



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 14th November, 2024

Newsletter No: 17

Term: 4 - Week: 6

School Notices

Yard Supervision:

Morning: 8:30 - 8:55am
Afternoon: 3:20 - 3:35pm

Bell Times:

School Begins 8:55am
Recess: 11:10-11:30am
Lunch: 1:30 - 2:20pm
Finish: 3:20pm

Student Absences:

Please phone the office by 9:00am if your child will not be at school on 57 521808.
Or mark absence on PAM.



Term 4

Monday 7th October
Friday 20th December

MASS TIMES

Myrtleford

Saturday @ 5:00pm
Sunday @ 9:00am

Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the Month @ 5:00pm



Click on the link

We welcome back Kitty next Monday, who has been on long service leave! We're glad to have her back and hope she enjoyed quality time with her family.

Our St Mary's Boys' and Girls' basketball teams are heading to Melbourne next Monday and Tuesday for the State Basketball Championships. It's a great achievement to qualify at this level, and we know they'll make us proud as they face off against some of Victoria's largest schools. Best of luck to both teams!

Rehearsals for the school concert are in full swing, with students practising weekly to bring you a wonderful performance later this year. Tickets are on sale at the office from tomorrow. – be sure to secure yours! More information on page 3 of this newsletter.

The recent JLC Design and Technology excursion to Wangaratta was a success, with students exploring how design and technology contribute to various art forms. They enjoyed guided tours of the Art Gallery, Library, WPAC, and Cinema, which added a lot to their learning experience.

Year 3 and 4 students from MLC had an incredible camp at Valley Homestead last week, building resilience, teamwork, and social skills. Activities like the flying fox, free-fall slide, and archery made it a fun and memorable experience for everyone. Thank you to the staff who made it possible.

Teachers are now working hard on preparing reports, using assessments, work samples, and observations to gauge student progress. These reports will provide valuable insights into our students' growth over the year and will be shared with parents later in Term 4.

Construction on the McMahon Centre is due to start soon, and this \$1.5 million upgrade will transform the space into a creative arts hub. We'll keep everyone updated on areas that may be restricted and will work to minimise disruptions during this exciting transition.

A reminder to avoid the EMPAC building as VCE exams are ongoing. We're appreciative of everyone's efforts to maintain a quiet and respectful environment for our Year 12 students.

Foundation enrolment interviews for 2025 have begun. We're excited to meet new students and families, setting the stage for a smooth transition into primary school life.

Thanks to our Parents and Friends group for today's pizza day lunch. It was a hit, and the funds raised will directly benefit student learning resources!

We'd also like to thank Adam for sourcing new soccer goals, now set up on the oval. Let's all help take good care of them.



Finally, a big congratulations to our Student of the Week award winners. Special mention goes to Cameron Bonnaci for receiving prestigious Golden 'In Deeds not Words' award and standing ovation. Well done to all our students for their outstanding efforts!

Have a great week,
Leigh

St Mary's Primary is committed to students experiencing a sense of inclusion that is respectful of their giftedness, abilities, culture and contexts. Our student's experience learning and teaching in a child safe environment that is engaging and liberating.



SIGNING YOUR CHILD IN & OUT & LATE TO SCHOOL PROCESS

All Children who arrive at school after 8:55am or leave school before 3:20pm MUST be signed in/out at the office. If for any reason, you need to take your child out of school during school hours, please come to the office to sign your child out.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school for any reason, it is vital that you notify the school prior to 9am, giving the reason for the absence (e.g. If your child is sick, attending an appointment, family holiday etc). This can be done via a few ways:

- Mark absence on PAM.
- Send a note with your child on their return to school, or beforehand if you know in advance
- School answering machine is on out of hours, so you can leave a message on 57521808

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

Days missed = years lost
A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss weeks per year	and years over their school life
1 day per fortnight	4 weeks	Over 1 year missed
1 day per week	8 weeks	Over 2.5 years missed



SCHOOL NEWS

NOVEMEBR

Tuesday 19 th	Foundation Transition Morning 9 – 11am
Friday 22 nd	Presentation Mass 11:30am
Monday 25 th	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Tuesday 26 th	Foundation Transition Morning 9 – 11am
Thursday 28 th	School Concert Performance EMPAC 1:30pm & 5:30pm

