



# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2025

Newsletter No: 16

Term: 4 - Week: 4

## 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**

6<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**16<sup>th</sup> December 2025**  
**Students Last Day**  
17<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Staff Last Day

### **MASS TIMES**

#### Myrtleford

Saturday @ 6:00pm  
Sunday @ 9:00am

#### Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

#### St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the  
Month @ 6:00pm



Click on the link

**A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT MONDAY  
3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER WILL BE A  
SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY FOR REPORT WRITING**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE -

### CELEBRATING OUR TALENTED STUDENTS AND STAFF

I am delighted to share how proud we are of our incredible Year 5/6 students for their outstanding performances in the recent One-Act Plays. Their creativity, confidence, and teamwork on stage were truly inspiring and a testament to the vibrant performing arts culture we nurture here at St Mary's. A big thankyou to the teachers for their enthusiasm and expertise for making the performances such a success.

It is with mixed emotions that we also congratulate Ashley Pasqualotto on her appointment as Principal of St Joseph's Beechworth, commencing in Term 1, 2026. While we will deeply miss her presence at St Mary's, we are thrilled for her as she steps into this exciting new chapter. Ashley has made a significant and lasting contribution to our school community through her dedication, warmth, and commitment to learning excellence. We wish Ashley every success in her new role and thank her sincerely for all she has given to St Mary's.

In this week's Gospel, we are reminded of the profound compassion and healing power of Jesus, who freed a woman from her long suffering. Just as Jesus saw her need and responded with love, we strive to be a community that sees and uplifts one another—celebrating each person's dignity and potential. Our students, staff, and families are called to live in the spirit of freedom and grace, supporting each other in times of challenge and rejoicing together in moments of growth and achievement. This Gospel encourages us to be courageous in kindness and generous in spirit.

God bless,  
*Andrea*

## SWIMMING PROGRAM

We will be commencing the St Mary's swimming program, at Wangaratta Aquatic and Sport Centre, next week for our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 5/6 students. All families have received information and permission notes, if you are yet to receive information regarding the swimming program please contact your classroom teacher.

The swimming timetable for next week is as follows:

Date	Year level	Bus Departure School	Bus Returns to School
Wednesday November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 5/6	9:15am	12:30pm
& Friday November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation	12:00pm	2:45pm
	Year 1	12:45pm	3:10pm

## PAM OUTAGE UPDATE

I would like to thank you for your cooperation and understanding this week during the Parent Access Module (PAM) outage. The reinstatement of PAM is out of our control, however the most recent update from SIMON is that Parent Access Module (PAM), likely via the web platform will be reinstated on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. In the meantime, we would ask you continue to either email ([absent@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:absent@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)) or call the admin office (5752 1808) to notify the school of absences. Any upcoming permission notices will be sent home as hard copies and administration will then update PAM from the school end.

*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.*

## CYBERSAFE WORKSHOPS: 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

The Cybersafe Workshops, which were postponed in T431936 term 3, will now take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November during the school day. Senior Constable Youth Support Officer Hayley MacDonald will be facilitating the Think U know Cybersafe workshops. Families can access additional support resources on the following link:

<https://www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab>

## SCHOOL SPORT POLICY

The school leadership team in consultation with staff have developed and ratified the St Mary's School Sport program. To view the policy click on the following link: <https://smyrtleford.policyconnect.com.au/module/5235/page/9e451171-73c9-41d2-b2ff-5454fdeec2d1.md>

## OUT OF HOURS SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

The Myrtleford Schools' Out of School Hours Care Program will be facilitated by 'Their Care' commencing in Term 1 2026. The program will be hosted by Myrtleford P-12 College in their Multi-Purpose facilities. St Mary's students attending the program will be transported to the service by bus each afternoon. Enrolment information will be shared to both school communities in the coming weeks.

## 🌸 🎉 SPRING FLING FETE - FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 2:30-6:30PM! 🎉 🌸

Get ready for an afternoon of fun, food, and festivity at our Spring Fling Fete! Join us on Friday 21st November from 2:30pm to 6:30pm for a celebration of community spirit, creativity, and springtime joy. There'll be something for everyone—games, stalls, entertainment, and delicious treats!

🎟️ **Major Prize Raffle** – Keep an eye out as raffle tickets will be sent home with students soon. Don't miss your chance to win some amazing prizes!

