



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

43 O' Donnell Ave.
(P.O. Box 320)
Myrtleford Victoria 3737
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Date: 3rd July, 2025 Newsletter No: 10 Term: 2 - Week: 11

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 3

21st July 2025
19th September 2025

TERM 4

6th October 2025
16th December 2025
Students Last Day
19th December 2025
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

LAST DAY OF TERM 2 TOMORROW FRIDAY 4TH JULY

SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2:20PM

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

What a fantastic and busy term this has been!

We began with the solemn occasion of Pope Francis' passing and funeral, followed by the historic election of Pope Leo IV. For many of our students, this was their first experience witnessing a Papal Conclave and the coronation of a new Pope. This significant event sparked rich discussions in our classrooms and provided an opportunity to celebrate Pope Francis' life with Marian College at a Mass led by Fr. Tony.

This term also brought numerous opportunities for the St. Mary's community to come together. We celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, cheered on our students at the school Cross-Country, and saw our wonderful volunteers packing and delivering lamingtons and pies for the School Pie Drive. Additionally, our Year 5/6 students enjoyed an educational and fun-filled camp at Sovereign Hill in Ballarat.

As a new principal, I am continually amazed by the warmth and friendliness of our school community. The high expectations our teachers and students set for themselves are evident in every aspect of our wonderful school.

Nano Nagle, a dedicated teacher who ensured the education of Ireland's poor, leading the Presentation Sisters with the charism of "In Deeds, Not Words." This spiritual gift inspires us all at St. Mary's to show respect and compassion to our entire community.

WHAT IS RETRIEVAL PRACTICE, AND WHY DO WE USE IT?

Retrieval practice is a powerful learning strategy that helps students remember what they've learned by regularly bringing information to mind – rather than simply re-reading or reviewing notes. When students are asked to recall facts, ideas, or processes from memory (even if they don't get it perfectly right), it strengthens their understanding and improves long-term retention. It's a bit like exercise for the brain – the more we practise retrieving information, the stronger those memory pathways become.

In classrooms across Sandhurst, retrieval practice often takes the form of short, daily review activities, such as those in the Ochre Daily Review slides. These warm-up questions cover key content from the previous day, week, or term. By revisiting material in this way, students make connections, notice patterns, and build confidence in what they know.

Importantly, retrieval practice is low-stakes – it's not a test, but a chance to revisit and strengthen learning. Research shows that even a few minutes of retrieval each day can lead to significant improvements in student learning. That's why it's embedded in our teaching and why we encourage families to talk to their children about what they're learning at school – it really does make a difference.

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.

SIMON EVERYWHERE APP

In response to the St Mary's Communication survey and the recent pilot of the SIMON Everywhere app, we will commence the integration of this app from the beginning of Term 3. The app allows access directly to PAM via your mobile device, allowing the reporting of student absences, access to student assessment, medical and travel information.

The school will communicate notifications that were previously communicated via Teams App through SIMON Everywhere from the beginning of Term 3. Instructions on how to download the app are attached at the back of this newsletter.

If you require additional support, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

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

SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY	
Friday 4 th	JLC LRTI EXPO 12:30PM to 1:30PM All families welcome to come along.
Friday 4 th	End of Term 2 - 2:20pm finish
Monday 21 st	First Day Term 3
Wednesday 23 rd	Fete Organising Committee Meeting 3:30pm
Thursday 24 th	Day 1 Ski Program
Monday 28 th	Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm
Tuesday 29 th	Day 2 Ski Program
Wednesday 30 th	Wangaratta Winter Sports Day (Year 5/6)
AUGUST	
Tuesday 5 th	Day 3 Ski Program
Wednesday 6 th	Book Fair 3:30pm -5:00pm
Thursday 7 th	Book Fair 3:30pm - 5:00pm
Friday 8 th	Book Fair 3:30pm - 5:00pm
Friday 8 th	Region Winter Sports - Benalla
Monday 11 th	Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm
Wednesday 13 th	PUPIL FREE DAY (Staff Spirituality Day)
Thursday 14 th	Day 4 Ski Program
Friday 15 th	Foundation Open Morning 9:00am – 11:00am
Monday 18 th	Day 5 Ski Program
Monday 18 th – 22 nd	CBCA Children's Book Week "Book an Adventure"
Tuesday 19 th	Parent Teacher Interviews 2:30pm - 6pm
Wednesday 20 th	Parent Teacher Interviews 2:30pm - 6pm
Thursday 21 st	Book Week Dress Up Parade 9am Under the basketball court
Monday 25 th	Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm
SEPTEMBER	
Monday 8 th	Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm
Wednesday 10 th	St Mary's Athletics Day – Marian College Oval
Friday 19 th	End Of Term 2:20pm



