



St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 7 | 10 May 2023



News from the Principal

Dear Families,

Term 2 has started very positively. Students are engaged in learning and it has been wonderful to see a shift in the playground, where all students are playing co-operatively and following the schools' play expectations that have been taught explicitly over the past couple of weeks. Unfortunately due to inclement weather last week, we postponed our whole school practice play. We will reschedule this, as it is an important component of our implementation of our play expectations. Special thanks to **Marie, Bernie** and **Nic** who have instigated this new initiative and thank you to the teachers and learning support officers for the support they continue to offer.

A reminder that, **'Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education'** - Every Day Counts, Victorian State Government. Regular student attendance is vital as it affects a student's school work (academic growth and progress) and social adjustment (attitudes to school). Therefore, at St Mary's School, regular student attendance is expected and encouraged, if your child is not unwell.

School attendance rolls are marked twice daily: 8:58am (morning period) and 1:58pm (afternoon period). Students arriving at school after 8:58am must be signed in by a parent/guardian using the school's VPASS system, located at the front office. In the event where a child is absent for any reason, the school's student absence procedure must be followed. Families are required to send a written correspondence to: absence@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au as well as **their child's classroom educator** prior to 8:58am, on the day of absence.

Thank you to everyone who came along to celebrate all the mothers and important women in our lives at the breakfast and liturgy this morning. Special thanks to the staff who ensured this special event was possible by their contribution. We wish everyone a lovely day on Sunday and we hope you enjoy the gifts, made with love, by your children.

Our 2024 Foundation enrolment period has now closed. This year we had a large number of current families enrol a sibling. Thank you to the families with siblings for returning all required documents in a timely manner. We had an overwhelming number of applications from new families. Currently we have 36 accepted students, our ideal number, and a waiting list.

Over the past few weeks, members of the leadership team have written the **2022 Annual Report to the School Community**. It was pleasing to reflect on a year that while still affected by Covid19, the school remained open for the entire school year and many events and activities were re-established. The MACSSIS data was also very positive, confirming that our school culture, learning programs, and processes are valued and appreciated. Once the report has been verified by MACS, it will be made available via our school's website.

Many of our students have taken part in events in the community recently and it has been lovely to hear members of the public comment on their presence, participation and overall behaviour. Thank you to everyone who supports our students to be their very best both at school and while out in the community.

Kind Regards,
Annice Lappin

NOTICE TO FAMILIES

The **Parish Gate** entrance will be inaccessible for students and visitors for **Week 5, 22 to 26 May**, due to works and modifications to the carpark ramp.

Thank you for your understanding.

Upcoming Dates in 2023

TERM 2

Week 3

Wednesday 10 May

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

Week 4

Monday 15 May

School Assembly (3/4 Garnet), 3:00 pm

Gates open 2:55 pm

Friday 19 May

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Week 5

Monday 22 May

Year 1/2 Excursion, Werribee Mansion

Tuesday 23 May

Division Cross Country, Qualifying Students

Wednesday 24 May

Year 5/6 AFL & Soccer; participating students

National Simultaneous Reading Time, Year 1/2 Students, Geelong Library

Week 6

Monday 29 May

School Assembly (1/2 Crystal) 3:00 pm

Gates open 2:55 pm

Week 7

Thursday 8 June

Lunch Order Day: Pizza

Friday 9 June

STUDENT FREE DAY

Staff Professional Learning

Week 8

Monday 12 June

SCHOOL CLOSED: King's Birthday

Friday 16 June

District Athletics, Qualifying Students

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.



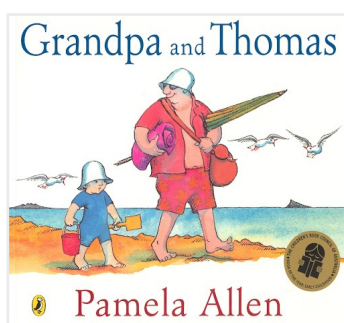
News from the Deputy Principal

Dear Families,

Last Thursday, we welcomed **Juliette Cox**, Western Region Manager, and **Paula Bisinella**, Regional Leadership Consultant, from MACS to our school. The aim of their visit was to see our learning design in action, particularly in the Year 3/4 area.

Our visitors were most impressed by the way our learning and teaching practices are all research based as well as the level of engagement displayed by students and staff alike. Their visit was an opportune time for both reflection and celebration.