🍰 **Cake Stall Donations** – We warmly invite families to contribute baked goods to our ever-popular Cake Stall. Sweet or savoury, homemade or store-bought—every contribution helps make the day a success! Families will be provided information closer to the date.

🌸 **Flower Stall Contributions** – If you have a beautiful garden and would like to donate flowers to our Flower Stall, please contact the school office to arrange collection. Your blooms will brighten the day and bring smiles to many!

Let's come together to make this year's Spring Fling Fete a joyful and memorable event for our whole school community. We can't wait to see you there!

**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

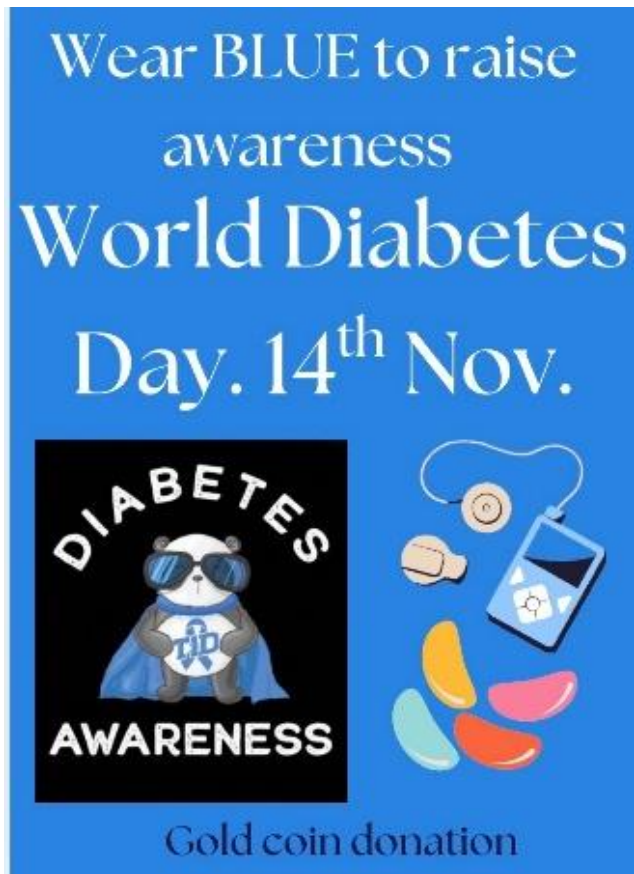
## STUDENT ABSENCES

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
- Email [absent@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:absent@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au)

## 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.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### NOVEMBER

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY - Report Writing Day
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Public Holiday
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 5/6 & Foundation & Year 1
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	MLC Beechworth Camp
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 5/6 & Foundation Year 1
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	World Diabetes Day Wear Blue Gold Coin Donation
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Cybersafe Workshops
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Presentation Day Mass St Mary's Church 9:30am Spring Fling Fete 2:30pm to 6:30pm St Mary's Grounds
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation 2026 Information Evening 5:30pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 5/6 & Foundation Year 1
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 2/3 and 4
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 2/3 and 4
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm

#### DECEMBER

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Swimming Carnival
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Wangaratta Year 2/3 and 4
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Free Day (Staff PD)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Statewide Orientation Day
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	End of Year Mass St Mary's Church 9:30am
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term 4
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Graduation Mass 6pm St Mary's Church



## PE NEWS

### ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the St Mary's students who represented our school recently in athletics. Seven students from our representative squad have achieved amazing results recently at the Ovens & Mitta Division Athletics in Wangaratta. The following reports have been submitted by students whose results at the Division event qualified them for the Hume Region Athletics in Albury. Of the students who qualified for Hume Region, Ben McLean and Spence Reynolds have gone on to qualify for the Victorian State Championships in Melbourne. We are so proud of these students for their effort and sportsmanship.

