



# St Mary's Primary School

We aspire, we include, we achieve.

Newsletter # 5 | 27 March 2024



## News from the Principal

**Annice Lappin**  
Principal

Dear Families,

Last week, I had the pleasure of attending the **Victorian Association of Catholic Primary School Principals (VACPSP) Conference** in Lorne. It was a fantastic opportunity to listen to and engage with outstanding speakers, including:

**Jelena Dokic**, an Australian tennis commentator, studio analyst and former professional player. Her highest ranking as a tennis player was world No. 4. She is also a domestic violence survivor.

**Saroo Brierley**, an Indian-born Australian businessman and author who, at the age of five, was accidentally separated from his biological family. He was adopted out of India by an Australian couple but was reunited with his original family 25 years later after finding his hometown via Google Earth.

**Craig Foster**, an Australian retired soccer player, human rights activist and sports analyst.

**Mitch Tambo**, an Australian singer, songwriter and political activist, who self-released his debut EP in 2016. In 2019, he reached the final of the ninth series of *Australia's Got Talent* and garnered national attention. In November 2019, Tambo was signed to Sony Music Australia.

These were only some of the outstanding line up of presenters. It was also a fantastic opportunity to socialise with approximately 400 other principals and celebrate the incredible achievements of Catholic education in Victoria. Thank you to **Marie** and the **Leadership Team** for ensuring everything continued to run smoothly at St Mary's School in my absence.

Yesterday, we held our **St Mary's School Cross Country**. The Foundation to Year 2 event was held at school, while the Year 3 to 6 event was held at the Eastern Gardens. There were some outstanding results, but the highlight of both events was the camaraderie, sportspersonship, peer to peer encouragement and the personal best performances. Thank you to our PE teacher, **Nicholas Coots** for organising and to all the teachers and staff for their support.

Today, **Ollie Mamone** (1/2 Pearl), and **Jaco Vargas Echeverri** (Foundation Opal) are our **Principals for a**

**Day**. They have declared this day to be a Pyjama or Casual day. Students will also be invited to participate in an Easter Egg hunt, in their classroom. As a special treat, students will also be invited to watch a Movie with their class. Congratulations to all the students on their overall positive behaviour throughout the term. There were hundreds of entries in the Principal for a Day draw, all awarded for safe, respectful and responsible behaviour.

**As Holy week continues, everyone is invited to attend any or all of the following events and liturgies at the basilica in the coming days.**

**HOLY THURSDAY MASS, 28 March, 7:30pm**

**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WAY OF THE CROSS - PROCESSION, 29 March, 10:45am**

Street procession commencing from Myers Street (at the driveway entrance to the old Anama Cara House) and ends in the Mall, Little Malop Street.

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (INCLUDES VENERATION OF THE CROSS) 29 March, 3:00pm**

**1st RITE RECONCILIATION, 30 March, 10:30am** (Please note. there will be NO Mass on Holy Saturday morning. Mass is not celebrated after Holy Thursday until the Easter Vigil)

**EASTER VIGIL MASS, Saturday evening, 30 March, 7:30pm** (No 6:00pm Mass)

**EASTER SUNDAY MASSES, 31 March, 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:00am; Polish Mass at 12:30pm**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to St Mary's School this term, making it a very positive start to the year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back at the beginning of Term 2 on Monday, 15 April.

**A reminder that all students will be dismissed for the holiday break at 1:00pm today**, following the Holy Week Liturgy and Easter Raffle. We wish everyone in our school community a safe, happy and holy Easter season.

*Kind Regards,*  
**Annice Lappin**



ST MARY'S SCHOOL IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A SAFE, NURTURING AND EMPOWERING CULTURE FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

## CALENDAR

### TERM 1

#### Week 9

**Wednesday 27 March**  
**12:30pm School Assembly**  
(1/2 Pearl)

Easter Raffle Draw at Assembly  
**End of Term 1; 1:00 pm Dismissal**

**2024 Foundation Enrolments Close**  
(Siblings)

**Thursday 28 March**  
**STUDENT FREE DAY**

**Friday 29 March**  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**  
**Good Friday**



### TERM 2

#### Week 1

**Monday 15 April**  
**Students first day of Term 2**  
**Gates Open 8:30 am**

**Wednesday 17 April**  
**District Cross Country**

**Thursday 18 April**  
**2025 School Tour; 9:15am**

**Friday 19 April**  
**2025 Foundation Enrolments**  
**(New Families) CLOSE**

See Page 3 for full T2 calendar

**2024 School**  
**STAFF**  
**Email List**

Follow the [link](#)



**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

**Marie Monea**  
*Deputy Principal*



*Year 5/6 Artwork, The Last Supper (top to bottom) Gigi, Theodore and Matylda.*

Dear Families,

Thank you to the families who joined us for yesterday's **Open Classrooms Afternoon**. This informal gathering provides an opportunity for staff, students and families to celebrate the term's learning together.

