

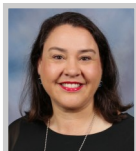


St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 15

| 6 September 2023



News from the Principal

Dear Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed a lovely day on Sunday, celebrating Father's Day. Thank you to all the dads, carers and male role models for all they do for their families and the St Mary's School community. We hope everyone who attended our Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy enjoyed the morning and know how valued and appreciated they are. We also hope you enjoyed receiving the Father's Day gifts that were made with love and gratitude.

A couple of weeks ago, along with other Geelong principals and leaders from Catholic schools, I was very fortunate to participate in a Pilgrimage in the footsteps of Mary MacKillop led by the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre and MACS.

We immersed ourselves in the truly inspirational faith filled life of Mary as we traced her life across Victoria and South Australia ending in Adelaide. The event was organised to promote the development and understanding of the foundations of the Sisters of St Joseph in Australia and offered us the opportunity to develop and sustain our roles as leaders of faith in a Catholic school.

It was a spiritual journey through the heartland of Portland, Penola and Adelaide, exploring the historic connections of these places with the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Julian Tenison Woods and Mary MacKillop. As pilgrims, we reflected and immersed ourselves in their phenomenal contribution to Catholic schooling in Australia and the many obstacles they faced in order to bring Catholic schooling to the marginalised, especially children in remote areas from poor families. We explored the flourishing Josephite charism in context with our contemporary Catholic educational experience. Fr Julian Tenison Woods, the co-founder of the Josephite Congregation with Mary MacKillop, was a man of faith with concern for the poor and a deep love for the environment. He saw God in everything around him.

This immersion experience was an opportunity to reinvigorate and enhance our own personal growth as leaders in faith, who feel privileged in serving our catholic communities.

Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, faced so many obstacles and adversity in her time and had a profound love, faith and trust in God. She shared these in the many letters she wrote, in her words and in her actions.

Mary MacKillop lived the teaching of Solidarity through her actions for justice. She never judged a person because of their circumstances but strove to change those circumstances. Mary and the Sisters of St Joseph provided friendship, emotional support and a place to live for people who were alone and isolated who had no friends, family or place. She helped people to remain connected to society and empowered them to help themselves and feel they still had self-worth and dignity.

Mary MacKillop spoke and wrote about "Leaning into God", "Leaving it quietly with God" in times of struggle, recognising He is always with you. Mary ensured she spoke with love and was very graceful even when others harmed or excluded her.

Thank you to **Marie** and the **leadership team** for assuming all responsibility for our school and as always, leading so capably while I was away.

As we head towards the end of the term, I thank everyone for their many valuable contributions. When the term break begins at 1:00pm on Friday 15 September, I wish all in our school community a restful break.

Kind Regards, Annice Lappin



Students are required to wear a **SCHOOL HAT**, outdoors, from **September 1 to May 1**

What tool is displayed on the Bunnings' store logo? *Hammer*



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.

Upcoming Dates in 2023

TERM 3

Week 9

Wednesday 6 September

PFA Meeting; 7:00 pm via Zoom

Friday 8 September

Lunch Order Day—Cheer Toasties

Week 10

Tuesday 12 September

MERCY FEAST DAY—[Wear Blue](#)
(Casual Clothes or Uniform)

Wednesday 13 September

School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00 pm

Thursday 14 September

Year 3/4 Open Afternoon 3:25-3:45 pm

Friday 15 September

END OF TERM 3; 1:00 pm Dismissal

TERM 4

Week 1

Monday 2 October

Students commence Term 4; 8:50 am

Week 2

Monday 9 October

Whole School Assembly at 3:00 pm

Year 5/6 Turquoise. Gates open 2.55 pm

Thursday 12 October

SCHOOL CONCERT—1:00 pm & 6:00 pm

All classes at West Town Hall for the day

Future Planning

If for any reason your child/ren **will not be returning** to St Mary's School in **2024**, other than current Year 6 students, please let Annice know in writing **by 15 September** as this will be the required term's notice given to the school.

2023 Staff Email List

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



2023 Family Handbook

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





News from the Deputy Principal

Dear Families,
Thank you for working in partnership to create a rewarding term for all! With much anticipation, we now look ahead to **Term 4, 2023**. Confirmed dates are listed below; we hope you find the new calendar layout helpful.

