



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 28th November, 2024

Newsletter No: 18

Term: 4 - Week: 8

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
Wednesday 18th
December -
Students Last Day
Friday 20th December
Staff Last Day.

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

Yesterday, we had our end of year concert, at 1:30pm and 5:30pm. This is always a special time for parents, grandparents, and friends to come along and enjoy the children in action on stage. Special thanks to Rachel and Ashley for organising the show and the costumes. I hope you all enjoyed the show, the students did a magnificent job. A big thank you to the two Marian students, Kaylee and Will who so willingly gave up their own time to be in charge of the lighting.

The water awareness swimming program begins next week. Children will be bused down to the swimming pool and have three sessions followed by the swimming carnival on Monday, 9th December – it's always a great day.

Statewide Transition Day is on Tuesday, 10th December. This will be a great day for students and teachers to establish connections and routines in preparation for the 2025 year. The SLC student class placement process is nearly finalised. SLC student class placement letters will be sent home prior to the Transition Day.

We have recently conducted our bullying survey. We do this termly or when we feel there could be an issue. Once the survey is completed, I will have a quiet word with any child whose name is reported frequently. Sometimes a child may not even know that what they are saying is having an impact on others. If after the quiet word the issue continues, I will contact parents. In my experience the behaviour stops once discussed. As a part of the survey, students also have the opportunity to ask for help so we will follow up with these children. Overall, most children feel safe and supported. The issues that were revealed through the bullying survey were teasing and calling others' names. We will continue to work on being kind and speaking respectfully.

It is really pleasing to note that our numbers at St Mary's continues to increase. Next year we have 21 new Foundation children, and we are picking up numbers across the school, particularly in the Year Five/Six area. A report from a 'newish student' in Year Five is that he enjoys the calmness in the classroom which has allowed him to be focussed on his learning. His mum reported that it has been the first time he has taken a true interest in reading at home. This is so encouraging and rewarding. Thank you to our wonderful teachers.

Can I please ask parents of the Year 5/6 boys to check the socks your child is wearing to school. They should be grey. As these students are the leaders and oldest, I hope they set the standard for the rest of the school. I have asked these students several times, but I need back up! Thank you for your support.

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

Enjoy the week.
Kitty



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

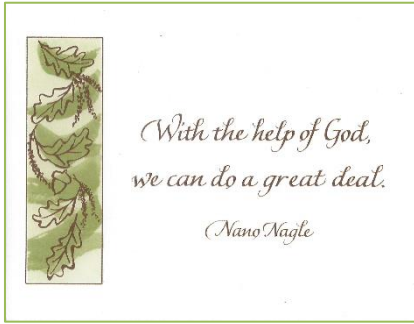
1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

SCHOOL NEWS

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 |





On November 21st Presentation Sisters and Presentation Schools worldwide celebrate a special feast day – The Presentation of Mary in the Temple.



It is a reminder to carry on Mary's joy for God and life with the Presentation Sisters pledge to go forth across the world in joyful service, wherever it is needed.

PRESENTATION MASS FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

Last Friday St Mary's students and staff came together for a lovely Mass to remember and celebrate the 'Presentation of Mary'.

All students participated in the Mass respectfully and sang beautifully, which made the Mass so special. Father Tony led us in the Mass and inspired us with a lovely homily. The students who read and had roles in the Mass were outstanding.

ST MARY'S CENTENARY STAINED GLASS WINDOW

On Thursday November 21st (Presentation Day) talented glass craftsman Peter Jeffery installed our new, beautiful stained glass window to commemorate St Mary's Centenary. (1923-2023) This window is in the entryway to the Office.

This window depicts aspects of St Mary's School that have helped the school to be what it is today.

