

# St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 4

22 March 2023



# News from the Principal Dear Families.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our Whole School Athletics Day. Special thanks to Mr Nic, Mr Flynn-French and Ms Monea who worked tirelessly to ensure all aspects of the day were planned and implemented so well. Congratulations to the winning team Mannix (Red), on scoring the highest points. There were many outstanding performances on the day and we look forward to many of the students representing our school in the next stage.

This Thursday, **Bishop Martin Ashe** will celebrate the Confirmation Mass with **Fr Jim Clarke**, our parish priest as co-celebrant. We pray for all our candidates, that they will be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and use the fruits of the Holy Spirit to live as faith-filled people.

A reminder that to strengthen the connection that our dads have in our school community, St Mary's School is providing an opportunity for them to meet and connect in an online forum, hosted by Sam from All-Time Dads (ATD). The cost for each dad will be \$20. This subsidised cost is to encourage all our school dads to participate. It is hoped that all participating dads will then have a common and strengthened bond in our school community and additional social events can be organised at a school community level. Dads, please read the information on page 7, and register and attend, if possible.

News Corp has launched its 'Australia's Best Teachers' campaign and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) is a major partner. Australia's Best Teachers aims to recognise the wonderful work of those in the profession by celebrating our most inspirational and innovative educators. The campaign calls on Australians to nominate the great teachers who have, and have had, an incredible impact on our students and all of our lives. A panel of expert judges will then select and announce the top 50 teachers on Saturday 6 May 2023. We have some great teachers at St Mary's School and I would like to

encourage the entire school community to contribute nominations <u>here</u>.

All families will have received information about the **Enhancing Catholic Identity Surveys.** The data from this survey will assist in preparing for our School Review. If you have not done so already, please take the opportunity to complete it as soon as possible. The survey will close on Thursday 6 April.

Thank you to **Greg** from **East Fruit Market** who is once again, generously providing all our students with Fresh Fruit, free of charge, once per term. Our first **'Fresh Fruit Friday'** is this Friday, 24 March. Thank you to **Elyssa Kurelja** from the P&FA for coordinating this event.

Finally, I hope everyone who is able to attend the Parents and Friend's event this Friday evening and enjoy the opportunity to socialise.



Kind Regards, Annice Lappin

#### **Upcoming Dates in 2023**

#### TERM 1

Week 9

Thursday 23 March SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 5:00 pm, St Mary's Basilica

Friday 24 March

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

P&FA Parents' Welcome Night, BEAV'S Bar

#### Week 10

Monday 27 March: STUDENT FREE DAY
Parent & Teacher Chats, 12:30—5:00 pm

#### Wednesday 29 March

School Dads event via Zoom, 7:00-8:00 pm

#### Thursday 30 March

PFA Lunch Order Day: Bakery Items

#### Friday 31 March

Foundation 2024 Enrolments Close

#### Week 11

Monday 3 April

Years 3-6 Cross Country, details TBA

# Thursday 6 April Last day of Term 1

12:30 pm Holy Week Liturgy (Foundation)
Gates open 12:25 pm
EASTER RAFFLE DRAW
1:00 pm Dismissal

#### TERM 2

Week 1

Monday 24 April SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY; Staff Professional Learning

Tuesday 25 April

ANZAC DAY Public Holiday

Wednesday 26 April

Students Commence Term 2; 8:50 am

#### 2023 Staff Email List

Scan the QR Code or follow the <u>link</u>



#### 2023 Family Handbook Scan the QR

Scan the QR Code or follow the <u>link</u>





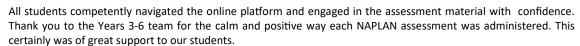


#### **News from the Deputy Principal**

Dear Families,

We are in the final days of the 2023 NAPLAN assessment period for Years 3 and 5.

Whilst we began the year encountering some technical issues involving our school's phone system, wifi, printers and server, I am happy to report there have not been any technical disruptions for each test day.





Now that the NAPLAN assessment period is held in March rather than in May, we are hopeful to receive our school's data set much earlier in the school year. Although NAPLAN is only one measure of student and school achievement, the earlier release of data will allow us to act on our results and make adjustments to our curriculum design in a much more timely manner.



Next **Monday 27 March**, is a scheduled School Closure Day for St Mary's School. This being the first school closure for the 2023 school year, we thank you for the arrangements individual families make to allow for days such as these to proceed.