Buone vacanze, Marie Monea



Term 4 School Calendar, 2023

Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	OCT 2 Term 4 Commences	OCT 3	OCT 4	OCT 5	OCT 6 Concert Rehearsal (Atrium) iSea, iCare Excursion
2	OCT 9 Concert Rehearsal (Atrium) 3:00pm—Assembly (5/6 Turquoise)	OCT 10 PSG Meetings—Day 1	OCT 11	OCT 12 CONCERT 1:00pm & 6:00pm (All Classes at West Town Hall for the day)	OCT 13
3	OCT 16 School Choir Excursion (GPAC)	OCT 17 Year 3/4 Excursion (Velisha Farms)	OCT 18 P&FA Meeting; 7:00pm	OCT 19	OCT 20
4	OCT 23 Language Leaders Excursion (Holy Spirit) 3:00pm—Assembly (Year 3/4)	OCT 24	OCT 25 Parish Mass—F-2 Classes	OCT 26	OCT 27 Fresh Fruit Friday P&FA Trivia Night; 7:00pm
5	OCT 30	OCT 31	NOV 1	NOV 2 PSG Meetings—Day 2	NOV 3
6	NOV 6 STUDENT FREE DAY (Professional Learning)	NOV 7 SCHOOL CLOSED (Melbourne Cup Holiday)	NOV 8	NOV 9	NOV 10 McAuley Feast Day Wear Yellow
7	NOV 13 3:00pm—Assembly (Year 1/2)	NOV 14 Year 5/6 Student Free Day 2024 Foundation Transition to School (Session 1; 9:30am-11:00am)	NOV 15 Year 5/6 Camp—Day 1 Parish Mass—3/4 Classes	NOV 16 Year 5/6 Camp—Day 2	NOV 17 Year 5/6 Camp—Day 3
8	NOV 20 STUDENT FREE DAY (Professional Learning)	NOV 21	NOV 22 Parish Mass—5/6 Classes	NOV 23	NOV 24
9	NOV 27	NOV 28 2024 Foundation Transition to School (Session 2; 9:30am-11:00am) School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00pm	NOV 29 PSG Meetings—Day 3	NOV 30	DEC 1 Lunch Order Day (Salad Sandwiches)
10	DEC 4 3:00pm—Assembly (Foundation)	DEC 5 School Choir Excursion (Geelong Football Club)	DEC 6 P&FA Meeting; 7:00pm	DEC 7 P&FA Colour Fun Run; 5:30pm	DEC 8
11	DEC 11 Principal For A Day	DEC 12 2024 Step Up Morning Student Reports (Shared with Families)	DEC 13 Year 1/2 Excursion (Movies)	DEC 14 Year 3/4 Excursion (Movies) Year 5/6 Excursion—TBC Year 6 Graduation: Liturgy—5:00pm Student Dinner—5:45pm-6:45pm	DEC 15 12:15pm—End of Year Assembly School Captains' Photo; 9:00am Student Dismissal; 1:00pm

School News

MACSSIS

Family School Improvement Survey

A reminder to families who received an invitation to participate in the survey, the survey can be accessed online until **Friday 15 September, 2023**.

A participation letter including a survey link and individual PIN was emailed via Operoo on Monday 28 August to randomly selected school families.

We thank you for completing the survey.

In which city will next year's Olympics be held? *Paris*

Art

For the weeks to come in **St Mary's School Visual Arts** the students will be involved in a great variety of activities with a focus on Construction and Threads and Textiles.

If you are able to please send in any materials as listed below, it would be greatly appreciated.

Construction: hand paper rolls, bottle tops and lids, newspapers, catalogues, magazines.

Threads and textiles: old (clean) socks, wool/yarn, material scraps.

These items can be left in the Visual Arts donation box near the 1/2 stairwell outside 5/6 Sapphire.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

Liza Rosati, Arts Teacher



QUIET ACHIEVER AWARD

We congratulate **HENRY TROTTER**, Foundation Coral, who has been awarded the **Term 3 Rotary Quiet Achiever Award**. This award and \$30 Dizzy Toy voucher has been donated by **Rotary Bayside Geelong** and recognises students who give their very best efforts every day.

Little Angler Kits for Year 5 students



The Victorian Government is investing \$1.5 million from the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Fund to provide up to 95,000 Little Angler Kits to primary school aged children in Victoria.

The free kits provide a wonderful school holiday activity for children with their families and help ease the cost of living, providing a fun activity close to home.

Year 5 students at all Victorian schools, including ours, will be offered the opportunity to receive a FREE Little Angler Kit.

Year 5 students have been selected based on the Victorian Curriculum focus, movement and motor development, and safety considerations.

