AFL Lightning Premiership, Year
5/6 selected students

Week 9

Monday 19 June

Regional Athletics; qualifying students

Tuesday 20 June

Cadbury Fundraising boxes distributed

Wednesday 21 June

Student Reports emailed to families

Friday 23 June

School Assembly: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE

OF DAY & TIME, (Foundation) 12:40 pm

Gates open 12:35 pm

End of Term 2; 1:00pm School Dismissal

TERM 3

Week 1

Monday 10 July: STUDENT FREE DAY

Parent—Teacher Conversations

Tuesday 11 July

Students Commence Term 3, 8:50 am

2023 Staff Email List

Scan the QR
Code or
follow the [link](#)



2023 Family Handbook

Scan the QR
Code or
follow the [link](#)



St Mary's School acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.



News from the Deputy Principal

Dear Families,

A rewarding element of our role as educators is celebrating student achievement and progress.

Over the past two weeks, it has been such a delight to work with each teaching team to reflect on and determine individual student progress and the collective growth made across each year level cohort. Our conversations and data reflection have informed our next steps for **class instruction** and **cohort intervention needs** as well as **student achievement** as it will appear in Student Progress Reports.

This Semester's Student Progress Report will contain:

Subject Overviews; briefly outlining the curriculum content covered in *Religious Education, Knowledge Building, Physical Education, STEM, Music and Visual Arts*.

Student Achievement Marks; showing your child's progress in *Religious Education, English (Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening), Mathematics (Number & Algebra), Physical Education and in Years 3-6 The Humanities (Civics & Citizenship, History, Geography)*.

Effort & Behaviour Rubric and Teacher Comment; prepared by your child's classroom educator.

Student Progress Reports will be distributed to families, via email, on **Wednesday, 21 June**. Thank you for ensuring the primary and secondary email addresses, as listed on your child(ren)'s Operoo profiles, are up to date.

Complementing the Progress Reports, are this semester's **Student SeeSaw Journals**. Throughout the Semester, work samples in Reading, Writing and Mathematics have been posted by classroom educators.

Parent and Teacher Conversations will take place on Monday 10 July, from 9:15am - 5:00pm. Students do not attend the scheduled meeting time with you. Booking information will be shared this coming Friday morning via Operoo.

This term, the Year 1/2 students have been learning about our **Parish Community**. It has been such a delight to see how their key actions from their learning is helping the people in our wider community. Allan and the beneficiaries of the Year 1/2 donations are most grateful for your generosity.

A major focus for this term has been the equitable and safe use of the **Playground**. After further consultation and feedback from students, an updated iteration of the school's Playground Timetable was introduced last week (see page 3). The next round of student feedback will be gathered at the end of the term.

Our next **School Assembly**, led by Foundation, is now scheduled for **Friday 23 June at 12:40pm** - not Monday 19 June, as previously communicated. Please join us as we gather in gratitude for the wonderful term we have had together. **The Parish and Front Gates will open at 12:35pm on this day.**

Cari Saluti, Marie Monea

Year 1/2 Students, Church & Community Learning



Allan, Manager of the Parish Pantry with the donated items.

Thank you to students and their families in Year 1/2 for supporting the Parish Pantry food collection this term, as part of the students' Church and Community learning.

Pictured top are **Jacqui M** (LSO) and **Bridgette Henderson** (Religious Education Leader and Learning Enhancement) taking one week's collection to the Parish Pantry.

The Year 1/2 cohort are collecting until the end of term. The pantry appreciates items such as Vegemite, honey, jam, peanut butter, tinned tomatoes and beans.