On this day, we will be facilitating Parent & Teacher Conversations from 12:30pm - 5:00pm. Important reminders include;

- These conversations will be held onsite and in your child's learning space.
- Meeting times are arranged in 10 minute (Years 1-6) or 15 minutes (Foundation) blocks.
- Your child/ren do not attend this meeting time.
- Please access the school's grounds via the Front Gate. It will be open from 12:25pm to 5:00pm.

Bookings via the School Interviews platform close this Friday.

#### **FOUNDATION**

Click <u>here</u> or visit <u>www.schoolinterviews.com.au</u> and enter the event code:

#### b8um3

#### YEAR 1—YEAR 6

Click <u>here</u> or visit <u>www.schoolinterviews.com.au</u> and enter the event code:

7at9f



Lastly, if you have not already done so, you are encouraged to access your child's **SeeSaw Journal**. For this year, SeeSaw Journals will be updated with **four posts per school term**. Each term, SeeSaw Journals will showcase;

- One post for each curriculum area Reading, Writing and Mathematics, providing you with an achievement progress snapshot in the work sample's curriculum area.
- One 'Windows into Learning' post, with all other school and year level specific events communicated in the school's social media pages.

Some helpful ways to engage with your child's SeeSaw Journal include;

- using the SeeSaw post as a conversation starter with your child/ren at home.
- tapping to like posts and to show students that the posts have been seen.
- leaving a personalised comment that is positive and respectful.

Please make contact with your child's classroom teacher if you have any Seesaw Journal related questions.

## **TERM 1 KEY DATES**

Week 9	Thursday 23/3	Sacrament of Confirmation; 5:00pm at St Mary's Basilica. PSG Meetings
	Friday 24/3	NAPLAN (Years 3&5) Concludes. Parents' and Friends Welcome Night. FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY
Week 10	Monday 27/3	Student Free Day: Parent & Teacher Chats from 12:30pm-5:00pm
	Tuesday 28/3	School (2024 Enrolments) Tour; 9:30am
	Thursday 30/3	Lunch Order Day - Pies
	Friday 31/3	2024 Foundation Enrolments Close
Week 11	Monday 3/4	Years 3-6 Cross Country - Eastern Park
	Thursday 6/4	12:30pm Holy Week Liturgy (Foundation). Parish and Front Gates open at 12:25pm
	Thursday 6/4	End of Term 1. Students dismissed at 1:00pm. PFA EASTER RAFFLE DRAW

# **TERM 2 KEY DATES**

Week 1	Monday 24/4	School Closure Day: Staff Professional Learning
	Tuesday 25/4	Public Holiday: ANZAC Day
	Wednesday 26/4	Students commence Term 2, 8:50 am
Week 2	Monday 1/5	3:00pm School Assembly (5/6 Emerald). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
	Friday 5/5	Mother's Day Breakfast; 8:15 am
Week 4	Monday 15/5	3:00pm School Assembly (3/4 Garnet). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
Week 6	Monday 29/5	3:00pm School Assembly (1/2 Crystal). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
Week 7	Friday 9/6	School Closure Day: Staff Professional Learning
Week 8	Monday 12/6	Public Holiday: King's Birthday

School Athletics Day, congratulations to the overall winners, MANNIX HOUSE.







#### **Project Compassion**

#### Fourth Week of Lent

This week through Project Compassion we learn about Thu, who lives in Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg.

Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also took on the role of caring for his wife, Linh, after she suffered a stroke.

Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD).

For Thu, the greatest impact the program has had is enabling the change in Linh's physical and mental wellbeing. With the support of a physiotherapist, Linh can now walk short distances with the aid of a walking stick.

Watch a short film about Thu's story here.

**Please support Project Compassion:** 

www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Project Compassion boxes sent home with students recently, can be returned to the school early in Term 2.

Thank you for your support.





# School Photos are ready to order



Our annual school photos have been taken and are now ready to order.

**Arthur Reed Photos** uses an online ordering system where you can view your photos prior to ordering.

On photo day all students received a flyer which includes a code unique to them.

You will require this 2023 code to register online and view your photos.

If you have already registered, you will receive an email or SMS from Arthur Reed Photos with a link to view your photos.

If you have not yet registered, please go to <u>order.arphotos.com.au</u> and enter your code to complete your order.

If you have misplaced your registration code, please contact the Arthur Reed Photos customer service team directly on 5243 4390 (option 1) or <a href="mailto:customerservice@arphotos.com.au">customerservice@arphotos.com.au</a>

Please note that you will need to register online with your **2023 photo code** to gain access to this year's images.

All photo packages will be sent directly to your nominated address, so please ensure that you enter the correct details and nominated shipping address upon checkout.