*I regularly train for any running event for school athletics by doing parkrun and running at our local oval doing interval training to improve my endurance and speed. I qualified for the shotput and 800m to go to Division in Wangaratta. My goal was to hopefully make it to Regionals at Albury in the 800m. I love competing because there is an opportunity to improve and meet new people. I raced against a girl from another school, and I beat her at Division by coming first, but she beat me at Regionals, and I came fourth. At the end of the day, it's about having fun and showing good sportsmanship. Even though I didn't make it to State, I still had an amazing time. My goal is to train harder and go again next year. -Phoebe Cresswell*

*I went into the Wangaratta Division Athletic, both excited and nervous. I competed in the hurdles and high jump. When we arrived on the school bus, we were handed out sheets on what time our events were. My high jump was at 10:30am and my hurdles were at 12:30pm. After we got our gazebo set up, I walked over to high jump to start marshalling.*

*Unfortunately, I came fourth with a jump of 1m and 32cm and the winner got 1m 38cm. After I had lunch, I ran in hurdles and came first in the final. At the regionals athletic I was still again excited and nervous. I watched my friend Ben race in the fifteen hundred then marshalled for hurdles and came forth; it was a close race all the way up to the last two hurdles where I knocked over one and lost a bit of my momentum. I was still happy with my outcome and hope to make it to state next year.*

**-Claye Corcoran**

*I felt great coming into the Boys 12/13-year-old boys 1500m race in Wangaratta and Albury. It was a good experience as I came 1st in Wangaratta with a time of 5 minutes and 32 seconds and 2nd in Albury with 5 minutes and 23 seconds. It was great catching up with friends from other schools and seeing them race. My goal for the future is to keep making it to state and get better times. -Ben McLean*

*At the Ovens & Mitta Division Athletics in Wangaratta, I competed in Discus and the 200m Sprint. I got a PB in Discus & came 5th, but only the top two qualified. In the 200m, I made it to the final and came a close 2nd, which meant I qualified for Hume Region Athletics in Albury.*

*At Hume Region, I ran in the 200m and came 1st! I was a bit nervous before the race, but I had my new shoes on and just ran as fast as I could. I was so excited to cross the line first and I'm really looking forward to going to State Championships in Melbourne on the 6<sup>th</sup> November. At State Champs, I hope to make the final after the heats and see just how fast I can go!*

*I enjoy both track and field events and can't wait to compete again. -Spence Reynolds*

*I went to Regional Athletics, and I competed in the 1500m. I was so excited, but I was also a bit nervous being my first year going making it for Athletes. There were 8 or 9 people in my race and I came 6th. I enjoy competing because it is fun, you meet so many people, and I am good at running short and long distance. The goal I have set for my self is to make it to State for the 1500m I will keep training to achieve it. - Maisie Fitzpatrick*

The events I participated at Division and Hume Region Athletics were Long Jump and Discus. Discus was my first event of the day. There were not as many girls as I thought there would be. Everyone had three throws. My last throw was the best, and it was 15.6m. I came 1st at Division in discus, and a week after I went to Regionals for this event. I did not make it to Regionals in the long jump unfortunately.

Regionals was at Albury and there were lots of kids everywhere, Discus was at 11:00am, my first 2 throws weren't very good, but my last throw was my personal best (16.7), it got me into 3rd place, and I missed out on going to State by 20cm. My next goal for school athletics is to make it to State. – **Lexi Piazza**



## MUSIC NEWS

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October St Mary's welcomed Kiyomi Sensei (Teacher Kiyomi) for a day of Japanese Drumming.

All classes participated in an hour-long session where they were introduced to Taiko Drums.

Students learned how to play these instruments using the correct posture and technique and learned traditional drumming patterns.

In the afternoon Kiyomi and the year 6 students performed for the school before Kiyomi played for the students and answered questions about the Taiko Drums and how she began playing these amazing instruments.

It was a wonderful day of music making and we were so lucky to have Kiyomi come into our school and share an amazing experience with us.

Rachel Campbell (Music Teacher)



**FOUNDATION**

Time travels so fast and it is Miss Rosser's final week with us in Foundation. We have enjoyed having Miss Rosser in the classroom over the last four weeks and we wish her well as she goes back to university to complete her final year as a teaching student. Miss Rosser will be a qualified teacher in June 2026 and we hope to see her again!

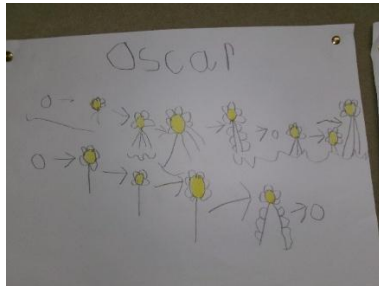


**RELIGION**

Students thoroughly enjoyed looking at each others photos from baby to kinder to school! We are now investigating all of the things we love and are good at and comparing them among the group. Our uniqueness is unfolding within the group and it is wonderful to see one another embrace the diversity amongst us.