**Deborah Boland** and I heard of the afternoon's success whilst making our journey home after attending the **Teaching Matters National Summit** in Hobart. The conference, hosted by Catholic Education Tasmania, Canberra and Goldburn, brought together outstanding speakers who are experts in the education field. Many of these experts have inspired and informed the work of a large number of schools within the Geelong region, including St Mary's School.

Over the past few weeks, the curriculum focus around the school has centred around **Holy Week**.

Along with learning from scripture during Religious Education lessons about Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday, religious artwork has been a focus in **art classes**. The Year 5/6 Students created their own representations of **The Last Supper**, using the skill of creating "one-point perspectives". These artworks by **Gigi, Theodore and Matylda** along with many others are currently on display at the school's entrance.

This Easter weekend is a time of joy, celebration and renewal. As His faithful followers, we will walk with Jesus through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. This sacred journey richly offers us the gift of hope.

**We praise You in this Easter season.**

**Change our lives, change our hearts to be messengers  
of Easter joy and hope.**

**We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord forever.  
Amen.**

In an update on **Esme**, my now 6-month old poodle, she will spend her first Easter convalescing from her spay procedure that is scheduled for tomorrow. I'm hoping for a speedy recovery so she too can join in on the Easter Hunt fun - chocolate-free treats of course!

On this coming Sunday, may the Risen Lord bring all school families joy and hope. See you at the gate - Monday 15 April at 8:30am.



**Buona Pasqua a tutti,  
Marie Monea**

## Term 2 School Calendar, 2024



Wk	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	APR 15	APR 16	APR 17 District Cross Country <i>Newsletter Day</i>	APR 18 9:15am 2025 School Tour	APR 19 <b>2025 Foundation Enrolments (New Families) CLOSE</b>
2	APR 22	APR 23 PFA Uniform Orders Filled PSG Meetings	APR 24 School Athletics Day, 	APR 25 Anzac Day <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	APR 26
3	APR 29 3:00pm School Assembly (1/2 Topaz)	APR 30 School Review	MAY 1 District AFL & Soccer <i>Newsletter Day</i> 7:00pm Parents & Friends' Meeting, <b>CENTRA HOTEL</b>	MAY 2	MAY 3
4	MAY 6 Baptism Preparation Program 	MAY 7 <b>Mother's Day Breakfast at 8:15am &amp; Liturgy 8:50am</b> PFA Uniform Orders Filled	MAY 8 District Netball School Review	MAY 9	MAY 10 School Review
5	MAY 13 3:00pm School Assembly (3/4 Onyx)	MAY 14	MAY 15 <i>Newsletter Day</i>	MAY 16 Year 5 Faith Formation Evening; 6:00pm to 7:00 pm  PSG Meetings	MAY 17 Baptism Preparation Program  <b>FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY</b>
6	MAY 20	MAY 21 PFA Uniform Orders Filled	MAY 22	MAY 23	MAY 24
7	MAY 27 3:00pm School Assembly (5/6 Turquoise) Baptism Preparation Program 	MAY 28	MAY 29 <i>Newsletter Day</i> School Advisory Council Meeting; 7:00pm <b>1/2 PEARL—Parent &amp; Teacher Conversations; 3:30 -6:00pm</b>	MAY 30 PSG Meetings	MAY 31
8	JUNE 3 Baptism Preparation Program 	JUNE 4 PFA Uniform Orders Filled School Review	JUNE 5	JUNE 6	JUNE 7 <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
9	JUNE 10 King's Birthday Public Hol. <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	JUNE 11	JUNE 12 <i>Newsletter Day</i> PFA Meeting; 7:00 pm PSG Meetings	JUNE 13 Languages Celebration Day LUNCH ORDER DAY PIZZA 	JUNE 14
10	JUNE 17 <b>Parent &amp; Teacher Conversations; 3:30-6:00pm</b>	JUNE 18 PFA Uniform Orders Filled <b>Parent &amp; Teacher Conversations; 3:30-6:00pm</b>	JUNE 19	JUNE 20	JUNE 21
11	JUNE 24 3:00pm School Assembly (Foundation Opal)	JUNE 25 School Reports sent to families	JUNE 26 <i>Newsletter Day</i> <b>Open Classrooms; 3:30pm—4:30 pm</b> 	JUNE 27	JUNE 28 School Dismissal 1:00pm <b>PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY</b>



### Foundation Students' Quiet Achiever Award

We congratulate **GEORGIE HENNESSY**, Foundation Opal, who has been awarded the **Term 1, 2024 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.



## Sacrament of Baptism



For students of families who wish to have their child/ren baptised, the Baptism Preparation Program will consist of 4 one-hour lessons, taking place on: **6 May, 17 May, 27 May and 3 June**. Parents/Carers/Guardians do not attend these sessions.