If you require any assistance ordering your photos, please contact Arthur Reed Photos directly on 5243 4390 (option 1) or email <a href="mailto:customerservice@arphotos.com.au">customerservice@arphotos.com.au</a>



#### Parents & Friend's Association





HOP TO IT!!! PLEASE SUPPORT ST MARY'S SCHOOL P&FA

# Easter Egg Kaffle!

#### Tickets \$1 each

Purchase via Trybooking or QR code:

#### **Purchase tickets**

Raffle drawn Thursday 6 April at School Assembly 12:30 pm

Any Queries contact Simone Shannon:







# **PFA Term 1 Lunch Order Day**

Routley's Bakery Items THURSDAY 30 MARCH

Reminder orders and payment are due by THURSDAY 23 MARCH, via Operoo form.

## PFA FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY 24 March

Thank you to East Fruit Market.







Foundation 2024 Enrolment School Tour Dates

Tuesday 28 March 9:30 to 10:30 am



Foundation 2024 Applications for Enrolment close at 4:00 pm, Friday 31 March, 2023.

#### **SCHOOL REMINDERS**

#### **Bell Times**

8:30am - 8:50am

Students enter learning spaces at 8:50am
8:58am-11:30am

9:00am

11:30am-11:40am
11:40am-12:10pm
12:10pm -1:50pm
1:50pm-2:00pm

1:58pm

Gates open at 8:30am

Learning Session 1

Morning Attendance Roll

Supervised Eating Time

Learning Session 2

Supervised Eating Time

Afternoon Attendance Roll

2:00pm-2:30pmPlay Break 22:30pm-3:20pmLearning Session 33:20pm-3:35pmGates open at 3:20pm

# Procedure for late pickup of students, after 3:35pm

After school, all school gates are supervised by staff until 3:35 pm. Families are required to contact the school if unexpectedly delayed. Any student remaining after 3:35 pm without any contact received from the family, will be escorted to the Fish Bowl for supervision.

A **late fee** will be incurred of \$1.00 per minute until 4:00 pm and \$5.00 per minute until collection after 4:00 pm.

# Parent request for archived student information

If you require any archived information including enrolment information, NAPLAN results or past student reports, please email you request to: admin@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au and send \$5 cash in a clearly marked envelope for each document required. Please be mindful that some of these documents will take some time to source and can not be provided immediately.

#### Late Arrivals/Early Pick Ups

Late arrivals (after 8:58 am) and early departures (before 3:20 pm) are coordinated at the school's administration office.

Parents/Guardians are required to use the school's VPASS QR code to sign in or out, via the IPad or mobile phone.

#### **School Assemblies**

This year, we are returning to whole School Assemblies.

Four assemblies will be scheduled throughout the term, with a class from each year level cohort responsible for showcasing their learning. Families can access the school's atrium via the Front or Parish Gates, which will open 5 minutes prior to the assembly's start time. The administration area is not used as an access point to the atrium at this time.

#### **Invitation For St Mary's School Dads**

# DO YOU WANT MORE QUALITY TIME WITH YOUR KIDS?



# All-Time Dads with St Mary's Primary Wednesday 29 March 2023 from 7-8pm on Zoom

#### WE'LL GIVE YOU THE TOOLS

This session is a practical one. You'll leave with tools you can use straight away to:

- · Spend more quality time with your kids
- · Switch off from work more easily
- Make more memories and have more fun
- Build serious momentum in your life towards the things that matter

#### WE'LL KEEP YOU ACCOUNTABLE

When you register, you'll also get a place in our 'King of the Morning' (KOM) 21 Day Challenge

- · We'll help you set up your morning to win the day
- We'll guide you to be more intentional about how you spend your moments
- You'll build momentum and feel great about how you're showing up: as a dad; in life and; at work

St Mary's School is an inclusive community, prioritising the wellbeing of our students and their families. The dads in our St Mary's School community are highly valued and appreciated.

To strengthen the connection that our dads have in our school community, St Mary's School is providing an opportunity for dads to meet and connect in an online forum, hosted by All-Time Dads (ATD).

The cost for each dad to register is \$20. This is a subsidised cost as St Mary's will also be contributing \$29 for each Dad who registers. We would like as many of our school dads to participate as possible, as it is hoped participating dads will then have a common and strengthened bond in our school community and additional social events can be organised at a school community level. Please register and attend if possible.

0430 337 114 | alltimedads.com | sam@alltimedads.com

#### Chess for Schools at St Mary's School



# TERM 2, 2023 - REGISTER NOW @

https://chessforschools.com.au/

# SPECIALISED CHESS COACHING

Since 2002, we have been providing our popular Chess For Schools program in schools throughout Melbourne and Greater Geelong.