**INQUIRY/LETI**

Students are really enjoying learning about life cycles and keeping healthy. We have been reading books about gardens, learning about the life cycles of chickens, frogs, spiders and cats. There are lots of plants growing in the garden and in pots and sitting in water and cotton wool. We have read 'The Little Red Hen' and looked at the life cycle of a seed, to a plant, to being ground into flour.



**MATHS**

In Math with Miss Rosser, we have been learning about location and position. Students had a wonderful time experimenting positions such as 'on top' of tables and 'under' playground equipment and having running races and looking at what 'first, second, third etc.' looked like. Our all time favourite was using the Bee Bots and programming positions and directions.



**YEAR 1**

Mrs Bennett is on leave at the moment, but we are full steam ahead in her absence, with Alecia Kelly and Brooke Sacco working with the Year One class. Thank you to all the students continuing to work hard and do their best.

**YEAR 2**

**Literacy** – Last week we began our new novel 'The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual African Hippotamus Race' by Morris Lurie. We have been enjoying reading about the lead up to the big race.

We have really been working on our **tricky spelling words** recently. We have been sharing strategies that we find helpful and getting these words committed to our long-term memories. Ask your child some of the strategies they have found helpful.

Last week we did our PAT Reading ACER Assessments. It was good to see everyone having a good go at the questions and then being able to look at the progress we have made.

**RE** - Our unit called Our Call to Mission has been a lovely opportunity to explore how God love us and how we can celebrate this love and be like Jesus. We had a fantastic session on how we can share love using a bucket of water as an analogy. We encourage you to chat about this with your child as it was a really moving lesson.



Godly Play – Feeding of the 5000

## MATHS

We are finishing up our work on 3D shapes and their properties. Everyone should be up to date on identifying the various features of both 2D and 3D shapes.

Last week we also completed the PAT Maths Acer Assessment. It was good to see how well our children are progressing.

## INQUIRY/LETI

Our 'It's Alive' Unit is coming along with everyone enjoying following their investigations on Living things, lifecycles, our bodies and keeping ourselves healthy. We have made some interesting discoveries so far -

*'The Great White shark is the second biggest shark in the ocean'. - Summer*

*'The human eye has muscles to help it move side to side and up and down' - Bill*

*'There are seeds that are inside the rose.' - Eila*

*'There fourteen parts to the brain and six of those parts control the body.' - Eve*

*'There are over 158 species of snake in the world' - Luka*

*'Some lifecycles have dramatic changes like a caterpillar changes from a cocoon until a butterfly.' - Luca*

We've had a wonderful couple of weeks in Year 2 with lots of exciting events coming up. The JLC are running the Mystery Bottle Stall so we are looking for donations to help raise funds for the Parish Centre. Information went home on Wednesday.

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



## MIDDLE NEWS

### BEECHWORTH CAMP NEXT WEEK!

Camp preparations are well underway, and we are ready to go! Remember to keep your eye on the weather for next week so students are well prepared for whatever the weather holds. Medications must be handed to your child's teacher on the morning of the camp and must be clearly labelled with name/instructions.

### MLC RELIGION - REACHING OUT AND SERVING OTHERS

Our topic has been looking and what it means to serve others with love, following the example of Jesus. We've learned that serving others with compassion is a way of living like Jesus and sharing his message. Students looked at examples of people helping others in their own communities and around the world. We have been looking at a verse from the New Testament – Romans 12: 9-13 and made a graffiti wall about the main messages in this reading.



The following are to match the photos of the students with their posters.