The program is entirely voluntary. Schools were provided with the option to opt out of the program. Our school has opted to stay in the program so that parents can decide whether they want their child(ren) to receive a free fishing kit.

Parents of Year 5 students can advise the school if they do not wish their child(ren) to participate for any reason whatsoever. We support parents in making decisions that align with their family values and beliefs.

The roll out of kits will occur through the second half of 2023 (16 October - 4 December) so that all participating children will have a kit in time for the summer school holidays.

The kits include a rod, reel with line, tackle tray, some tackle and information on how to use them to catch a fish. Please note that the tackle tray includes fishing hooks. The tackle tray will be wrapped in cardboard and placed inside a pocket inside the fishing kit bag, which will be sealed with a cable tie to discourage students from opening their kits until they are with a parent or carer.

Kits will be handed out to students to take home with them as soon as the school receives them. Teachers will tell students not to open the kits until they are safely at home with a parent or carer, however parents can contact the school and request to collect their kit from the school themselves if they prefer.

The Victorian Fisheries Authority will create a Little Angler hub on their website, which will be live when the kits start being distributed. It will have useful information, instructional videos and online resources about where and how to fish linking to existing resources from **Fishcare** and new resources to be produced just for the Little Angler Kits program.

This initiative aims to grow recreational fishing participation in Victoria by actively encouraging primary school aged children to learn how to fish, marine life and the natural environment.

St Mary's School Parents & Friends' Association News



Thank you to the school community for the support provided for our fundraising event at Bunnings Waurnd Ponds.

The sun was shining, Phil was incredibly photogenic (see ➡), and Bunnings was experiencing a pre Father's Day rush. Despite some early issues with the BBQ (the Gas supply was as consistent as my footy tipping) and a few hiccups with the EFTPOS technology, the day was a great success and went a lot better than expected.

We set up shop around 7:30am. By around 10:30am we got ourselves into a working rhythm getting a constant stream of people wanting to buy a sausage or two. After a few emergency visits to Aldi and Woolworths, we called it a day at 3:30pm, by which time we had cooked over 80kg of sausages, selling more than 1050 sausages and 250 drinks - **raising \$3,516 which will directly support the education of our children!**

This was a great effort and could not have been achieved without the generous help of our volunteers. Everyone got stuck in, worked hard and it was good fun working with you all on the day. It was extremely satisfying working together as a group to raise this amount of money for our school which is going to support the education of our kids. A **big thank you** to Gemma Doyle, Angela McMahon, Simone Shannon, Teonie Humphrey, Phil Joyce, Evan Brown, Ben Irwin, Sarah Kelly, Andrew Whitelaw, Louise Phillips, Lauren Cambridge, Dani Anderson, Martin De Marte, James Davidson, Jessica Novak, Richard Flanders, Julie Jameson and Sam Jenkin.

Of course, we would not have raised nearly as much without the generous support of the school and local community who answered the call for donations of supplies. **Thank you!**

I also want to acknowledge **Lisa** from Ready Cut Vegies who kindly donated 20kg of cut onions! I encourage the school community to support **Ready Cut Vegies** given the continued support they have provided to our school with this event.

Thank you and see you all at the next one.

Ben Doyle



St Mary's Parents & Friends Association

TRIVIA NIGHT

2023

NEW DATE!

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

27th OCTOBER

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.

"Do you doubt your trivia knowledge?"

Read the newsletter pages each week and you will find the questions—and answers—that you seek!"



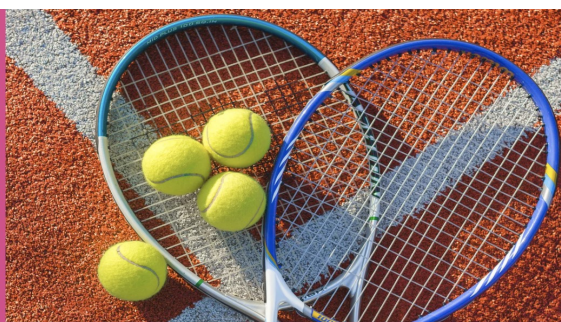
Peeled Sliced Diced

Ready Cut Vegies

Lisa
Ready Cut Vegies
3/12 Crown St, South Geelong
52210949



Community News




ALL COURT TENNIS JUNIOR HOLIDAY CLINIC

All Saints TC - Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st of September.
Time: 1st Session - 9am - 11AM
2nd Session - 11.15AM - 1.15PM
Price : \$25 a Session
Maximum booking of two time slots.