CATHOLIC IDENTITY NEWS

JLC & MLC LITURGIES

Last week, the JLC and MLC units held liturgies. We would like to thank the students of each area for their joyful participation in their liturgy. The JLC welcomed many families, and it was a lovely experience for all.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL 'SPRING FLING' FETE 2025



If you can contribute to the organisation of the fete whether in a large or small capacity, please come to the Fete Meeting on **Wednesday July 23rd at 3:30pm in the Nagle Centre at St Mary's Primary School.**

We are looking for parish, school, and parent representatives for our main Fete committee and some for sub-committees to organise

specific parts of the fete.

Please contact Andrea or Jo if you have any questions.

aoconnor@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au - jbennett@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au

Have a wonderful week and a restful holiday.

Jo Bennett



THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY
6-13 JULY 2025

JUNIOR NEWS

LETI EXPO- Friday July 4th at 12:30pm, all families are invited to attend.

Please sign in at the door before entering.

'Let's Explore Our World'

- Our Key Understandings for this unit are-
- We can take care of our Earth.
- The weather and seasons change.
- The Earth, Moon, Stars and Sun's in the solar system.



FOUNDATION

The Foundation students received a whole-class Student of the Week award on Monday. This well-deserved recognition celebrates their wonderful first half of the school year. This semester, they have learned to manage their belongings independently, made 24 new friends, and discovered how to play cooperatively in the playground and school yard. They have begun reading and writing, explored maps and geography, learned about space and the seasons, counted to 20 and back, and participated in Mass while learning about religion. Italian and Music have been especially interesting, and Sport and Art have been so much fun. Well done to our foundations of 2025!



YEAR 1 - ENGLISH

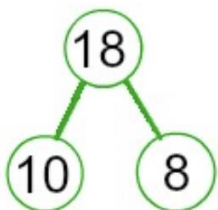
The students have been studying the three digraphs that make the 'ir' sound. "ir", "ur" and "er".

We have been reading and writing our 'Tricky Words' and have been singing the 'because' song to the music of 'The wheels on the bus'.

We have listened to and studied the book 'The story about Ping' by Marjorie Flack and the students thought that it was funny that Mrs Bennett remembered reading this book in primary school. We have answered questions about the book and have studied the vocabulary 'pale', 'dash' and 'swiftly'.

MATHS

We have been expanding our capabilities when completing addition and subtraction in Maths lessons. We have been reading worded problems and then creating number bonds for each problem.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Year 1 students have brainstormed what a 'Person of Pentecost' does to show the Holy Spirit at work through them. They wrote/drew how they could act as a 'Person of Pentecost' at home, school, in creation and in the community.

LETI

The Year 1 students have been working hard to finish off their LETI creations in response to the learning outcomes. They are all looking forward to showing off their hard work to you on Friday at the LETI EXPO.