**Brodie** - I like this topic because it brings me joy.

**Spence** - I like this topic because it brings everyone together and being kind to each other.

**Heidi** - My favourite word was 'peace' because it brings everyone together.

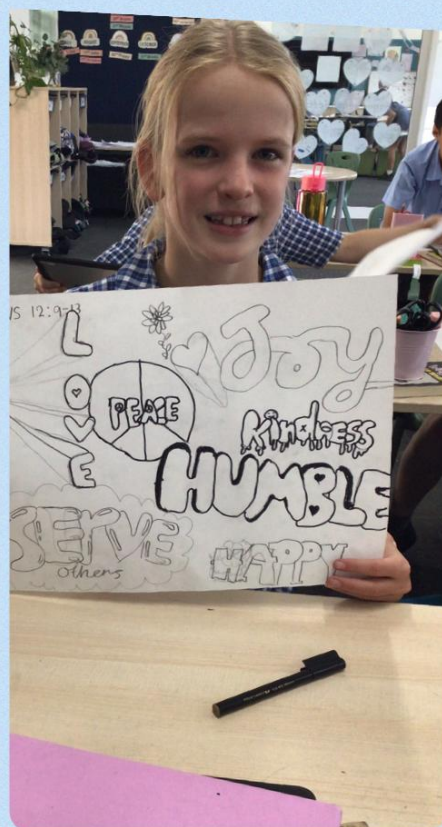
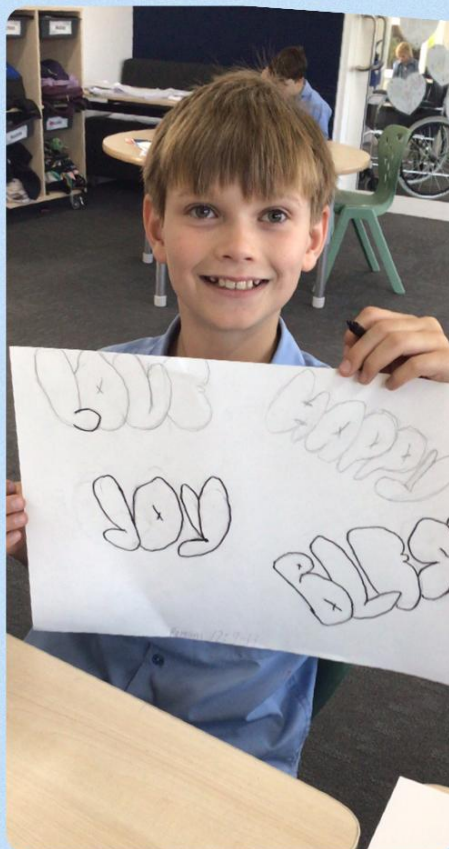
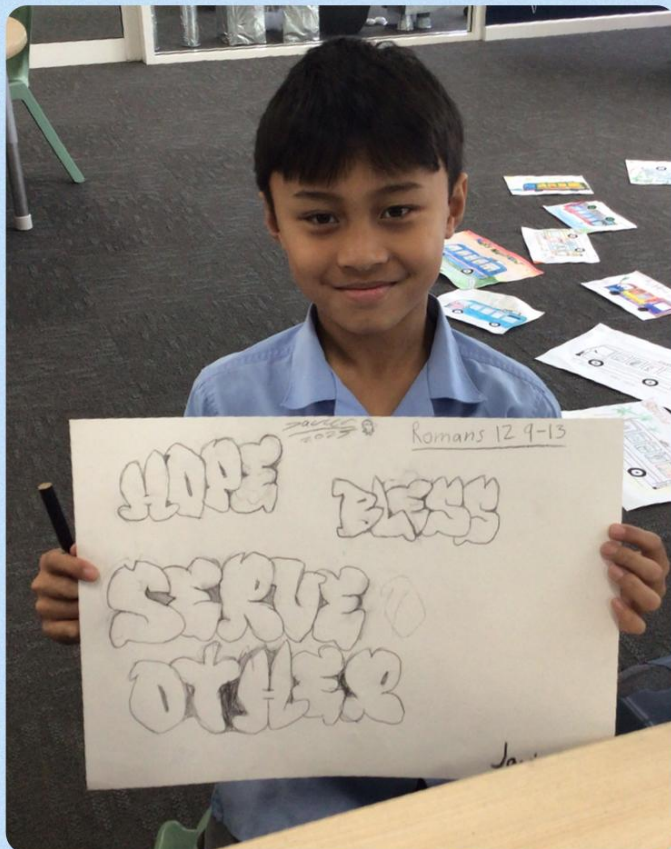
**Lachy** - I like our topic because we get to do graffiti writing on a piece of paper.