TERM 2 Key Dates

Week 7	Wednesday 7/6	Year 5/6 Netball; participating students
	Wednesday 7/6	Parents' and Friends Meeting; 7:00pm
	Thursday 8/6	Lunch Order Day: Pizza
	Friday 9/6	Student Free Day: Staff Professional Learning
Week 8	Monday 12/6	School Closed: King's Birthday
	Tuesday 13/6	PSG Meetings - Day 3
	Tuesday 13/6	School Advisory Council; 7:00pm
Week 9	Wednesday 21/6	Student Reports emailed to families
	Friday 23/6	School Assembly (Foundation), 12:40 pm. Gates open at 12:35pm. NEW DATE.
	Friday 23/6	End of Term 2; 1:00pm Dismissal



Respectful, Responsible and Safe **TIMETABLE for Outside Play**
(Compiled in consultation with Student Feedback **22.5.2023**)

<i>Students play with own cohorts</i>		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Recess 11:40am - 12:10pm Staff on Duty will be wearing a yellow vest 	(Football) Large Field - School End 	Year 3/4	Year 5/6	Year 3/4	Foundation & Year 1/2 (Football or Soccer - Cohort Choice)	Year 3/4
	(Soccer) Small Field - McKillop St 	Year 5/6	Foundation & Year 1/2 (Football or Soccer - Cohort Choice)	Year 5/6	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
	(Basketball/Netball) Asphalt 		Year 3/4		Year 5/6	
Lunch 2:00pm - 2:30pm Staff on Duty will be wearing a yellow vest 	(Football) Large Field - School End 	Year 5/6	Year 3/4	Year 5/6	Foundation & Year 1/2 (Football or Soccer - Cohort Choice)	Year 5/6
	(Soccer) Small Field - McKillop St 	Year 3/4	Foundation & Year 1/2 (Football or Soccer - Cohort Choice)	Year 3/4	Year 5/6	Year 3/4
	(Basketball/Netball) Asphalt 		Year 5/6		Year 3/4	

St Mary's School Parents & Friends' Association News

St Mary's Parents & Friends Association

TRIVIA NIGHT

2023

Save the date and book in the babysitters!
Come along and enjoy some friendly
competition at the St Mary's P&F Trivia Night.
Please support this great fundraiser for our school.

FRIDAY
14th JULY

7pm
Pioneer Room
St Mary's Parish

COST: \$20 per person (8-10 people per table)
BYO nibbles and drinks

Trivia Master | Simon Morrison

• Silent Auctions • Games and Prizes

Bookings will be via TryBooking.

Details in School Newsletter and School's Social Facebook page

Contact Lauren 0418 580 949 for team booking instructions or to join a team

Please support this great fundraiser for our school, last year we raised over \$7000!

Any offers of donations for auction prizes (goods or services) gratefully accepted!

Please contact Lauren Cambridge 0418580949 or Courtney Lamana 0413408613 (via FB messenger)

SAVE THE DATE for **BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE, 2 September** - volunteers are required on the day to help flip snags or handle money while smiling at customers. Further details, soon.

Community News



 A PLACE FOR BEAUTIFUL THINGS

POTTERY STUDIO-EVENTS & GALLERY

School Holiday's Pottery & Craft Sessions

Tue 27th June 10.30am-12.30pm Kids Pottery Class
 Wed 28th June 10.30am-12.30pm Kids Pottery Class
 Tue 4th July 10.30am-12.30pm Kids Pottery Class
 Wed 28th June 10.30am-12.30pm Bath Bomb Class

Additional classes will be listed on these dates and other dates if these book out. Adults may book a spot for themselves to join in and make something as well. You can either stay or drop off.

\$50 per person for 2 hours. Includes clay, colours, glazes and 2 kiln firings.

To book visit the website <https://hazytales.com/events/events-calendar/>

These are a few of the other things we do at Hazy Tales Studio:
 Bespoke Pottery Parties for Adults & Kids. Custom events. Hen parties.
 Adult evening 'Clay & Cocktails by Candlelight'. Porcelain products & jewellery for sale.

