



# St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 11 | 12 July 2023



## News from the Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome back, students, families, and staff! I hope you all had a restful and joyful winter holiday break. As we embark on a new term, filled with exciting possibilities, I encourage everyone to record in their diaries and calendars all the events planned for this term, so that attendance can be prioritised. Of particular note is our **Parish Feast Day Mass** on 2 August, the **Anxiety Information Session** on 9 August, **First Eucharist** on 13 August and our **Father's Day Breakfast** on 30 August. Please endeavour to read the fortnightly newsletter as it will keep you updated on all that is happening at St Mary's School. More information about these events will be communicated in future newsletters and via Operoo.

Thank all to all families who took the opportunity to attend Parent & Teacher Conversations on Monday. All classroom teachers have commented on their productivity and the enjoyment of being able to celebrate student success with parents and carers.

Unfortunately, due to low ticket sales, the Parents and Friends' Association made the difficult decision to postpone the **Trivia Night** that was scheduled for this Friday evening. Once this event has been rescheduled, details will be communicated with families. **The raffle for the 10Kg will proceed and will be drawn on 2 August**, our Parish Feast Day, straight after our whole school Mass. Tickets will be available for purchase until Monday, 31 July. If you require any additional tickets, please contact the school office.

Our Year 3/4 students are very much looking forward to their time away at camp in Queenscliff. Thank you to the families who have granted permissions via Operoo and provided any required medical management forms. Thank you to the teachers and staff who will facilitate the camp experience. **A reminder for 3/4 families that Friday 28 July will be a 3/4 student free day** to acquit staff time in lieu for overnight camp attendance.

Preparations and rehearsals for our School Concert will begin this term in readiness for the

concert early in Term 4. Further information and details for purchasing tickets will be communicated towards the end of this term.

It is lovely to see classrooms buzzing with the energy of eager learners. Our dedicated teachers and staff have prepared an enriching curriculum and engaging activities to make this term both successful and enjoyable for all.

*Kind Regards, Annice Lappin*



Thank you to **Zoos Victoria** for their generous donation to St Mary's School.

**Anna** (3/4 Garnet) and **BeBe** (3/4 Quartz) enjoyed a day at the Melbourne Zoo during the term break.

A highlight for the family was visiting the baby elephants!

Thank you also to the school's Parents' and Friends Association for their coordination of the Family Zoo Pass for a school family to enjoy.

## Upcoming Dates in 2023

### TERM 3

#### Week 1

Friday 14 July

**Lightning Premiership, Volleyball**  
(Year 5/6 participating students)

#### Week 2

Monday 17 July

**Whole School Assembly at 3:00 pm**  
Year 5/6 Sapphire. Gates open 2.55 pm

Wednesday 19 July

PFA Meeting, 7:00 pm

**Foundation –Year 2 attending Parish Mass, 10:00 am**

#### Week 3

Wednesday 26 July—Thursday 27 July  
Year 3/4 Camp

Friday 28 July

**Year 3/4 STUDENT FREE DAY**

#### Week 4

Monday 31 July

**Whole School Assembly at 3:00 pm**  
Year 1/2 Topaz. Gates open 2.55 pm

Wednesday 2 August

Parish Feast Day Celebrations

#### Week 5

Wednesday 9 August

Year 3/4 Attending Parish Mass, 10:00 am  
**ANXIETY INFORMATION SESSION, 7:00 pm**, online webinar for school families.

Friday 11 August

Foundation Excursion, Werribee Zoo

Sunday 13 August

Sacrament of First Eucharist (Year 4 participating students), 2:30 pm

### 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,

### **Benvenuti ... It's Term 3!**

As advertised in the Term 2, Week 9 newsletter this term provides many opportunities for family engagement.

Over the past 18 months we have been engaging with **Jesse Diggins**, Strength Psychology Director and Psychs in Schools co-Director. The **Psychs in Schools** initiative has provided us with an enriching experience for our school community, welcoming provisional psychologist, **Danielle Spencer**, to our staff team for 2023.

Both Jesse and Dani will be facilitating a webinar for interested parents/carers/guardians focusing on **anxiety and stress management in children**. The one-hour session will be held on **Wednesday 9 August from 7:00pm** and an invitation is warmly extended to each of you.

The session will delve into the very topical conversation of anxiety and stress management in primary school aged children and will be tailored to the needs of our school community. Participating families will be invited to submit their wonderings or questions to be answered as part of the evening - wonderings and/or question submissions will remain anonymous.

To register your attendance, please be on the lookout for an Operoo eForm that I will send out tomorrow.

We hope you will be able to join us.

**Cari Saluti, Marie Monea**



A webinar for  
St Mary's School  
Parents/Carers/Guardians

# Understanding Anxiety & Stress Management in Children

We welcome:



**Jesse Diggins**

**Child & Adolescent Psychologist**  
Director - Strength Psychology  
Co-Director - Psychs in Schools



**Danielle Spencer**

**Provisional Psychologist**  
St Mary's School



**Wednesday**  
**9th August, 2023**

**7:00PM - 8:00PM**  
**ONLINE WEBINAR**



Register via the Operoo eForm (from Thursday 13/7/2023)  
The webinar link will be sent via Operoo on the day of the event to registered families



## 10kg Cadbury Chocolate PFA RAFFLE

Last term, **10 Raffle Tickets** in an envelope were sent home with the eldest child. Families may wish to purchase at \$1.00 per ticket for the chance to win a 10kg Cadbury Chocolate Block. Please return purchased tickets and cash to the school office by **Monday 31 July**, to be in the draw on **Wednesday 2 August**.

*Tickets must have your name and phone number written on them. If you wish to purchase more tickets, please use the extra ticket butts enclosed in the envelope, or request from the school office.*

## TERM 3 Key Dates

### Week 1

Friday 14 July Lightning Premiership - Volleyball (Year 5/6 participating students).