**Zoe** - I like the RE topic because it is about looking to see if others need help.

**Javier** - I like this topic because we are learning to be kind to others.

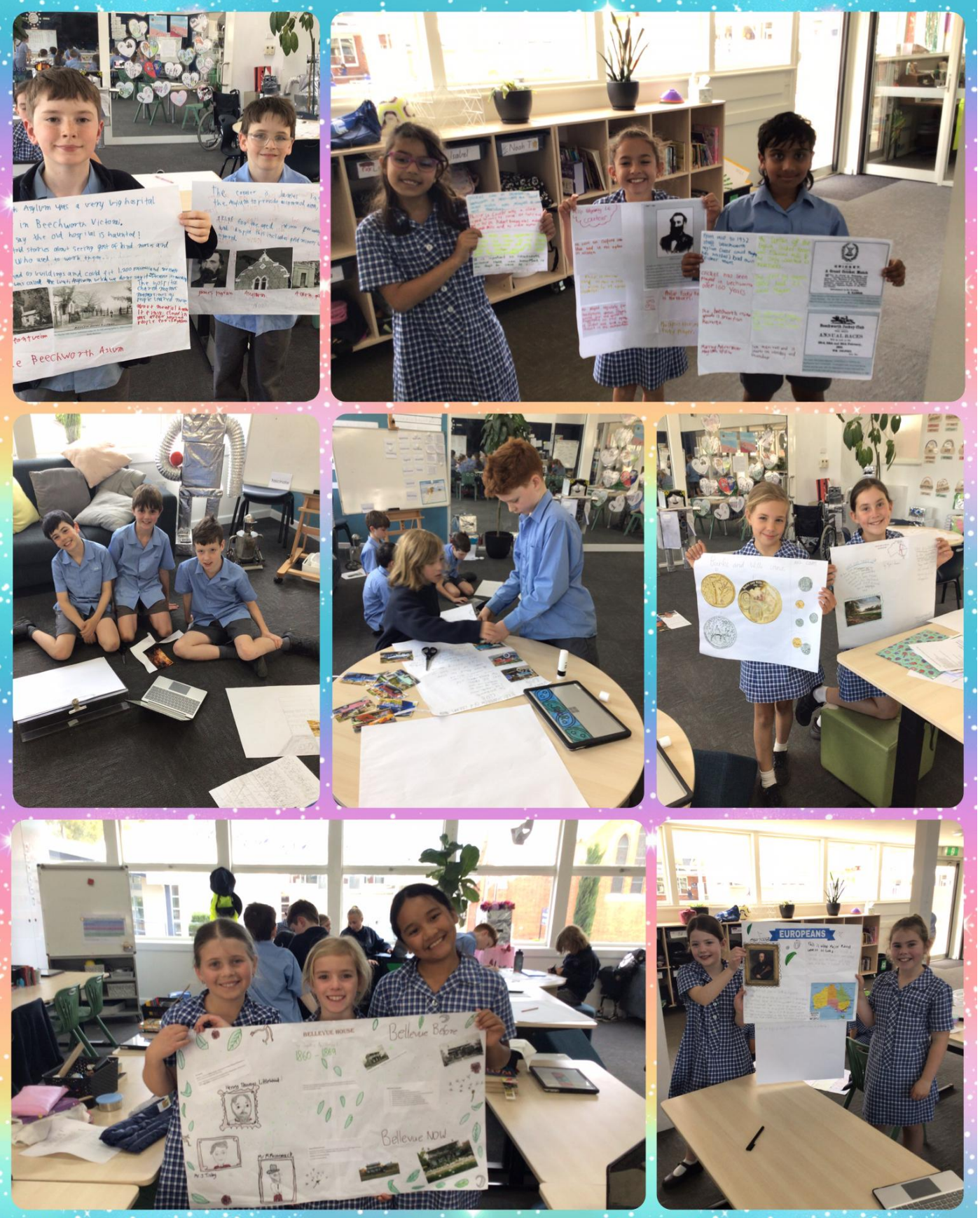
**Madi** - I like the topic because it helps us know that if we need help we can chat to others.