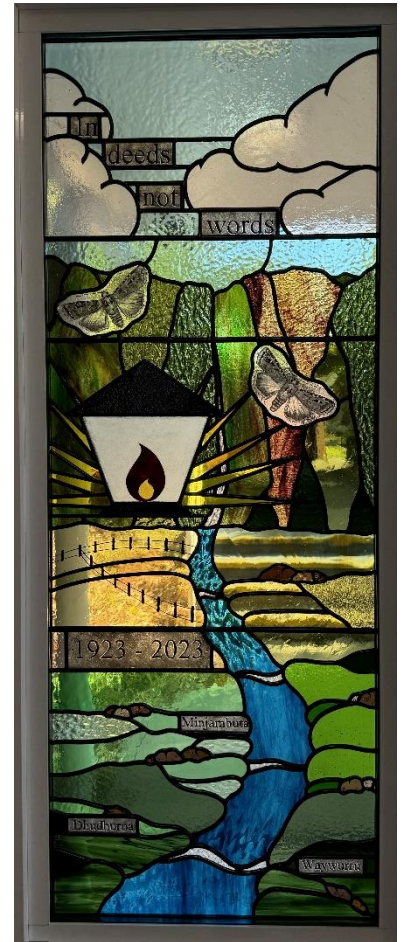
Nano Nagle, founder of the Presentation Order. The Presentation Sisters are represented by the school motto, "In Deeds, Not Words" and by the lantern that is a symbol of light and hope for the world.

The window includes Mt Buffalo in the background, the Ovens River running through the image and agricultural fences paying tribute to the recent history of Myrtleford.

A main feature in the window is the Bogong Moth, which is one of our totems and was a rich food source for local indigenous clans. Their clan names are immortalised in the window: Minjambuta, Dhudhuroa and Waywurru people were the first and continuing custodians of this land.

The window was funded by money raised during our Centenary Year and a large donation from Mrs Hancock as a parting gift and legacy. Cathy and Peter Jeffery kindly donated some materials to help keep the cost down.

Please visit our Office to look at this stunning work of art.



END OF YEAR LITURGY AND GRADUATION LITURGY

Our End of Year Liturgy will be on Thursday December 12th at 9:30am and the Year Six Graduation is on Tuesday December 17th at 6:30pm.

Families are more than welcome to attend.

Have a wonderful week,
Jo Bennett (Catholic Identity Leader)

LIBRARY NEWS

As we get closer to the end of 2024, I will begin collecting all the library books, ready for a library stocktake. All student loans will need to be returned to the library by Friday 6th December. Please assist your children to locate and return their library books. I will send overdue notes to all students next week. Could you also check if they are any readers as well. If you find books that have the St Mary's barcode on it return them to school. Sometimes books can get put into the bookshelves at home.



Unfortunately, each year financial loss from unreturned books continues. Let's see if we can get them all back this year!

Lucia Southern (Librarian)

FOUNDATION

Thank you to Nat and Logan O’Callaghan for sharing their brand new golden retriever puppy with us in Foundation. There were lots of squeals of delight as she ran around and played in the classroom! We wrote about her.



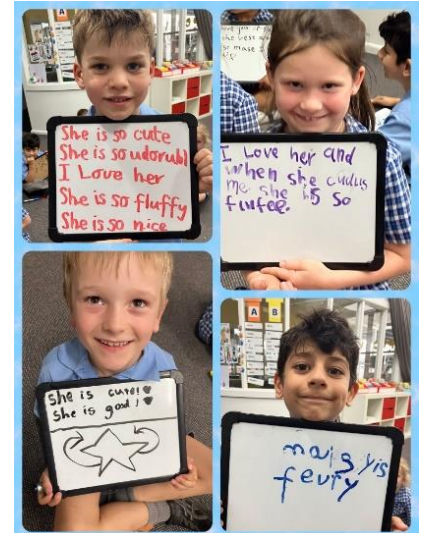
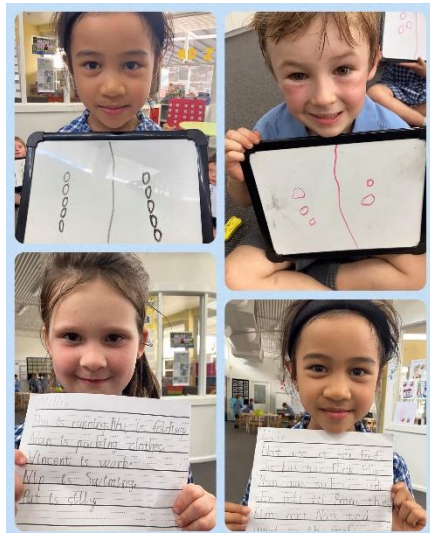
MATHS