**PFA Trivia Evening; 7:00pm**  
**\*\*EVENT POSTPONED\*\***

### Week 2

Monday 17 July School Assembly (Year 5/6 Sapphire); 3:00pm

Wednesday 19 July Foundation - Year 2 attending Parish Mass; 10:00am

Wednesday 19 July PFA Meeting; 7:00pm

### Week 3

Wednesday 26 July Year 3/4 Camp - Day 1

Thursday 27 July Year 3/4 Camp - Day 2

Friday 28 July Year 3/4 Student Free Day

### Week 4

Monday 31 July School Assembly (Year 1/2 Topaz); 3:00pm

Wednesday 2 August Parish Feast Day Celebrations

### Week 5

Wednesday 9 August Year 3/4 attending Parish Mass; 10:00am

Wednesday 9 August Anxiety Family Information Session; 7:00pm - Facilitated by **Strength Psychology**

Friday 11 August Foundation Excursion Werribee Zoo

Sunday 13 August Sacrament of First Eucharist (participating Year 4 students); 2:30pm

**SAVE THE DATE ...** Thursday 12 October, St Mary's School Concert; 1:00pm and 6:00pm

### Week 6

Monday 14 August PSG Meetings - Day 1

Monday 14 August School Assembly (Foundation); 3:00pm

Wednesday 16 August Year 5/6 Excursion - ScienceWorks

Thursday 17 August Book Week Parade

Friday 18 August Fresh Fruit Friday

### Week 7

Thursday 24 August District Athletics **\*\*UPDATED DATE\*\***

### Week 8

Monday 28 August Year 5/6 Life Saving Incursion

Monday 28 August School Assembly (Year 3/4 Quartz); 3:00pm

Tuesday 29 August PSG Meetings - Day 2

Wednesday 30 August Father's Day Breakfast; 8:15am

Thursday 31 August Years 3-6 AFL 9s Competition (participating students)

Friday 1 September Year 5/6 attending Parish Mass; 10:00am

Saturday 2 September PFA Bunnings BBQ

### Week 9

Tuesday 5 September Open Doors - Wonder of Living Enrichment Sessions (participating Years 3-6 families)

Wednesday 6 September PFA Meeting; 7:00pm

Friday 8 September Lunch Order Day - Cheer Toasties

### Week 10

Tuesday 12 September Mercy Feast Day - Wear Blue

Wednesday 13 September PSG Meetings - Day 3

Wednesday 13 September School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00pm

Friday 15 September End of Term 3; 1:00pm



## National NAIDOC Week celebrations: PE

St Mary's School students have been participating in games during Physical Education classes as a way to celebrate NAIDOC Week.

These games offer a unique opportunity to learn about and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of Australia's First Nations people.

Through these games, students can develop a profound respect for Indigenous culture, while also recognising the resilience and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

By incorporating these games into PE, we celebrate diversity and promote cultural inclusivity at St Mary's School.



National NAIDOC Logo



# FOR OUR ELDERS

2-9 JULY 2023

## National NAIDOC Week

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

## School News

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

**Monday 17 July**

Year 5/6 Sapphire

**Monday 31 July**

Year 1/2 Topaz

**Monday 14 August**

Foundation

**Thursday 17 August**

Book Week Parade; 9:15 am

**Monday 28 August**

Year 3/4 Quartz

### PARISH FEAST DAY MASS

**Wednesday 2 August;**

10:00 am

Families are invited to join us at the Parish Mass for our Feast Day Celebrations.

### ANXIETY INFORMATION SESSION

**Wednesday 9**

**August;** 7:00 pm

Jesse Diggins, Strength Psychology Director and our Provisional Psychologist, Danielle Spencer, will be facilitating an Anxiety Information session for interested families.



### SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST

**Sunday 13 August;**  
2:30 pm

The Sacrament of First

Eucharist for participating Year 4 students will be celebrated at St Mary's Basilica.

### FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

**Wednesday 30 August;** 8:15 am

Following our Father's Day Breakfast, a Liturgy will be held to give thanks to the special male role models in our community.

### WONDER OF LIVING

**Tuesday 5 September;** times to be confirmed

The Wonder of Living Family Enrichment Program is coming to our school to offer a Family Night on the topic of sexuality education for Year 3/4 and Year 5/6.

It will be conducted by Open Doors, which has recently merged with CatholicCare Victoria, and its Enrichment Program is recommended by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS).



**TERM 3, 2023 - REGISTER NOW @**  
[CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://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.*

**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** ➡ [CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](http://CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU)

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

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Friday	1.50pm - 2:30 pm	Year 1/2 Topaz Classroom	21 Jul to 8 Sep	\$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, Anita 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*

### PFA BUNNINGS BBQ

**Saturday 2 September, Waurin Ponds Bunnings**

### LUNCH ORDER DAY

**Friday 8 September**

The **Cheer Toastie Truck**

is visiting our

school again! This year, parents/carers/guardians are welcome

to place a Cheer toastie order and join their child/ren for a cheese toastie lunch.



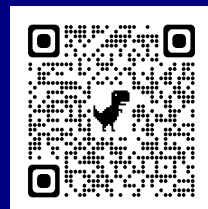
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**Facebook:**

[@St.Mary'sPrimaryGeelong](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysPrimaryGeelong)

### Instagram:

[stmarys\\_ps\\_geelong](https://www.instagram.com/stmarys_ps_geelong)

### Twitter:

[@StMarysPS3220](https://twitter.com/StMarysPS3220)

### School Website:

[www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au)

**Parent Portal** password - mary175



**St Mary's School, Geelong**

[www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au)

**T: 5229 9453**

**Newsletter # 11**  
Term 3—Week 1