**Maddie** - It brings me joy and happiness when I get to use my creativities to make posters like this.



## MLC INQUIRY

The students have been researching their chosen topics about Beechworth and as a result, we have had lots of great conversations and information learned about the Old Beechworth Gaol, the original hospital which we can now only see the facade of, the Golden Horseshoe Parade, the Gold Rush, significant fires and significant people of Beechworth. Students will be presenting their learning when we return from camp in Week 6.



**Linuk, Anna and Madelyn** - We are exploring how cricket was introduced to Beechworth.

**Sophie, Mavis and Isabel** - We are researching Bellevue House. It is more than 100 years old.

**Lara and Mya** - We are learning about Burke and Wills. We have made three posters, two booklets and a slideshow. Burke was a police chief during the gold rush.

**Lewis and Jack** - Our topic is the Beechworth Old Cranks Club and we are looking at classic and vintage cars.

**Matilda and Milla** - Major Mitchell was an explorer who joined the goldrush in Beechworth.

**Luca, Ed and Tom** - We are researching the Beechworth Goal, the Farmhouse fires and the goldrush. We have made five poster and put them together.

**Noah C and Noah T** - We choose to research the Beechworth Asylum because it was very important to the community and some people even say that it is haunted.

### **TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS - OZ ROCKS!**

We're excited to be taking part in a fun, nationwide maths competition using Times Tables Rock Stars! It runs from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November, and students can play online at [play.ttrockstars.com](http://play.ttrockstars.com).

Each correct multiplication or division answer earns points for your child, their class, and our school. The class with the highest average score wins!

To keep things balanced, students can earn points for up to 60 minutes per day during the competition. After that, they can still play for fun but won't earn extra points.

Please encourage your child to join in but let them do the playing themselves. Most importantly, we want this to be a positive and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Thank you for your support!

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans.

Have a great weekend,  
April, Julie and Nat

## **SENIOR NEWS**

Congratulations to our amazing SLC students! If you could not attend the performance on Thursday afternoon, you really missed out on seeing some budding natural performers. The students did a great job, learning their lines and jumping in and picking up roles that needed to be filled. A huge thank you to Rachel Campbell and Ashley Pasqualotto for all their work with the students.

### **ONE ACT PLAYS - (YEAR 5/6)**





## SWIMMING

A reminder that students have swimming on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. We will be completing our sessions in Wangaratta and will not be making calls to have bathers and towels dropped off. Please make sure your child is ready to go. They are to wear their uniform and will change into their bathers. Please make sure they have underwear, a towel, and an extra snack as swimming often makes them hungry.

## INQUIRY

### Economics and Business

#### Consumerism

#### Wants, Resources and Choices

The students are introduced to the concept of consumer decision-making by understanding the difference between needs and wants. They are then introduced to the economic concept of scarcity by further exploring the concept of unlimited needs and wants, and how choices need to be made to satisfy them using limited resources.

The students categorise resources as natural, human or capital. They investigate the resources needed for a school and as a class decide on the most important resource. Students examine the choices which need to be made in a school when allocating resources. They consider the improvements in production (education) you would expect to see when additional resources are added.

## YEAR 5 2026 T SHIRTS

Congratulations Year 5 students on choosing a wonderful design for their 2026 t-shirts. The students have taken home notes with all the information relevant and need to be returned by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The sooner we get the information back to the company, the quicker we will receive our shirts.

