



St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 2 | 22 February 2023

News from the Principal

Dear Families,

Yesterday, we celebrated **Shrove Tuesday**. The morning was filled with the joy of our students eating scrumptious pancakes. Thank you to our wonderful staff members who generously prepared the batter, cooked the pancakes and added delicious toppings to them for our students. They were thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated!

Today is **Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of the Season of Lent. It was lovely that our Year 3-6 students were able to attend Mass at the Basilica. Our Year 1/2 students participated in an Ash Wednesday, non-Eucharistic liturgy at school. Let's use this season of Lent to prepare our hearts for Easter, by praying, putting others before ourselves and sharing what we have with others.

St Mary's School has again been invited to take part in this year's **World Day of Prayer** that will be held on **Friday, 3 March**. This significant day is a global movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can come to know how other countries, languages and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context. It will also give our students the opportunity to hear concerns and needs others around the world have and pray with and for them. In this way, we hope it will enrich our students' faith in an 'outward' facing expression. As part of this day some students in Years 5 and 6 will be walking to and from Wesley Uniting Church, Yarra Street Geelong to participate in a Liturgy at 11:00am. Parents/Guardians and other family members are most welcome to join us on the day.

Our first **P&FA meeting** for the year was held last Wednesday. As it was our Annual General Meeting, our office bearers were elected. Co-Presidents; **Kirstie Irwin** and **Kate Norton**, Vice President; **Lauren Cambridge**, Secretary; **Sherryn Young** and all General Committee Members.

A reminder that everyone is most welcome to attend any meeting throughout the year. There are also many fund-raising and friend-raising events planned for this year and I encourage

families to support these initiatives. Every contribution is appreciated and benefits all our students!

If anyone is interested in becoming a **School Advisory Council member for 2023/2024**, please contact me via [email](#) to express your interest. We are currently looking for two additional members.

We will celebrate **Mannix Feast Day** on **Thursday, 2 March**. Everyone is asked to wear a touch of **red** in support of our **Mannix House** members. As in previous years, to make it easy for parents, **students can wear their school uniform with a touch of red** (Eg, ribbon, socks, etc.) or **casual clothes with red** (Eg, T-shirt, shorts, etc.) No money needs to be brought on the day, as this is covered in the Activity and Event Levy. All money will benefit the St Mary's Parish Pantry, who do a wonderful job supporting families in need, including some of our school families.

Although we have only been back at school for a few weeks, everyone is working incredibly hard. Students are immersed in learning and teachers and learning support officers are providing them with valuable opportunities to achieve learning success.

Please see page 4 to learn more about our School Captains and their intentions for leading our school in 2023.

Finally, I look forward to our Foundation **Welcome Event** which will be held this Friday evening at the Centra. I hope many of our Foundation parents are able to come along to meet the families they will share at least the next seven years with as well as many staff members.

Kind Regards, Annice Lappin

To all our School Dads
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 29 March, 7:00-8:00 pm via
ZOOM

Details to follow

Upcoming Dates in 2023

TERM 1

Week 5

Friday 24 February: 2023 Foundation Families, Welcome Evening, 7pm, Centra Hotel

Week 6

Tuesday 28 February: Foundation students Geelong Advertiser 'My First Year' Photo

Thursday 2 March

MANNIX Feast Day celebration

Friday 3 March: SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Students wear correct School Uniform

World Day of Prayer, 11:00 am

Week 7

Monday 6—Friday 10 March

F-4 SWIMMING PROGRAM

Week 8

Monday 13 March

LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY: School Closed

Tuesday 14—Thursday 16 March

F-4 SWIMMING PROGRAM

Wednesday 15 March

P&FA Meeting, School staffroom, 7:00 pm

Friday 17 March

School Athletics Day, Landy Field

Week 9

Monday 20 March

School Assembly (Year 1/2 Pearl) 3:00pm

Parish & Front Gates open 2:55pm

Tuesday 21 March

School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00 pm

Thursday 23 March

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

5:00 pm, St Mary's Basilica

Friday 24 March

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY (Change of Date)

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

Week 10

Monday 27 March: STUDENT FREE DAY

Parent & Teacher Chats, 12:00—5:30 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,

Classroom visits are the highlight of my day! Visits over the past week and a half have focused on norms and routines based on our spelling program - **Spelling Mastery**.

Through explicit instruction, Spelling Mastery interweaves **phonemic, morphemic and whole-word approaches** to effectively teach the spelling skills students need to become proficient readers and writers. This daily, repeated and cumulative practice helps students master each concept and reinforce and retain key information.