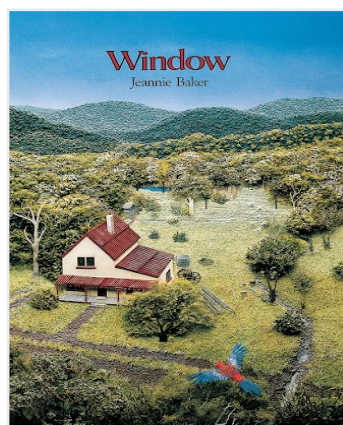
School wide, our research based practices focus on **mastery of skills** and **knowledge building**. This term's learning is centred around **History** and each year level draws on a range of literature to support our vocabulary instruction and knowledge rich curriculum.



Foundation—Family History

Foundation Students are exploring how each family's structure and the traditions celebrated are unique.

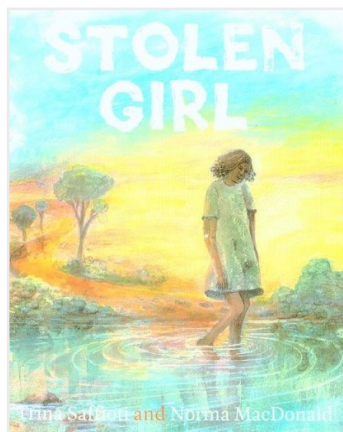
Grandpa and Thomas by Pamela Allen provides the perfect example that every family has their own traditions that are passed down and upheld over time.



Year 1/2—Past, Present & Future

Window, by award winning author and illustrator, Jeannie Baker, is supporting Year 1/2 students with learning about changes over time.

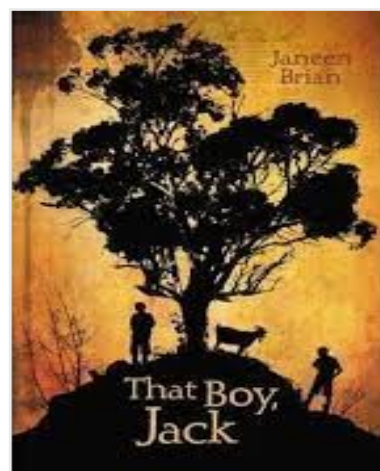
To further understand the 'past' and 'present', Year 1/2 students will also spend a day at Werribee Mansion on Monday 22 May.



Year 3/4—Remembrance & Commemoration

Last Tuesday, Year 3/4 students enjoyed a walk to Johnstone Park to visit the Peace Memorial, complementing their learning about key events in Australian History that are commemorated.

A variety of texts will be drawn upon throughout the term. **Stolen Girl** by Trina Saffioti, supports students to learn about the parts of Indigenous history that are commemorated.



Year 5/6—Colonial Australia & Colonisation of Australia

Throughout the term, Year 5/6 students will be learning about Australian colonies, significant people and the changes to the land as a result of the colonisation of Australia. One of their texts, **That Boy, Jack** by Janeen Brian, depicts the realities and challenges of the Colonial Australia period, for the perspective of a twelve year old boy.

Our next School Assembly, led by Year 3/4 Garnet, is scheduled for this coming Monday, 15 May at 3:00 pm. Families wishing to join us can access the atrium via the Parish or Front gates. These gates open at 2:55 pm on assembly days.

Cari Saluti, Marie Monea

TERM 2 Key Dates

Week 3	Monday 8/5	PSG Meetings - Day 1
	Wednesday 10/5	Mother's Day Breakfast & Liturgy. Parish and Front Gates open at 8:15am. Coffee Van available to purchase drinks.
	Wednesday 10/5	Parents' and Friends Meeting; 7:00pm
Week 4	Monday 15/5	3:00pm School Assembly (3/4 Garnet). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
	Friday 19/5	Fresh Fruit Friday
Week 5	Monday 22 May	Year 1/2 Excursion, Werribee Mansion
	Tuesday 23 May	Division Cross Country, Qualifying Students
	Wednesday 24 May	Year 5/6 AFL & Soccer, Participating Students
	Wednesday 24 May	National Simultaneous Reading Time, Year 1/2 Students, Geelong Library
Week 6	Monday 29/5	3:00pm School Assembly (1/2 Crystal). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
	Thursday 1/6	PSG Meetings - Day 2
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
	Friday 16/6	District Athletics; qualifying students
Week 9	Monday 19/6	3:00pm School Assembly (Foundation). Parish and Front Gates open at 2:55pm
	Wednesday 21/6	Student Reports emailed to families
	Friday 23/6	End of Term 2; 1:00pm Dismissal

District Cross Country

St Mary's School Students are pictured participating in the **District Cross Country**, last week.

Many students have progressed to the next level of competition.

Congratulations to all students.



MUSIC BUS LESSONS

The Music Bus is running weekly lessons at our school in Term 2.