## YEAR 6 PHOTOS

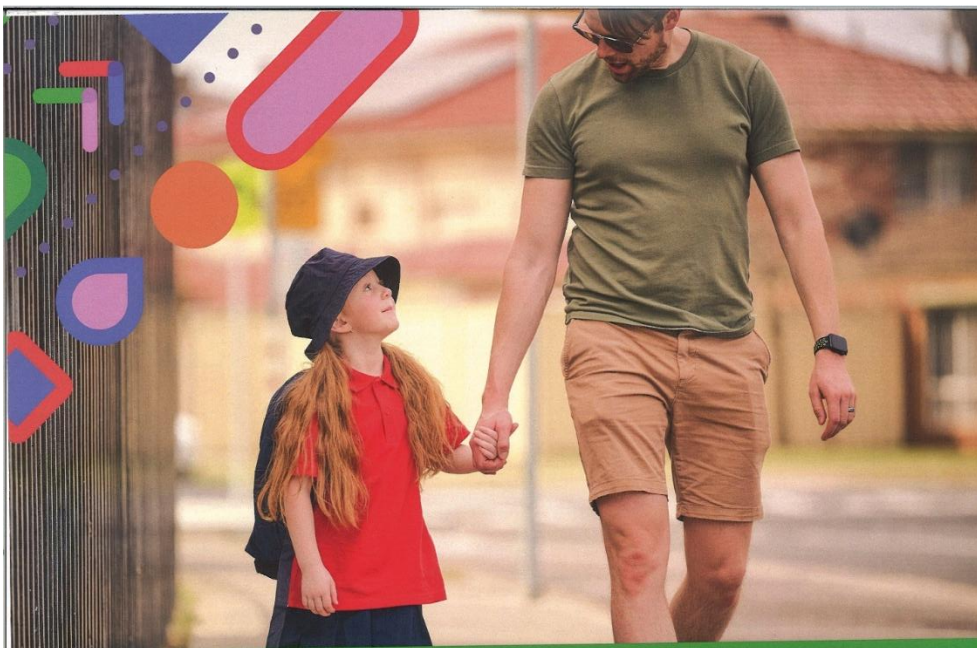
Thank you for sending in baby photos. This is a busy term and having them early has given us time to put the information together as we go.

## HAMPER

Thank you for your generous donations to our two hampers, they are looking great. Make sure you check out all the hampers and buy a ticket or two, they will definitely be worth it.

Have a great week  
SLC Teachers

## COMMUNITY NEWS



# Make the journey to primary school as safe as possible for your child.

The TAC has developed a range of new resources just for Prep families – engaging content and simple, practical advice to help parents and carers establish safe travel habits from day one.



Scan this QR code and view the resources to spark important conversations about safe travel to and from school.

Helping our youngest students travel safely to and from school is a priority we all share.

Let's work together to make every school journey a safe one.



ROAD SAFETY  
EDUCATION  
VICTORIA

# YOU ARE INVITED!

1st Myrtleford's Haunted House  
and Halloween games



**WHERE** | MYRTLEFORD SCOUT CENTRE  
183 BUFFALO RIVER ROAD

**WHAT** | HAUNTED HOUSE AND HALLOWEEN GAMES

**DATE** | FRIDAY OCTOBER 31 **TIME** | 5PM - 7PM

**COST** | GOLD COIN DONATION



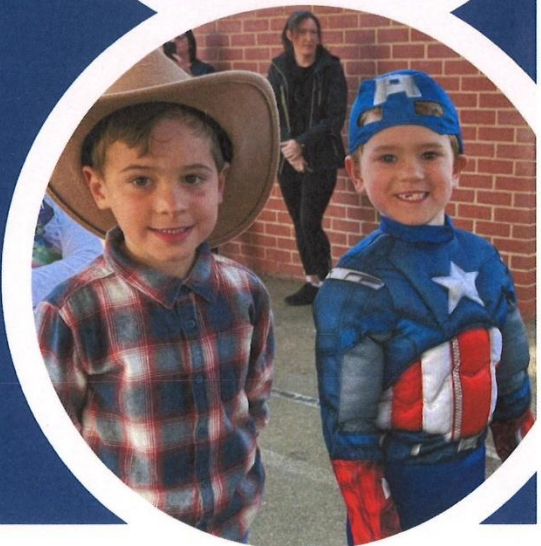
# 2026 FOUNDATION TRANSITIONS

Getting ready for Foundation is an exciting time for you and your child, but can also bring its share of worries and questions. At St Mary's, we are here to help support your family as best we can.

The children will have an opportunity to attend transition sessions with their kinder or family as well as on their own. These sessions are designed to be a safe and welcoming way for your child to get familiar with their new environment, peers and teacher.

Enrolment interviews will also be scheduled in November. This is the perfect opportunity for you to share information and ask questions.

- ✓ Mountain View Kinder Visits  
October 17, October 24, October 31  
10-11am  
\*Students from all kinders welcome, parents must stay for the session
- ✓ Transition Day #1 - November 25, 9-11am
- ✓ Transition Day #2 - December 2 9-12:30pm
- ✓ Statewide Transition Day - December 9  
9am-2:30pm



 (03) 5752 1808

 [www.smmyrleford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smmyrleford.catholic.edu.au)

 [www.facebook.com/stmarysprimarymyrtleford](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysprimarymyrtleford)