'Children love attending Phil's chess classes as he actively fosters their sense of wellbeing and motivation to learn more'.

Rob Horwood Principal, Stella Maris Primary, Beaumaris.

COST

#### **HOW CAN CHESS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD?**

**Educational:** Improved IQ, critical thinking, concentration, analytical skills, memory.

Social: Develop new friendships, social interaction skills, sportsmanship.

**Emotional:** Confidence, self esteem, resilience through winning/losing games.

#### CLASS STRUCTURE:

Different lessons are taught each week from a structured syllabus ranging from tactics, strategies, master openings, traps & special moves. After the lesson children are paired up in a fun tournament playoff. Prizes are awarded to the top 3 players at end of term.

BOOK HERE



https://chessforschools.com.au/

#### CLASS DETAILS - ST MARY'S GEELONG

DAY TIME LOCATION DATES

Friday 1.50pm - 2:30 pm Year 1/2
Topaz Classroom 5 May -16 June \$135 per child/per term

"Alex loves chess club and gets very upset if he misses a session. His chess has definitely improved and his teacher, Anitia feels that it helps with his math in class in terms of concepts and thinking.

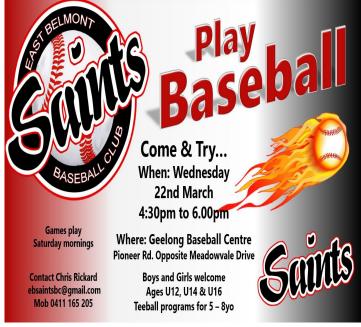
Keep up the great work!"

Katrina Lambert: Hampton Primary School

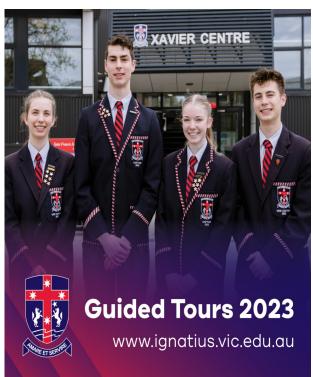
















## Visit SHC: 2023 Discovery Day

**Explore life at Sacred Heart College** 

Sacred Heart College will be hosting our annual Discovery Day on Friday 24 March 2023. The event provides an opportunity for prospective families to visit the school and experience learning in action at SHC. With the option to attend either a morning session or an afternoon session, all young visitors are encouraged to use their Discovery Day College Map (provided on arrival) to explore the school areas and activities that spark their interest the most.

Families will have an opportunity to meet Principal Anna Negro and College leadership staff, and pose any questions to staff House Leaders and student leaders.

Book your spot for Discovery Day via our website here: https://www.shcgeelong.catholic.edu.au/college-tours



#### AM Tours - 9.00am start:

Tuesday 14 March Thursday 16 March Tuesday 28 March Friday 31 March Monday 3 April Thursday 27 April

PM Tours - 4.00pm start:

Tuesday 28 March Monday 3 April

St Joseph's Geelong would like to invite you to join our College tours this semester!

We are proud to continue offering an innovative education, and we welcome all senior primary school boys and their families to come and visit us.

Year 7 applications for 2024 are now open. Apply via the College website.

TOUR REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE

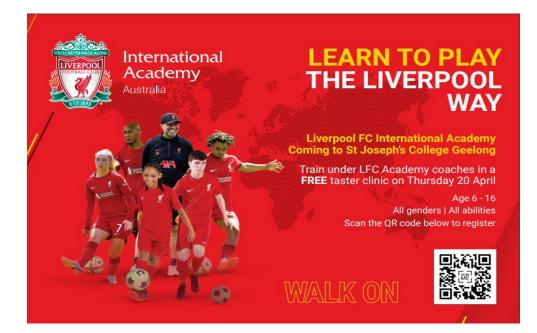
WWW.SJC.VIC.EDU.AU







POWERED BY: The Athlete's Foot



### 2023 Staff Email List Scan the QR Code or follow the link



2023 School Dates Scan the QR Code or follow the link



2023 Family Handbook Scan the QR Code or follow the link





Facebook:

@St.Mary'sPrimaryGeelong

Instagram:

stmarys\_ps\_geelong Twitter:

@StMarysPS3220 **School Website:** 

www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

Parent Portal password mary175



St Mary's School, Geelong www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

T: 5229 9453

Newsletter # 4 Term 1—Week 9