DECEMBER

Wednesday 4 th	Swimming Program Day 1
Thursday 5 th	Swimming Program Day 2
Friday 6 th	Swimming Program Day 3
Monday 9 th	Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 10 th	State Wide Transition Day
Thursday 12 th	Whole School End of Year Liturgy 9:15am
Friday 13 th	JLC Bright Excursion
Monday 16 th	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Tuesday 17 th	Year 6 Graduation Mass 6:00pm St Mary's Church
Wednesday 18 th	Last Day of School for Students 3:20pm Finish
Thursday 19 th	Staff Planning Day
Friday 20 th	Staff Planning Day

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT - The Christmas Star by John Burland

Tickets are now on sale in the office for our annual Christmas concert!

THURSDAY, November 28, 2024

Two shows to be held at 1:30pm and 5:30pm

All tickets \$5 (children under 5 - free)

Tickets available at the office.

We kindly encourage those who are able to please attend our afternoon matinee.

Take note of the costume your child will need and the small change in costume for the Year 1 girls. Do not go out and buy anything! We do have some costume pieces from previous years and will be showing these to the students to see how we can supplement items you may already have at home. Simple is always better and shorts/t-shirt with an accessory is absolutely perfect! We will have a dress rehearsal the day prior, and all students will need to bring their costume to school and leave it in their classroom.

Foundation – Angels (with halos to be made in class)

Year 1 – Shepherds or animal (boys); Angels (girls)

Year 2 – Citizens of Bethlehem

Year 3 – Visitors/kings – (with crowns to be made in class)

Year 4 – Citizens of Bethlehem

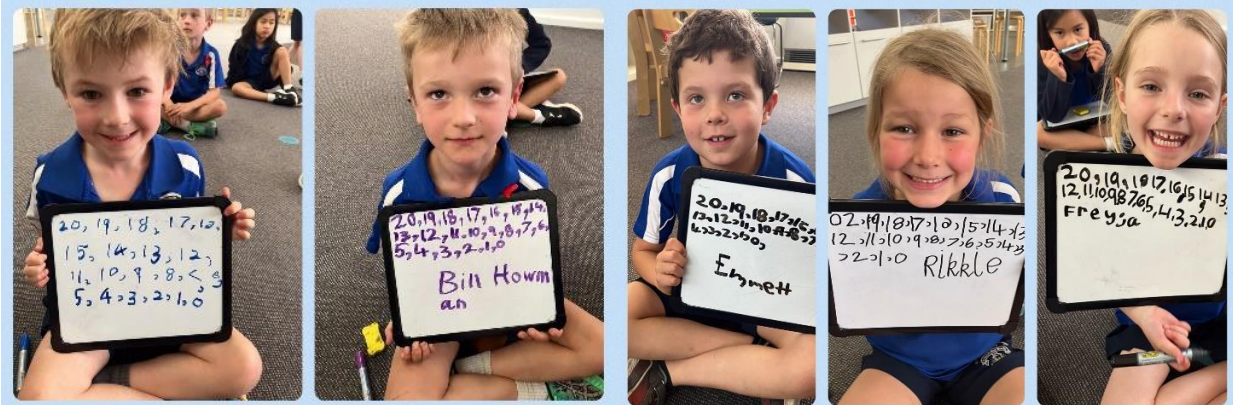
Year 5/6 Jackson – Shepherds or animal

Year 5/6 Wall – Innkeepers

JUNIOR NEWS

FOUNDATION - MATHS

In maths we have been revising number formation, addition and subtraction, sharing and solving simple partitioning problems.



ENGLISH

In English we have continued to read stories about design and technology. We have been exploring a puppet book this week that has been written by a puppeteer from Sesame Street and The Muppets that we borrowed from the Wangaratta Library on our excursion. Students have enjoyed learning about different types of puppets (sock, finger, shadow and paper bag). They have also been able to get some good stage ideas from the book as it shows how to make a theatre out of boxes, sheets, curtains and paper.

The 2025 foundation students visited school in week 4 and enjoyed playing on the playground and oval making new friends and investigating the school yard environment.