Seeing our Spelling Mastery sessions in action is quite impressive and a credit to everyone involved. The way we remain attentive to the noise level, demonstrate a great deal of learning (and teaching) stamina and safely move through our open spaces are a culmination of our school values on display!

The Year 1/2 students will begin their Spelling Mastery sessions next week.

There are several events timetabled for the upcoming weeks ahead. **Upcoming events include;**



School Photo Day (Friday 3 March)

All students are required to wear the **correct, full Summer Uniform** for our annual School Photo Day, which will be held next Friday. Please see attached flyer and page 7.

Class and individual portraits will be taken in the Pioneer Room (upstairs from the Parish Office). We thank the Parish for allowing us to access this space once again this year



Foundation - Year 2 Swimming Program (Monday 6 March - Thursday 16 March)

The school's Swimming Timetable can be found on page 7. Thank you for ensuring your child has their Swimming Bag with them each day.

Please note, in line with the school's Child Safe procedures, we encourage students to be as independent as possible when in the change rooms. Further clarification will be sent to all Foundation-Year 4 families; please check your Operoo inbox, in the near future.



Year 3 & Year 5 NAPLAN (Wednesday 15 March - Friday 23 March)

From 2023, NAPLAN will take place in March (Term 1) - it was previously held in May (Term 2).

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, and with the exception of Year 3 Writing, all NAPLAN tests are conducted online.

I will publish the test schedule for St Mary's School in the next edition of the school's newsletter.



School Athletics Day (Friday 17 March)

Thank you to **Nicholas Coots** for his organisation of our upcoming Athletics Day at Landy Field. On this day, classes leave St Mary's School promptly at 8:50am and will walk to Landy Field.

Specific details about the day and a call out for parent volunteers will be provided in the permission e-Form, which will be sent via Operoo soon.



Lastly, a very big shout out to **Louise Phillips (Loulet Design)** and **Paul Garry (Collection Care)** for their collaboration on important poster designs that are now proudly displayed in our school.

This display is an important reference point for our school, showcasing our school captains, our school emblem the fortnight's Positive Behaviour Focus.

Thank you Louise and Garry; your sharing of expertise is very much appreciated!



**Cari Saluti,
Marie Monea**

TERM 1 KEY DATES

Week 5	Monday 20/2	3:00pm School Assembly (3/4 Onyx). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:50pm
	Tuesday 21/2	Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday
	Wednesday 22/2	Ash Wednesday - Parish Mass attendance: Year 3/4 - 10:00am; Year 5/6 - 12:00pm
	Thursday 23/2	PSG Meetings
	Friday 24/2	2023 Foundation Families Welcome Evening; 7:00pm at Centra Hotel
Week 6	Monday 27/2	School (2024 Enrolments) Tour; 9:30am
	Tuesday 28/2	Geelong Advertiser 'My First Year' Photo—Foundation Students
	Wednesday 1/3	Cricket - Year 5/6 participating students
	Thursday 2/3	PSG Meetings; MANNIX Feast Day celebration—students wear a touch of RED (Uniform or Casual)
	Friday 3/3	School Photo Day - Students wear correct Summer Uniform. World Day of Prayer , 11:00am
Week 7 F-4 Swimming (Mon-Fri)	Monday 6/3	School (2024 Enrolments) Tour; 9:30am
	Wednesday 8/3	Volleyball & Basketball - Year 5/6 participating students
Week 8 F-4 Swimming (Tues-Thurs)	Monday 13/3	School Closed: Labour Day Holiday
	Tuesday 14/3	Parents' and Friends Meeting; 7:00pm
	Wednesday 15/3	NAPLAN (Years 3&5) Begins; P&FA Meeting, School Staffroom, 7:00pm
	Friday 17/3	School Athletics Day; Landy Field
Week 9	Monday 20/3	3:00pm School Assembly (1/2 Pearl). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
	Tuesday 21/3	School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00pm
	Wednesday 22/3	School (2024 Enrolments) Tour; 9:30am. Year 1/2 students attending the 10:00am Parish Mass
	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 12:00pm-5:30pm
	Tuesday 28/3	School (2024 Enrolments) Tour; 9:30am
	Thursday 30/3	Lunch Order Day - Pies **Please note, change of day than previously advertised
	Friday 31/3	Year 5/6 students attending the 10:00am Parish Mass. 2024 Foundation Enrolments Close
Week 11	Monday 3/4	Years 3-6 Cross Country - Eastern Park
	Tuesday 4/4	(Girls) AFL Year 5/6 participating students
	Thursday 6/4	12:30pm School Assembly (Foundation). Parish and Front Gates open at 12:25pm
	Thursday 6/4	End of Term 1. Students dismissed at 1:00pm

2023 School Captains



SCHOOL CAPTAINS - LEO & ISLA

We are honoured to be the 2023 St Mary's School Captains.