16 MAYALL WAY, DRYSDALE, BELLARINE sally@hazytales.com 0439 709 492
www.hazytales.com



BETTER HEALTH PROGRAM

**FREE program for
children and
families
on how to create
healthy habits!**

**10 free calls with
dietician/nutritionist**



**FREE
prizes**

**Sign up for a place
mid 2023**



Overview of the Better Health Program:

- Programs are free for children in Victoria for 2023 only (usually \$1400)
- Available for children aged 7-13 and their families (who are above a healthy weight)
- 10-week online modules plus weekly phone coaching with a dietician/nutritionist
- Free Resources to keep kids motivated eg: Garmin Vivofit watch
- Researched and evidence-based

Families can easily self-register here:

<https://betterhealthprogram.org/vic>





Men's Health Week.

An evening with Tadhg Kennelly
7pm, Wednesday 14th June.

MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

On **Wednesday, June 14 at 7:00pm** Saint Ignatius College will welcome **Tadhg Kennelly** as this year's keynote speaker for **Men's Health Week**.

Tadhg is an Irish-Australian sportsperson known for his top-level careers in both Gaelic football and AFL. He is the only holder of both an AFL Premiership medallion and a Senior All-Ireland Championship medal, the highest possible team based achievement in both sports.

Tadhg is the co-founder of men's health group WNOW (when no one's watching) who help men be better fathers, husbands, brothers and friends.

Register for this evening via the link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CIKNN>

Community News



ALL COURT TENNIS JUNIOR HOLIDAY CLINIC

All Saints TC - Monday the 3rd and Tuesday the 4th of July.

Time: 1st Session - 9am - 11AM

2nd Session - 11.15AM - 1.15PM

Price : \$25 a Session

THE HOLIDAY CLINICS ARE MADE FOR ALL AGES AND STANDARDS. THIS IS THE PERFECT WAY TO INTRODUCE YOUR CHILD INTO TENNIS WHILE HAVING LOADS OF FUN WITH OUR EXPERIENCED COACHES

Bookings are essential!!!

Contact Nathan PH: 0430726486

Email: nathanmayes1@gmail.com

Community News

School Holiday Program

27TH, 28TH & 29TH JUNE

A DAY ON THE FARM

Join us for a fun-filled day on the farm at Common Ground Project. An opportunity for young people to connect with food and farming.

Experience a 'Day in the Life of a Farmer'

Sow and harvest produce

Feed the chickens

Learn about farming

Meet new people



9am – 3pm

Suitable for children aged 8-14

\$70 + GST per person

This program is subsidised through a partnership with VicHealth



For more information and to book a spot in the program, please visit our website.

www.commongroundproject.com.au

675 Anglesea Rd Freshwater Creek, 3217



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Scan the QR Code or follow the [link](#)



2023 Family Handbook

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Facebook:

[@St.Mary'sPrimaryGeelong](#)

Instagram:

[stmarys_ps_geelong](#)

Twitter:

[@StMarysPS3220](#)

School Website:

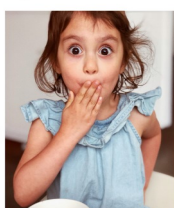
www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

Parent Portal password - mary175



Physiotherapy for Children

- Daytime wetting
- Constipation
- Soiling
- Bed wetting
- Toilet training resistance.



<https://innerstrength.com.au/>
52297963

SPINNEROOS STARTING IN GEELONG FROM 17 JULY 2023

Geelong is commencing the acclaimed Spinneroos table tennis program for Primary School children on Monday nights at 5pm from 17 July 2023 (Different days and during school times will also be available). Individuals and school groups are welcome to register. Spinneroos can be held at the Geelong Table Tennis Centre at 84 Church Street, North Geelong, and also be conducted in schools with their own tables. Watch the linked YouTube video to see how enjoyable it is!

<https://youtu.be/8pg1EftduRs>

Join up [here](#)



St Mary's School, Geelong

www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

T: 5229 9453

Newsletter # 9
Term 2—Week 7