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



THRIVE THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT CHILL VIBES

6 WEEK TEEN ANXIETY PROGRAM

WEDNESDAYS 4PM-5.30PM
11TH OCTOBER- 15TH NOVEMBER

FOCUS ON GRADE 6 - 7 TRANSITION

NICOLE@THRIVETHERAPEUTIC.COM.AU
NICOLE 0478 037 013
245 PAKINGTON ST NEWTOWN

School Holiday Program



26TH, 27TH & 28TH SEPTEMBER

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.

Sow and harvest produce Learn about farming Feed the farm animals

Tuesday 26th Family Day

Parents welcome

Ages 6-14

Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th

Sibling encouraged

Ages 8-14



Friday 22nd

Youth Mushroom-growing Workshop
Book separately on our website



9:30am - 3:30pm

\$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

**COMMON
GROUND**
project

Seeking expression of interest for boys turning 12-14 in 2023 to join the Geelong Flyers 14&U boys netball team

The Geelong Flyers are entering a boys team in the 14&U division in Junior M-League in Melbourne to develop a netball pathway for boys from Geelong to the Victorian boys and Mens state program

What is Junior M-League?

Junior M-League runs on Wednesday nights at the State Netball Centre in Parkville in Melbourne from August until December. Junior M-League is run by the Victorian Mens and Mixed Netball Association (VMMNA)

Training:

Training sessions are planned for Sunday afternoons at 3pm in Geelong.

Eligibility:

Boys turning 12-14 in 2023.

How to get involved?

Contact the coach, Adam Franz via mobile 0432 297 425 or email on afr3178@gmail.com



Community News



JUNIORS WANTED

South Barwon Cricket Club

Come and join South Barwon Cricket Club for season 2023/24!
All gender and junior ages welcome

No experience required!

**GIRLS GET FREE
MEMBERSHIP, HAT
& PLAYING TOP**

**FIRST YEAR
& UNDER 11s
\$0 MEMBERSHIP**

South Barwon Cricket Club

	Play	Train
Woolworths Blast	Friday	
Under 11s	Friday	Monday
Under 13s	Friday	Wednesday
Under 15s	Saturday	Tuesday
Under 17s	Saturday	Thursday
Girls	Sunday	Wednesday

Contact Darren Hauenstein (Junior Co-ordinator)
0408 152 930 Message us on Facebook or Instagram!
OR
Scan the QR code to register today!



BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH INDEPENDENCE

Many of our children are struggling with worry and anxiety.

They may face social and online challenges and can often feel stuck. As parents, we can find this difficult to help our children, as they confront issues so different to the ones we faced at a similar age.

We want to help our adolescents to build their resilience, so when they encounter new challenges, they can tackle them with more confidence. This workshop is designed to help parents teach their children to be more resilient while building their independence. It will give parents simple and practical ideas to help their children, while developing strong, loving, and connected relationships.



**THURSDAY 16
NOVEMBER**

7.30pm-9.00pm

VENUE

Surf Coast Shire Council
1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay

BOOKINGS

Scan the QR code.

This is a free event but bookings are essential.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Kids Art Workshops

Wednesday 27 September

Messy Art Morning
10am-12:30pm

Using pastels, paint and natural materials this workshop will embrace the messy, wonderful world of art with artist Stacey.

\$49 per session

*BONUS hour of free fun! Enrol in both workshops to enjoy BYO lunch and games in the garden from 12:30-1:30pm.

Drawing Games
1:30pm - 4:00pm

Drawing with a twist, roll the dice to decide what feature to add to your creature, draw to music and more with artist Joshua.

Ages 8-12yrs

Bluebird House
Located Cnr or Carr and Swanston
Streets, South Geelong



Find out more and enrol via QR code or at:
www.bluebirdfoundationinc.org.au/workshops



CITY OF GEELONG

Community News



TERM 4, 2023 - REGISTER NOW @
[CHESSFORSCHOOLS.COM.AU](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.*

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 PRIMARY GEELONG

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	DATES	COST
Fridays	1.50pm - 2:30 pm	Year 1/2 Topaz Classroom	13 Oct to 8 Dec	\$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**

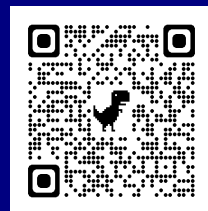
2023 Staff Email List

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 # 15
Term 3—Week 9

How many students are at the Saturday detention in *The Breakfast Club*? Five