As school captains, we will strive to be encouraging and inclusive of others to ensure that everyone has a good time at school and put 100% effort into all activities they attempt throughout their day. We aim to make St Mary's a place where all students feel supported and encouraged to strive to be their very best. As leaders of our school, we will be compassionate and understanding of others and their individual needs. We will lead by example by modelling a positive mindset towards our learning as well as other activities such as house sports.

We invite all 5/6 students to show good leadership skills and encouraging others to do the same by setting the right example for younger students.

Together we will strive to ensure our school remains a respectful, responsible and safe place to learn and play.

We look forward to our year together.

MCAULEY HOUSE - CLAIRE & WILLOW

Gold House has been named McAuley after Sr Catherine McAuley the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, and whose example of mercy we are inspired to imitate, every day. Our Feast Day is celebrated on 11 November.

As the McAuley House Captains, we will be responsible role models who will set a good example for future leaders, particularly for our Gold House. The focus for the McAuley House is for everyone to give their best efforts and not only focus on the result.



MANNIX HOUSE - CHARLI & PIPPA

Red House has been named Mannix after Daniel Mannix who was the Archbishop of Melbourne for 46 years and one of the most influential figures in 20th Century Australia. Coincidentally, he laid the Memorial Stone here at St Mary's School, many years ago. Our Feast Day is celebrated on 4 March.

As the Mannix House Captains, we will role model for others - fairness, kindness and encourage others to have a go. The focus for the Mannix House is to always show good sportsmanship and for everyone to have fun.

MERCY HOUSE - EMILIA & JAMIE

Blue House has been named Mercy, as St Mary's School was established in the Mercy Tradition and is based on the values of compassion, respect, integrity, justice, hope and joy. Our Feast Day is celebrated on 24 September.

As the Mercy House Captains, we feel privileged and will strive to be the best role models to our peers, especially the younger year levels. The focus for the Mercy House is that we will support everyone no matter a win or loss.





Parents & Friends' Association
INVITES YOU TO A
Social Night

FRIDAY 24TH MARCH 2023



77-79 Little Malop Street, Geelong

7pm start

Complimentary Entry
Drinks at bar prices
Finger food provided

COME ALONG, HAVE SOME FUN AND MEET NEW PARENTS

ALL WELCOME

pfa@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL REMINDERS



Bell Times

8:30am - 8:50am Gates open at 8:30am

Students enter learning spaces at 8:50am

8:58am-11:30am Learning Session 1

9:00am Morning Attendance Roll

11:30am-11:40am Supervised Eating Time

11:40am-12:10pm Play Break 1

12:10pm -1:50pm Learning Session 2

1:50pm-2:00pm Supervised Eating Time

1:58pm Afternoon Attendance Roll

2:00pm-2:30pm Play Break 2

2:30pm-3:20pm Learning Session 3

3:20pm-3:35pm Gates open at 3:20pm

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**

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.

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.**

Parent request for archived student information

If you require any archived information including enrolment information, NAPLAN results or past student reports, please email your 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.

2023 Sacramental Dates

In consultation with Fr James Clarke, Parish Priest, important dates for **2023 Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 students** are as follows:

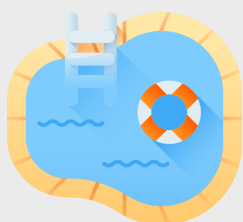
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Year 6 	Thursday March 23rd, 2023 5:00pm (St Mary's Basilica)
SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST Year 4 	Sunday August 13th, 2023 2:30pm (St Mary's Basilica)
SACRAMENT OF PENANCE Year 3 	To be held in Term 4 during the school day (Date and details to be confirmed)

Foundation—Year 4 SWIMMING PROGRAM

TIMETABLE

Geelong Aquatic Centre

6 March to 10 March
14 March to 16 March



SESSION 1:

3/4 Onyx, 1/2 Crystal, 1/2 Topaz

12:00 pm Bus pick at St Mary's
12:15 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
12:30—1:00pm Swimming Lesson
1:00 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
1:15 pm Depart Geelong Aquatic Centre
1:30 pm Arrive St Mary's School

SESSION 2:

Foundation Opal, Foundation Coral, 3/4 Garnet

12:30 pm Bus pick at St Mary's
12:45 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
1:00-1:30 pm Swimming Lesson
1:30 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
1:45 pm Depart Geelong Aquatic Centre
2:00 pm Arrive St Mary's School

SESSION 3:

3/4 Quartz, 1/2 Pearl

1:00 pm Bus pick at St Mary's
1:15 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
1:30-2:00 pm Swimming Lesson
2:00 pm Change at Geelong Aquatic Centre
2:15 pm Depart Geelong Aquatic Centre
2:30 pm Arrive St Mary's School

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2023 - Important Registration Information



School Photographs will be taken at

St Mary's School
Friday 3rd March 2023

There is no need to return any forms or payment to
school before photo day

Flyers with Unique Image Codes will be issued to
all students on or after photo day

School Photos 2023

Annual school photos including sibling photos will be taken by Arthur Reed Photos on **Friday 3 March 2023**.