In Maths we have continued learning to separate collections ‘partitioning’.

ENGLISH

In English we have been learning about ‘Diphthongs’...two vowels together that make a sound. Students have learned that /ai/ and /oi/ go in the middle of words like ‘train’ and ‘coin’ and /ay/ and /oy/ go at the end of words like ‘play’ and ‘boy’.

We have been writing sentences about our decodable readers too. Students have found the name of a character (noun) in their books and written about what the character is doing.



YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 - MATHS

The Year 1 students have been revising previously taught content in maths. We have also studied symmetry and lines of symmetry, and are revising multiplication.

In Year 2 students have been also revising, we have been working hard at worded problems with multiple steps using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

ENGLISH

We have just finished our study of ‘Features of places’ which looked at the managed features (why people go to parks), design of parks and marine parks. We read all about these and learned new vocabulary relating to each area. The students have continued to focus on letter formation and size in handwriting and have written some amazing factual pieces and narratives in Big Write.

The Year 2s have been enjoying their novel study on Fantastic Mr Fox. We are up to Chapter 9 and those farmers are absolutely disgusting and a little bit horrible. We really hope the foxes get away! Keep asking your child lots of questions about the story. It has been a lot of fun.

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.

LETI: DESIGN TECHNOLOGY/THEATRE

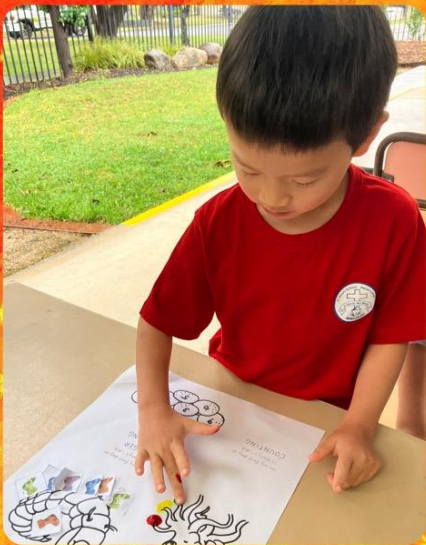
The students have continued to work in groups to plan, design and then create puppets for a performance of a nursery rhyme.





The 2025 Foundation students have enjoyed their visits to school the last few weeks. We look forward to seeing them all back for State Wide Orientation Day Tuesday 10th December.







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

MIDDLE NEWS

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

We were all very excited about the School Performance at EMPAC on Thursday and with the beginning of Advent happening this weekend, we are getting into the spirit of Christmas with our Jesse Tree activities.

SLIDE-UP TUESDAY

It was a great morning for all our Year 2, 3 and 4 students as they all slid up to the next year level for the morning. The 2025 Year 4 group have set themselves a motto for themselves, which is 'One Team, One Dream'. We'll look into what this means for us a group in our next gathering. Congratulations to the 2025 Year 4 cohort who made the move to a new unit and settled in beautifully to their new setting.



Have a great week
April, Julie and Anna

SENIOR NEWS

Congratulations to our basketballers, what an excellent effort and sounds like a bit of an eye opener for you with the level of basketball competition stepping up a notch compared to what you are used to. It's a shame the cricketers missed out on Monday, but we don't control the weather.