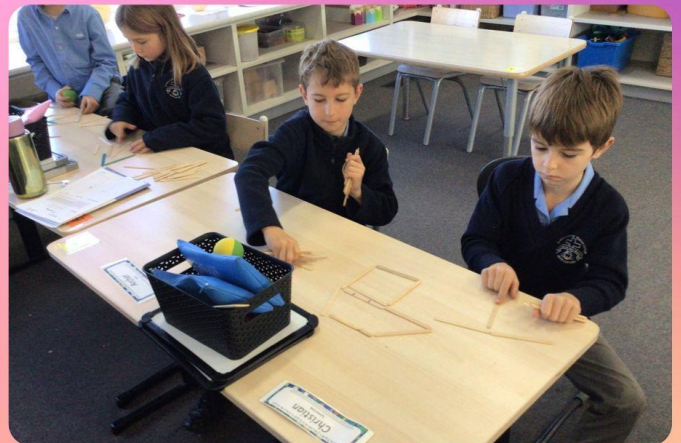
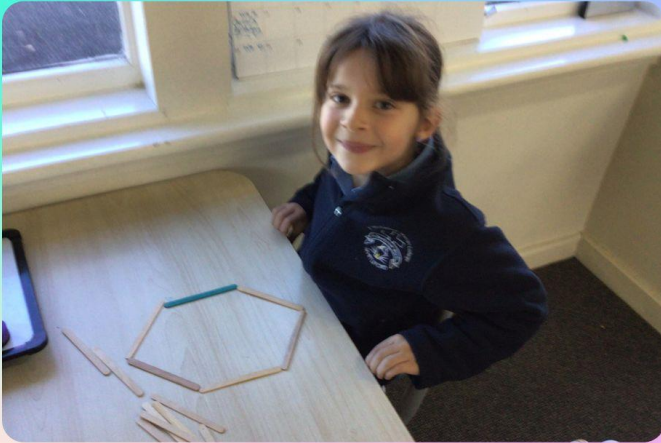
YEAR 2 - ENGLISH

Our new book is *The True Story of the three little pigs* by Jon Scieszka. This story takes a traditional tale and changes the viewpoint on how it is told.

We have really been working on our Comprehension strategies this term. Below is our Comprehension toolbox with the strategies we have covered so far. Have a chat with your child and see if they can remember what each strategy is.

MATHS

Our students have finished up measuring length with informal units and we are now exploring the properties of 2D shapes and parallel lines.



INQUIRY/L.E.T.I.

Our inquiry unit of the 'Let's Explore Our World' has well and truly been a hit. There's been a lot of excitement and new discoveries made throughout the term by our Year 2s. If you peek into our classroom, you'll notice a growing collection of papier-mâché planets and space creations lining the back bench, our creativity and curiosity is in full flight!

Last week, we took a closer look at the patterns of sunrise and sunset and learned how the Earth's rotation creates day and night. These big ideas have sparked some wonderful questions and conversations. There's so much more to explore, and we can't wait to keep learning!

SAD FAREWELL

Our 2MR family are sad to say goodbye to Victoria Nguyen and her family. The Nguyen family will be moving to NSW during the holidays. You will be greatly missed Victoria and we wish you and your family all the best.

Have a fantastic holiday,
Carolyn, Jo, Kelly, Nicole, Anna, and Sonia.

END OF TERM 2

As Term 2 comes to a close, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible learning, growth and achievements of our Year 3 and Year 4 students. Congratulations to our students who have all shown what it means to be resilient, kind, and committed learners.