There is no need to return any forms or money to school.

Unique image codes will be issued to all students on/after photo day so families can register online to view images when they become available in the webshop.

Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps on your child's personalised flyer once you receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do again this year using your child's 2023 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

When images are ready to view and in the webshop, all parents who have registered will be notified by SMS and email.

Once registered, please wait for notification that 2023 images are online to view before making your purchase

Please see attached flyer.

ART at St Mary's School

Welcome back, I hope everyone had a great holiday. A friendly reminder to please send an **art smock** to protect uniforms during art classes. An old oversized shirt or t-shirt, clearly labelled with their name would be fine. Art can be a very messy activity so it is important for the students to wear something to prevent little accidents.

Throughout the year the students will be involved in a great variety of activities. In preparation for this, if you are able to please send in materials as listed below, it would be greatly appreciated;

Construction activities; newspapers, magazines (please check appropriate-ness) **Threads and textiles;** old (clean) socks, **wool**.

Thank you in advance for your assistance, I look forward to another great year of amazing creations.

Liza Rosati
ARTS Specialist Teacher

2023 Student Residential Address & Other Information Collection Notice March 2023

Please see attached flyer.

School Families:

Please email the school if you have recently changed residential address, by Friday 24 February.

admin@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

Foundation 2024 Enrolment



ST MARY'S SCHOOL
GEE LONG

Foundation 2024 Enrolment School Tour Dates

Monday 27 February | 9:30 to 10:30 am

Monday 6 March | 9:30 to 10:30 am

Wednesday 22 March | 9:30 to 10:30 am

Tuesday 28 March | 9:30 to 10:30 am



Foundation 2024 Applications
for Enrolment close at 4:00 pm,
Friday 31 March, 2022

Athletics Training during PE lessons

Students across all year levels have been practising their track and field skills with **Mr Nic** (PE Teacher) for the School Athletics Day, Friday 17 March. Families are welcome to attend the event at Landy Field. A coffee van will be onsite for drinks purchase.



SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

REMINDER: If you are entering your child to compete in the Bellarine & Nth Geelong Div Swimming Championships—please contact [Nicholas Coots](#) by 23/2—5:00 pm with your child's qualifying swim time and age group.

Community News

2024 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN



Open Tour Dates:

- MONDAY 27 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- TUESDAY 28 MARCH 11.30 AM – 1 PM
- THURSDAY 30 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 9 AM – 10.30 AM



BOOK A TOUR ONLINE NOW

iona.vic.edu.au

LEARNING TO CHANGE THE WORLD



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG 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

<https://www.sjc.vic.edu.au/future-families/join-us/college-tour>

Community News



2023 OPEN DAYS

**Wednesday 15, Friday 17
and Friday 24 March 2023**

Multiple Information and Tour Sessions

Bookings are essential and can be made online from Wednesday 1 February 2023

clonard.vic.edu.au

Tours can be scheduled outside of Open Days by contacting Clonard College on 5278 2155 and making a booking with the Registrar.



Clonard College is a Kildare Education Ministries Catholic School in the Brigidine Tradition



Clonard College Open Day

Wednesday 15 March until Friday 24 March.

Multiple Information and tour sessions.

Bookings are essential via www.clonard.vic.edu.au

Enrolments for Year 7 close on Friday 5 May 2023.

XAVIER CENTRE

Guided Tours 2023

www.ignatius.vic.edu.au



Open Night

Wednesday 8th March 2023

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm



Matthew Flinders
Girls Secondary
College

Community News

Grovedale Family Play Day

Join us for a **FREE** fun event packed with activities and performances for preschoolers

Wednesday 1 March
9.30am-12.00pm



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 # 2
Term 1—Week 5

COME AND



JOIN US!

2023 JUNIORS WANTED

Looking for Boys and Girls ages 5 to 12 to join our Junior teams.
So if you are interested in being apart of a great club and learn new skills

ERVIN RESERVE NEWCOMB

26 Richard st newcomb

For more information
Contact
Michaela wellington
on 0448422643

TRAINING STARTS

2nd OF February 5.00 PM - 6:00 PM

Children of all abilities
are Welcomed to join



GEELONGSHARKSRUGBYLEAGUECLUB