Classes offered are:

Keyboard (prep/kindy-y6)
Ukulele (prep/kindy -y6)
Drums (y1-y6)
Guitar (Y2-y6)

Lessons are:

- * 30 minute duration - once per week
- * held in the hi tech music classroom on wheels on our site
- * cost \$20 per week (\$22 drums) payable by the term on commencement

If you wish to take part in Term 2 please complete this expression of interest form asap:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/ee4627a5204c46158e1ab17e7c8069c6>

Community News



ROLL A BOWL

Come and have a go!

We are looking for juniors
8 - 18 years old
To join our Junior Squad.



No experience necessary
We cater for all ages and abilities

WHEN

Monday May 22nd
4.30pm - 5.30pm

WHERE

City of Geelong Bowling Club.
Ballarat Road Geelong West.

WHAT

Fun games and activities
Free for all
All equipment supplied.

TO REGISTER:

CONTACT LEIGH GREENING 0431141107

E: gbs@cogbc.com.au



**St. Mary's Tennis Club
Tennis Hotshots Placements
Available**

**Cardio Tennis for Adults
Day or Evening**

Contact:

Mark 0416 288 956



Register your child for a 3 or 4 year old place in 2024 and

Join us on Open Day

Normanby Preschool

Monday 15 May, 4:15pm - 5:45pm

53 Normanby Street, East Geelong

MELI

The new name for BCYF and
Bethany Kindergarten Services



meli.org.au

Community News

TurnerTherapy



PAEDIATRIC & ADOLESCENT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICE

CLIENTELE INCLUDES

- NDIS
 - Self-Managed
 - Plan Managed
- Self-funded (Private)

TO SUPPORT YOU
TO ACHIEVE
YOUR
POTENTIAL.



ABOUT TURNERTHERAPY

Our Occupational therapists come to you to provide therapy in the places you spend your time. That includes your home, work, school and other places in the community. We will help you to address and overcome barriers, help to enable and support you, as well as achieve your goals.

ASSESSMENTS

For example:

- Sensory Processing Assessments
- Motor Development Assessments
- Handwriting Assessments
- Play Skills Assessments
- Functional Assessments

CLIENT INTERVENTIONS

We support the development of a child's ability to do the things they want, need and have to do. Such as:

- Fine Motor Skills
- Gross Motor Skills
- Emotional Regulation
- Social & Play Skills
- Sensory Processing
- Self Care

SUPPORT

Our Occupational Therapists work closely with children, their parents, and caregivers, both at home and within the education environment, to help children achieve their developmental, social and learning goals.

NO CURRENT WAITLIST

ENQUIRE BELOW

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SESSION
NDIS RATE: \$193.99 HOURLY + TRAVEL
PRIVATE CLIENTS PLEASE ENQUIRE

www.turnertherapygeelong.com.au

turnertherapygeelong@gmail.com

School Dates

2023 School Year Dates

2023 Term Dates

Term 1: Monday 30 January - Thursday 6 April
 Term 2: Wednesday 26 April - Friday 23 June
 Term 3: Monday 10 July - Friday 15 September
 Term 4: Monday 2 October - Friday 15 December

2023 Victorian Public Holidays

Monday 13 March (Labour Day)
 Friday 7 April (Good Friday)
 Tuesday 25 April (ANZAC Day)
 Monday 12 June (King's Birthday)
 Friday 29 September (AFL Grand Final Eve)
 Tuesday 7 November (Melbourne Cup)

2023 School Closure Days

Term 1: Monday 27 March
 Term 2: Monday 24 April, Friday 9 June
 Term 3: Monday 24 July, Friday 25 August
 Term 4: Monday 6 November, Friday 24 November

Term 2 Important Dates

Mother's Day Breakfast & Liturgy

Wednesday 10 May
 8:15 am

School Assemblies

Monday 15 May (3/4 Garnet)
 Monday 29 May (1/2 Crystal)
 Monday 19 June (Foundation)

PFA Lunch Order Day

Thursday 8 June (PIZZA)

Student Reports Emailed to Families

Wednesday 21 June

Parents & Friend's Meetings

Wednesday 10 May
 Wednesday 7 June
 7:00 pm School Staffroom

School Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday 13 June

Fresh Fruit Friday

Friday 19 May
 Thank you to East Fruit Market

School Closure Day

Friday 9 June

Term 1 Concludes:

Friday 23 June
 1:00 pm dismissal

2023 Staff Email List

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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



St Mary's School, Geelong

www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au

T: 5229 9453

Newsletter # 7

Term 2—Week 3

JUNIOR School Choir (Year 1 - Year 2)

Tuesday Mornings; 8:30am-8:50am
 MacKillop Room

SENIOR School Choir (Year 3 - Year 6)

Wednesday Mornings; 8:30am-8:50am
 5/6 Sapphire Learning Space