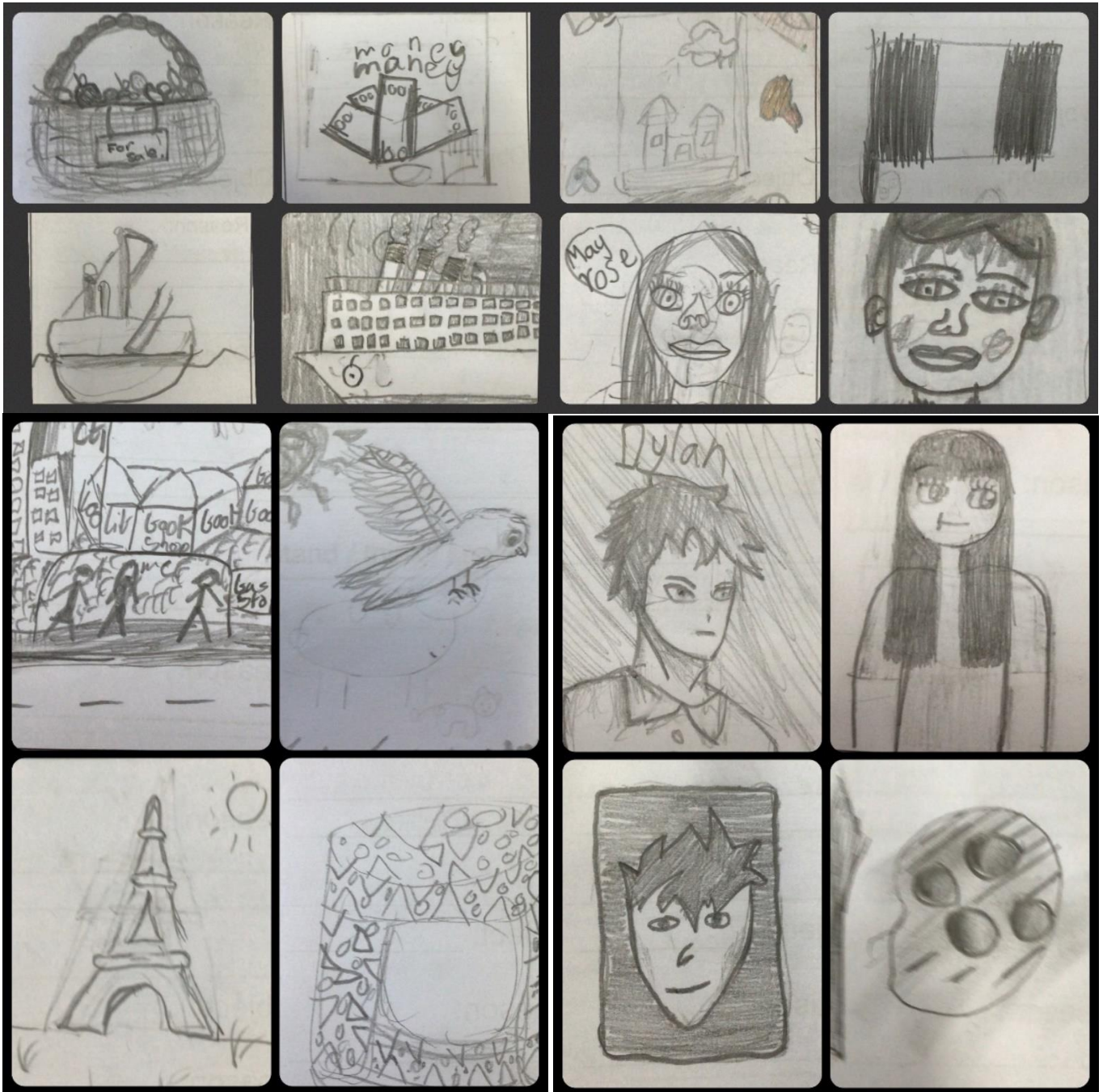
We wish you all a safe, relaxing and fun-filled holiday and we look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready for Term 3!

FAREWELL TO OUR CLASSMATES

A special farewell to our Year 4 classmates, Harlow and Ethan, who will be continuing their learning journey at new schools next term, as they are both leaving Myrtleford. We will miss you both and wish you all the best in your exciting new adventures.

THE ARRIVAL BY SHAUN TAN - YEAR 4JH ARTWORK

It has been amazing to be working with this book over the past few weeks and the students have really taken in the meaning behind it. Here are some lovely sketches which have been completed by the students as part of their studies.



YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 LITURGY

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who were able to attend our unit Liturgy last Friday. The liturgy was held to mark Refugee Week which was the previous week. Well done to our students who read, presented, sang and showed reverence during our lovely liturgy. It makes us so proud to see our students really shining at events like these.



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING WEEK LAST WEEK

The sun was shining for our fun Activities Day with the Year 3/4 students from Myrtleford P-12 last Friday. All students displayed impressive behaviour and lots of fun was had by everyone.





Happy Holidays!
Julie, April and Nat

SENIOR NEWS

END OF TERM 2

As we come to the end of a busy and productive Term 2, we'd like to share some of the learning highlights and upcoming events in Year 5/6.

The students have been working well on developing their literacy skills in forming sentences/paragraphs/recounts using specific structures. We have been to Sovereign Hill where they experienced life as a student in the 1850's on the goldfields. Here too they developed an understanding of the first instances of democracy at work at the Eureka Stockade.





GAMES DAY FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Last Friday, our students enjoyed a fantastic Games Day focused on promoting mental health and wellbeing. It was wonderful to see everyone engaged in a wide range of games and activities out on the oval. There was a lot of laughter, cooperation, and energy on display—well done to all involved for making it such a positive experience.

WINTER SPORTS DAY - NEW DATE AND DETAILS

Please note that the Wangaratta Winter Sports Day has been rescheduled to Term 3, Week 2 (**Wednesday 30TH July 2025**). A new permission form is now available on SIMON and will need to be completed prior to the event.