St. Mary's Boys
State Basketball Championships



St Mary's Girls
State Basketball Championships

We say farewell to Benji Lupo, in Year 6 who heads off next week for a very exciting holiday. I'm pretty sure Benji has been talking about this trip for years, and why wouldn't you. Enjoy your white Christmas in America Lupos and I am sure you will just love the NBA games. We wish Benji all the best for next year, as you head into Year 7.

PRESENTATION MASS

Thank you to Mrs Bennett for all the work she does to prepare our whole school masses. Congratulations to the SLC students who behaved and sang so well, leading the rest of the school in a lovely Mass. You were modelling our motto, "In Deeds Not Words". We finished the Mass by heading to the office to look at the amazing stained glass windows made by Pete Jeffery.

SCHOOL CONCERT

Well done students. We commend the students on the effort they have put into practice with Mrs Campbell. Well done to the students who volunteered to be narrators, unfortunately we couldn't accommodate everyone and went with Year 6 students and pulled names out of a hat for Year 5's.

BUDDIES

Congratulations to our Year 5 students who absolutely excelled themselves when they met with the new Foundation students, experiencing their first transition day. The year 5's were quiet, patient, and respectful. You mixed well with the Kinder students and made them all feel welcomed. You also modelled the expectations and how to behave at St Mary's. You are going to be amazing buddies. You have had excellent role models in the current Year 6 students.





SWIMMING

A reminder: we start the Water Awareness program next week. Students will be required to bring their towels and shoes to wear to the pool. Homeroom JI may wear their bathers to school under their school uniform as we have swimming at 9:00am. Please pack extra snacks, as students are often hungry after swimming.

| | Wednesday 4 th | Thursday 5 th | Friday 6 th |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 8:50am | 5/6 JI | 5/6 JI | 5/6 JI |
| 9:30am | 5/6 WD | 5/6 WD | 5/6 WD |

Have a great week.
SLC Teachers

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MANGO FUNDRAISER

The mangos are arriving next week on Wednesday 4th December. We will be in contact with a time to pick them up as soon as we know the estimated delivery time. We will send a notification on Team app.

A big thank you to all the families who have supported this fundraiser.

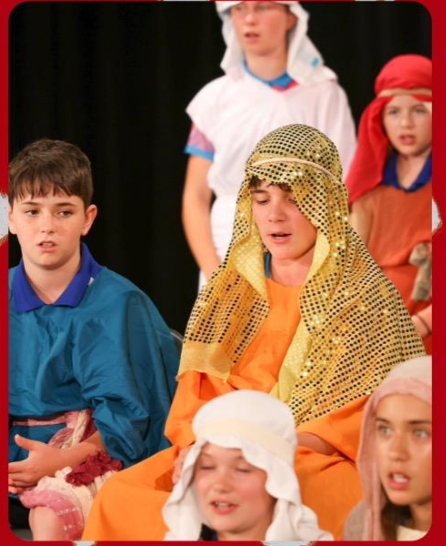
ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT













Swimming and Water Awareness Program Timetable – 2024

| | | | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | Wednesday 4 th December | Thursday 5 th December | Friday 6 th December |
| Session Number | Pick-up Time @ Bus Stop | Session Start/Finish Time | | | |
| 1 | 8:50am | 9:00-9:35 | 5/6 GI | 5/6 GI | 5/6 GI |
| 2 | 9:30am | 9:40-10:15 | 5/6 WD | 5/6 WD | 5/6 WD |
| BREAK | | 10:15-11:00 | BREAK | BREAK | BREAK |
| 3 | 10:50am | 11:00-11:35 | 4 JH | 4 JH | 4 JH |
| 4 | 11:30am | 11:40-12:15 | 3 AN | 3 AN | 3 AN |
| BREAK | | 12:15-1:00 | BREAK | BREAK | BREAK |
| 5 | 12:50pm | 1:00-1:35 | 2 MR | 2 MR | 2 MR |
| 6 | 1:30pm | 1:40-2:15 | 1 JB | 1 JB | 1 JB |
| 7 | 2:05pm | 2:20-2:55 | Foundation CD | Foundation CD | Foundation CD |