The Program introduces Baptism as the sacrament of initiation into the Church community and focuses on the key symbols and actions used in the Rite of Baptism.

This school-based Preparation Program will be offered every third year and completion of this Program enables eligibility for Baptism at St Mary of the Angels' Parish, this year.

**If you would like to enrol your child in the Baptism Preparation Program please complete this Google form ([Click here](#)) by Wednesday 27 March.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Caitlin Steven** (Religious Education Leader) at:

[crippon@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au](mailto:crippon@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au)

**my first year**

A special gallery featuring prep class photos from across the region.

In-paper Wednesday, March 27

### Celebrate your child's first year of school with My First Year 2024

A special lift out featuring prep class photos from across the region including St Mary's School is available in the **Geelong Advertiser** on Wednesday, 27 March, or view the gallery [online now](#)

## Art



Dear Families,

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.

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

Liza Rosati  
Visual Arts Teacher

## Foundation 2025 Enrolment

# Foundation 2025

**Enrolments OPEN 26 February 2024**

**Enrolments CLOSE:**

**Current School Families 27 March 2024**

**New School Families 19 April 2024**

### SCHOOL TOUR DATES:

Tuesday 27 February, 2024 | 9:15 am

Monday 18 March, 2024 | 9:15 am

Thursday 18 April, 2024 | 9:15 am

**ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 66-68 Lt Myers Street, Geelong**

Tour bookings open 30 January | Book your school tour at:  
[www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au/enrolments](http://www.smgeelong.catholic.edu.au/enrolments)



### Enrolment Process

#### **CURRENT SCHOOL FAMILIES (Siblings)**

**First Round Offers By T2, Week 1**

#### **Enrolment Interviews**

**Monday 13 May**

*Link will be sent via the offer letter*

Current Families at the school **DO NOT** pay a \$50 non-refundable **application** for enrolment deposit.

#### **NEW SCHOOL FAMILIES**

#### **Enrolment Interviews**

**Friday 19 April**

**Tuesday 23 April**

*Link to book will be sent when application and enrolment deposit received*

**First Round Offers 24 April**

New Families to the school pay a \$50 non-refundable **application** for enrolment deposit.

#### **Enrolment Form**

*Hardcopy Enrolment Forms available at the school office.*

**Book a School Tour**

## St Mary's School Parents & Friends' Association

The Parents and Friends' Association coordinates the **SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP** to recycle school uniform clothes providing low cost options for families and reducing waste.

*Any unwanted items in good condition and washed are gratefully accepted.*

For second hand uniform requests, contact: [pfauniforms@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pfauniforms@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au)

**PAYMENT for items can be made via EFTPOS or EFT Bank Transfer, CASH is no longer accepted.**

### ORDER TIMELINES

Orders Due	Orders Filled	Order to be collected by <i>(if not collected by families the item will be returned to stock)</i>
Monday 22 April	Tuesday 23 April	Friday 26 April
Monday 6 May	Tuesday 7 May	Friday 10 May

A **NAVY SKORT** has been added into the Summer uniform options, to be worn with the blue polo tops. This is for any student who would rather wear a skort than the navy shorts. The skorts are available at St Mary's uniform supplier **Noone**.

Thanks to **Lucinda Kurelja** (one of the School Captains) for her idea and research.



## Parents & Friends' Association Second Hand Uniforms

### Price List

ALL POLO TOPS	\$5.00
PLAIN PANTS	\$5.00
PLAIN SHORTS	\$5.00
SPORT SHORTS WITH LOGO	\$5.00
SUMMER DRESS	\$10.00
WINTER KILT	\$10.00
WINTER PINAFORE	\$15.00
WOOLLEN JUMPER	\$15.00
SHELL JACKET	\$15.00
RUGBY TOP	\$15.00
HAIR SCRUNCHIE	\$1.00
SCHOOL BEANIE	\$5.00
SCHOOL HAT	\$5.00
SCHOOL BAG	\$5.00

For information or queries, please email:  
[pfauniforms@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pfauniforms@smgeelong.catholic.edu.au)

Payment via **EFTPOS** or **bank transfer**.

St Mary's Primary School **Project Fund** | BSB: 083-347 | Account Number: 647087522 | Reference: **NAME**

**PLEASE NOTE, CASH CAN NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED**



St Mary's School, AFL Girls Lightning Premiership Team  
25 March 2024



St Mary's School Cross Country  
26 March 2024

Congratulations to the winning House, **Mannix**. Pictured are Year 6 Mannix students with the cup. Thank you to the parent helpers who assisted on the day.



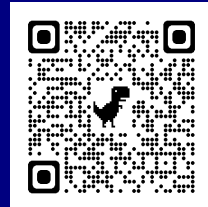
2024 Staff  
Email List

Follow the [link](#)



Family Handbook

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



 Facebook:  
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[@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 # 5  
Term 1—Week 9