LETI: DESIGN TECHNOLOGY/THEATRE

We had a fantastic time on our excursion to Wangaratta and got lots of ideas for L.E.T.I. Last Friday we began our design process for our puppet construction and performance. We organised our groups and selected our Nursery Rhymes. We then looked at the characters in our nursery rhymes and discussed the type of puppets we will need.





L.E.T.I. RECYCLED OBJECTS REMINDER

Earlier this week we sent home a letter asking for recycling objects that we can use in our L.E.T.I. designs. If you have some things that you think might be useful please see a Junior Unit teacher.

JLC EXCURSION TO WANGARATTA



Have a great weekend,
Nicole, Kelly, Sandra, Jo, Carolyn & Sonia.

CAMP - VALLEY HOMESTEAD

*I loved my first camp. It was AWESOME. I loved the dual flying fox and the disco but my favourite part was being in a cabin with Lui and Archie. I'll give it a rating 20/10, sincerely **Johnny**. 😊*

*Camp at the Valley Homestead was awesome! My favourite part was the free fall slide and the zipline. The damper was so good with the jam. I went on it 12 times. **Paddy** 🤪👍*

*I couldn't go to camp because I felt sick and I had already packed all my stuff for camp. **Kristina***

*Camp was incredible and amazing and the activities were great. **Carlos***

*I think camp was amazing and so much better than Beechworth. **Freddy***

*Camp was very fun and the activities were so much better than Beechworth. The Free Fall Slide was the best - I did it thirteen times! 🤪 **Rylan***

*I was never at camp. I got sick the day before camp. On Saturday I met Javier in Albury and he said, "You missed a lot of things at camp." I felt devastated and depressed. So I decided to play on my computer all day. I also went to my cousin's house because I was bored. **Skyler***

*When I was at camp my favourite part was the dual flying fox because I felt like I was flying. My other favourite part of camp was the vertical challenge because I could go out of my comfort zone. I also liked the dinner there because I don't have chicken burgers a lot. **Heidi B***

*I loved camp because we did so many different activities like a flying fox, a drop slide and a vertical challenge. We then had a disco with all different songs. **Thomas***

*I loved camp because the drop slide and the flying fox were fun! **Luca***

*My personal favourite was the Archery because I got the bullseye even though I turned around to look at a hot rod going past. We made damper on Friday morning but mine tasted disgusting because I didn't cook it properly. I was in a cabin with Zoe, Maddie, Sarai, Claire, Heidi and Kristina but Kristina was sick so she couldn't come. It was still fun and I would rate it a 20/20. **Brodie***

*I loved camp! My favourite thing about camp was the dual flying fox because you could do any trick you wanted to do and you could float in the air with no hands. I also loved the disco. It was the best camp ever! **Pippa***

*Camp was so good and fun. I loved camp - it was the best. The flying fox was good and the drop slide was the funniest thing. At camp everyone kept on doing poses. Maddy S was being really funny because she kept on putting her hands under her head. It was so funny. I also loved Archery because it was really fun and I want to do it again. 3 2 1...drop! **Harlow***

*I loved camp because all the activities were fun and the people were nice. I definitely want to go again. **Heidi M***

*Camp was so fun and the best thing about camp was going to the dual flying fox, and the food was good. Ga Ga ball was surely one of the best things we did at camp including lateral thinking. **Javier***

*Camp was really fun because we got to go on a drop slide. Also desert was good. **Lachie O***

*Camp was the best because we got to go on the Dual Flying fox. I was taller than the trees. We also got to go on the free fall slide. We had to hold on a bar and let go but we got on a count down. 3, 2, 1, drop! **Maisie***

*Camp was amazing because all the activities were fun and for one night I got to get away from my annoying sister Mackenzy. **Spence***

*Camp was the best because I got to get away from Harriet for one night and eat chicken burgers. **Lachlan E***

*Camp was the best experience I had in a while because of the awesome adventures but my favourite part was...The Absolutely Amazing Free Fall Slide! **Poppy***

*This was my first camp and I thought it was incredible. I loved the free fall slide. It was, in my opinion, the best thing there! It was really nice to spend the rest of the week with my friends. I had a lot of fun doing all the activities. I loved the dinner and the other snacks. The vertical challenge was really cool and the climbs were cool. I loved hanging out with everybody at the disco. I want to go there again and again. It was the best! **Zoe***