Event Details:

-  Location: H.P. Barr Reserve, 1–41 Schilling Dr, Wangaratta
-  Transport: Bus (no cost – covered by Camps, Sports & Excursions Levy)
-  Depart St Mary's: 9:00am | Return: approx. 3:15pm
-  Uniform: St Mary's PE Uniform

Sports and what to bring:

Football: Foody boots, shorts (if available), mouthguard, towel, change of clothes, lunch, drink bottle.

Netball: Netball skirt/uniform (if available), towel, lunch, drink bottle

Soccer: Optional soccer boots, towel, lunch, drink bottle

INQUIRY - MIGRATION AND EARLY AUSTRALIAN COLONIES

Our Inquiry unit is wrapping up with a historical investigation into why people migrated from Britain and Ireland to the Australian colonies. Students have explored key themes such as:

- Push and Pull factors behind migration.
- The Irish Potato Famine and its effects.
- Convict transportation and early life in the colonies.
- Key historical concepts such as cause and effect, significance, and empathy.

A highlight has been watching and reflecting on, 'To the Other Side of the World', a video that illustrates the experiences of various types of migrants, from forced convicts to assisted passengers. Students have developed their understanding of migration-related vocabulary and engaged in meaningful research and discussion.

END OF TERM LITURGY

Our end of term Mass was beautifully led by the SLC students, who did a wonderful job organising and supporting the liturgy. A big thank you to all our readers and participants—your contributions were appreciated and helped make it a reflective and reverent occasion.







LOOKING AHEAD TO TERM 3

It has been a rich and rewarding term of learning. We thank families for your continued support and wish everyone a safe and restful holiday break.

We're excited to begin Term 3 with our new class literature text:

☐ **The Grandest Bookshop in the World** by Amelia Mellor.

Set in Melbourne in 1893, this novel follows Pearl and Vally Cole as they navigate mysterious challenges in their family's magical book arcade. It promises to be an engaging read full of puzzles, riddles, and adventure.

In Mathematics, our key focus areas will include:

- Fractions (Part 2)
- Decimals (Part 2)
- Angles
- Measurement
- Time

We look forward to another great term of learning and growth.

Warm regards,
SLC Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

RAISING HEALTHY MINDS

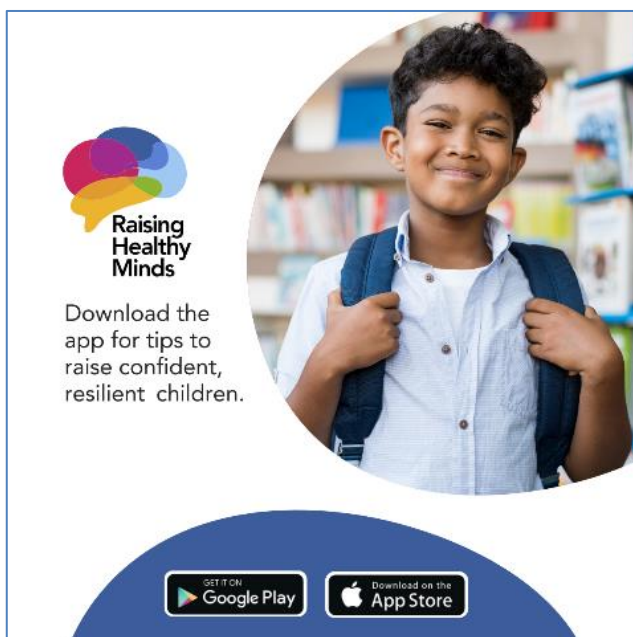
The Raising Healthy Minds app is a free, personalised, pocket resource to help parents and carers raise confident, resilient children. Co-designed with parents and experts and funded by the Australian Government, Raising Healthy Minds aims to support children's social and emotional wellbeing with evidence-based information.

You'll find information on topics like dealing with worries and making friends, as well as ideas for day-to-day life, like creating family routines, looking after yourself as a parent, and building strong relationships.