I had the best time at camp and my favourite was the free fall slide and my second favourite was the Dual Flying Fox. It was good and it was mind blowing. I love Valley Homestead. **Archie.**

I had the best time on camp. The best thing was the dual flying fox and my second best was the drop slide. **Lui**

I loved the camp experience because of all the activities. The free fall slide was epic and the zipline was so cool, how you could fly over the trees and over the river. Ga Ga ball was so fun too and Archery was cool too but what I loved best was sleeping with all my friends. **Ivy**

Ga Ga ball was really fun and I loved archery even though the bow was as big as me! Camp was amazing. **Madi R**

When we arrived at Valley Homestead we started off by seeing our cabins. Our first activity was the vertical challenge where we had to complete obstacles that were hard, after we finished vertical challenge we ate something then we went to the dual flying fox witch was 220 meters, after the dual flying fox we did free fall slide and it was 7 meters tall and most people didn't want to do it but I was brave enough to do it. When we finished afternoon tea, we went to do rock climbing and it was 12 meters tall and all of us got to do 3 different obstacles. For dinner we had chicken burgers and for desert we had chocolate mousse. When everyone finished we had 20 minutes of times tables rock stars then we headed back to our cabin to get ready for the disco, the disco was fun and it ended at 8:30. **Thenuk**







SENIOR NEWS

Congratulations to Claye Corcoran on his efforts to get to participate in State hurdles in Melbourne. What a great experience. We have so many excellent athletes at St Mary's. Best of luck to all the students competing at the State Championships for basketball next week. Your sportsmanship and efforts make St Mary's very proud!!

The students have been busy completing post assessments in math and English and we have had pleasing results all round. Well done kids, the hard work is paying off. We continue to work diligently in all curriculum areas.

YEAR 6

A reminder to Year 6 students to make sure they have completed their 'Meet the Grads' profile and that they have emailed photos - baby, first day of school or kindergarten, to Miss Wall. Just a reminder that the graduation liturgy is on **Tuesday 17th December**. Unfortunately, Fr Tony was not able to make the Tuesday evening our apologies for any inconveniences in changing dates. The Mass will now run as a liturgy which is equally special and memorable. A note has gone home to parents discussing a graduation dinner. This is a parent organised event and is not compulsory for families to attend, you may have your own arrangements. Please make sure you are aware of the details in the note.

YEAR 5

The T-shirt orders are in. A huge thank you to Miss Wall for her work on organising this nice and early. Hopefully we are able to have the shirts by the end of the year. Payment can now be made to the school via EFTPOS, cash (exact amount) and online. Let's hope the Christmas rush doesn't interfere with this.

PRODUCTION

Thank you to our students who willingly put their hands up to be narrators in the school Christmas play. We will be practicing on Wednesdays for the next two weeks. Information regarding this is in this week's newsletter.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER:

Wednesday 20th – School concert rehearsals

Friday 22nd – Presentation Mass 11:30am

Wednesday 27th – School concert rehearsal

Thursday 28th - School Concert 1:30pm & 5:30pm

DECEMBER:

Wednesday 4th - Swimming program

Thursday 5th - Swimming program

Friday 6th - Swimming program

Monday 9th - Swimming carnival

Tuesday 10th - Statewide Transition Day

Thursday 12th - End of year Liturgy

Tuesday 17th - Year 6 Big Day Out

Tuesday 17th - Year 6 Graduation Mass 6:00pm

Have a good week,
SLC Teachers

COMMUNITY NEWS



Believing In Children,
Young People, Families
& Their Future.

To help families during the 2025 school year, we are asking for you to share the information regarding the Saver Plus program one more time this year to help parents to access an extra \$500. If parents commit to saving up to \$50 a month for 10 months, ANZ will match it with up to \$500. Participants can put that money towards education costs for themselves or their children.

<https://www.berrystreet.org.au/what-we-do/parenting-and-family-services/financial-literacy/saver-plus>

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and Brotherhood of St Laurence, Berry Street is proud to be the delivering partner for the Saver Plus program in your local area. The program is funded by

ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

We try to make sharing this information with your families as easy as possible, I have attached a flyer for you to share in your school newsletter, I can also send hard copies to you upon request.

Any of your families who have accessed the Camps, Sports and Excursions fund would be eligible for our program.