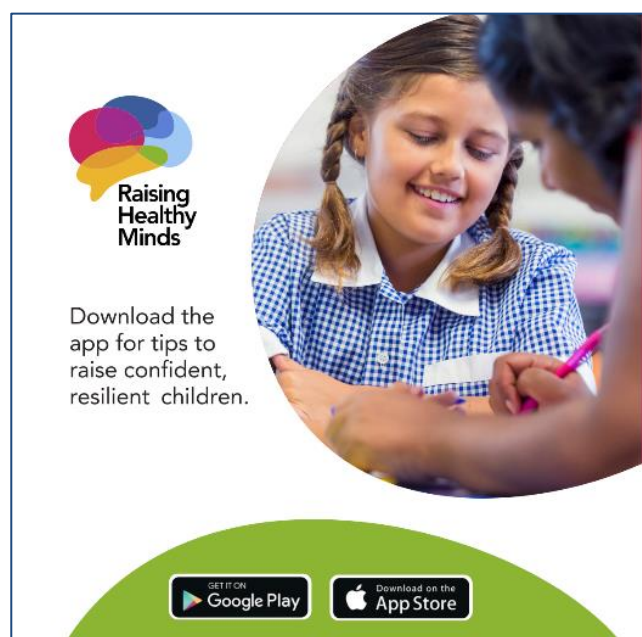
The app offers a mix of quick-read articles, videos and animations aimed at parents and carers of children aged 0-12 years. You can tailor information to the age of your child and opt-in to receive helpful tips.

Raising Healthy Minds provides simple-to-use information at your fingertips with clear actions you can start today.

Download from Google Play or the App Store or go to raisingchildren.net.au/rhm to learn more and raise a healthy mind 🧠 😊



The advertisement features a circular image of a young boy with dark curly hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and a dark blue backpack, smiling. To the left of the image is the Raising Healthy Minds logo, which consists of a stylized brain with colorful segments (red, yellow, green, blue, purple) and the text "Raising Healthy Minds" below it. Below the logo and image, the text reads: "Download the app for tips to raise confident, resilient children." At the bottom of the advertisement, there are two buttons: "GET IT ON Google Play" and "Download on the App Store".



The advertisement features a circular image of a young girl with blonde braids, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt, smiling. To the left of the image is the Raising Healthy Minds logo, which consists of a stylized brain with colorful segments (red, yellow, green, blue, purple) and the text "Raising Healthy Minds" below it. Below the logo and image, the text reads: "Download the app for tips to raise confident, resilient children." At the bottom of the advertisement, there are two buttons: "GET IT ON Google Play" and "Download on the App Store".

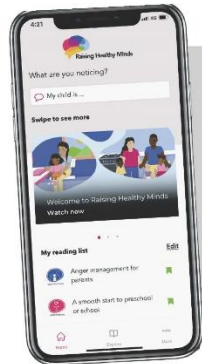


Raising Healthy Minds

Do you have a question about your child's emotions, behaviours and wellbeing?

The Raising Healthy Minds app is a FREE, personalised pocket resource to help you raise confident, resilient children.

Co-designed with parents and experts and funded by the Australian Government, the app offers a mix of quick-read articles, videos and animations designed to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing from birth to age 12.



Download the app from Google Play or the App Store



Find out more about Raising Healthy Minds at raisingchildren.net.au/rhm



PLANETARK TOYOTA



EVENT COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING & FREE BBQ

WHEN 9:30AM - 11:30AM SUNDAY 27 JULY 2025

WHERE APEX PARK 9 APEX LANE, MYRTLEFORD

SITE CONTACT



MORE INFORMATION

tree day.planetark.org

@nationaltreeday or @planetark

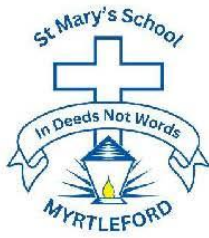
/NationalTreeDay

#nationaltreeday #connectwithnature

National Tree Day is organised by Planet Ark in partnership with Toyota Australia

PLANT A TREE ON NATIONAL TREE DAY





PARENTS HANDOUT

Logging in for the first time:

1. Find & install the **SIMON Everywhere** app from your store
2. Open the app, add your name, mobile phone number & select *Get SMS Code*
3. Enter your *one-time password* & select *Login*
4. Select the *+Add School* tile
5. Search for your school & select the *Parent Access Login*
6. Enter your PAM credentials & select *Submit*



Scan the QR code or click on [this link](#) to view the INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

