

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

Newsletter No: 7

Term: 2 - 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 2

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

### Term 3

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

### Term 4

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

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



## Mothers Day Breakfast



The Mother's Day breakfast was a huge hit with lots of mums and grandmothers in attendance. Thank you to all who supported the event and contributed to the success. The breakfast was delicious. Thanks to Tom and Natalie Mullane-Grant for the breakfast yogurt bowls and to all the staff and the P & F who made scones and helped set up and clean up on the day.

## COVID AND OTHER ILLNESS

We continue to have many teachers away and students away sick. COVID is going around again! We still have many COVID tests available in the office. If you need a packet, please contact the office and we can pass it on to your family. If your child has COVID it is best to stay home to try and avoid passing it on to others. If a family member has COVID and your children are negative they are still able to be at school, a mask is advisable to be worn.

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thank you to the parents volunteering for the School Advisory Council, your support is very valuable. These parents become representative for our families and if you wish for something to be discussed you can go to one of these to make known your concerns or recommendations.

**Advisory Council Chair** - Brendan Wood

**Board Members** - Genna Richter, Anissa Griffiths, Kate McLean, Sharon Rivett, Nathan Mirt, Carly Montgomery, Jaclyn McAlpine, Tom Mullane-Grant and Helen Howell.

## WELLBEING WEEK

On Friday as a part of Wellbeing Week we get together with Myrtleford P-12 Primary students to join in together to play games and enjoy each other's company. We thank P-12 for organising this event.

## ELECTIVES

The children enjoyed their first week of electives. Electives are on again next Monday.

## CAR PARK

We have had some difficulties with car park duties as children are walking along the road to get to cars. We have three teachers on duty each afternoon supervising the car park and we cannot also supervise the road. Parents are required to pick up their child from the school gate if you are not parked in the car park.

Have a great fortnight.

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.

- 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 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

## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

You can access information about the Child Safe Standards and St. Mary's commitment to the implementation of these standards, including resources, policies, procedures and links, via the school website ([www.smmmyrtleford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smmmyrtleford.catholic.edu.au)).

## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Reconciliation 6:30pm St Mary's Church
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
JUNE	
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	O & M Division Cross-Country Wangaratta
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Public Holiday Queens Bithday
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Hume Region Cross-Country Benalla
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	O & M Divison Winter Sports Wangaratta
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Whole School Mass 9:30am St Mary's Church
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Last Day of Term 2 - 2:20pm Finish





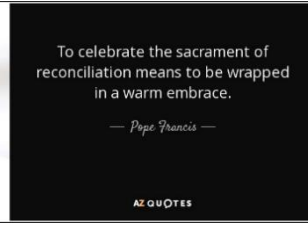
**2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

**Reconciliation (Year 3 and above)**

**Reconciliation Celebration:** Tuesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm at St Mary’s Church.

Over the past month, we have had 13 candidates who have been preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. These students are: *Sarai Barnes, Clementine Chapman, Skyler Desagon, Freddy Ives, Clare Law, Mia McGuffie, Paddy Millar, Thomas Mullane-Grant, Max Pundang, Isobel Richter, Carlos Rubiano, Isabella Norris and Luca Zamperoni.*

The candidates will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a celebration next Tuesday. Please join us in praying for them at this important time.



**Confirmation and Eucharist (Year 4 and above)**

Parent Information Evening: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 6:30pm.

**Confirmation and Eucharist Masses**

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> 6pm, St Mary’s Church.

Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> 9am, St Mary’s Church.

Anyone who would like to receive any of these Sacraments and hasn’t sent in your intention to participate, please contact me at the school.



**ST MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL CENTENARY YEAR**

**Save the date: Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> ‘Celebration Day’ starting at 10am.**

Past and present students, staff, parish members and families are invited to attend our special mass, reunion, school tours and join us for a pasta lunch.

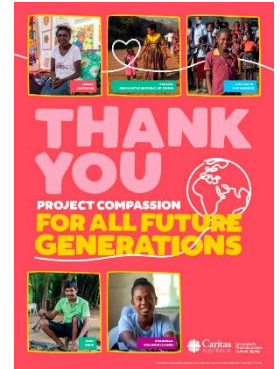
Please let any past students know that this event is on, as we would love to see them all. We have even invited Presentation Sisters who worked in Myrtleford to attend.

**PROJECT COMPASSION 2023**

Thank you for your generosity last term with Project Compassion. This year we raised a fantastic \$765.15 for Caritas’ Project Compassion. This was achieved by the money raised for our ‘Pancake Breakfast’ and through donations via the Project Compassion boxes.

Thank you so much for your support, yet again! Every dollar is greatly appreciated and helps more than we know.

Have a glorious week,  
Jo Bennett (REC)



**JUNIOR NEWS**

Our **LETI** topic this term is focussing on Science. Our key understandings are:

- What we see in the sky changes between day and night.
- Seasons affect the way we live our lives.
- We see changes in our landscape over time.

We will look forward to sharing our learning with you at the end of the term with our expo.

**FOUNDATION**

It has been wonderful to see how the Foundies have quickly gotten into a routine of changing their readers each morning and tracking home reading in their yellow books. As a result, this week will be the last week of sending home singular words to practise. We encourage them to read nightly for both enjoyment and decoding.

This week in the Foundation room, we continue to practise our handwriting for 10 minutes each day as part of our morning routine. It’s fantastic to see how much growth the students are displaying with correct letter formation.

We are also learning about consonant blends - two (or three) letters that make two sounds. With consonant blends, we often say them together quickly. When we “smash” the sounds together, we read the word more fluently. Some examples are the st- stop and bl- blue. Next week we will focus on blends at the end of the word.

Each morning, we complete a class graph as part of our maths learning. We’ve had some really fun questions such as, *What superpower would you choose? What’s your favourite farm animal?* We are learning how to make a range of observations about the data.

In Religion, we are focussed on how we care for God’s world, looking at His stunning Creation all around us.



## YEAR 1

Just like Year 2 Bennett, we too, have had a wonderful one and a half weeks with Mrs Regina Reynolds-Smith (pre-service teacher) in our classroom. Regina has been working with the Year 1 students and taking some of the classes as a part of her training to be a teacher. Mrs Reynolds-Smith will be with us until next Friday. If we are lucky, we will see her again for another placement.



In **Literacy**, we have focused on the book 'There was an old astronaut that swallowed the moon' by Lucille Colandro. Our focus vocabulary words are: bizarre, gravity, force, orbit, meteoroid, comet. We have been looking at the meaning of the words and discussing why the author would choose to use them. We have also continued to build on our sentence writing and learned about Fragments which are parts of the sentence, not the whole sentence. The students wrote to the Big Write prompt 'The Full Moon' last week and are writing to the prompt 'Space' this week. Please discuss what they are writing with them, as they are planning to write on Thursday.



In **Maths**, the students have learned about Australian coins and practised counting specific amounts of money. They have also been doing some revision on time and analogue clocks with Mrs Reynolds-Smith. The students have also been completing some mid year overall maths testing to calculate their growth over the semester.



In **Religion**, the Year 1 and 2 students have shared stories involving Jesus in the scriptures. We have shared 'Godly Play' together which is when we have a special box that Mrs Bennett opens and tells a story from scripture with a special message, using small props for the students to visualise the story. We finish with 'I wonder' questions which prompt the children to think on a deeper level about the meaning of the story. We also made a collage of our definition of 'Love' and the ways we can show love like Jesus did.

Last week, Mrs Reynolds-Smith and Mrs Sharp, created a beautiful fridge magnet for our gorgeous mums. The children really focused on the process for making salt dough and cooking it, then decorating them, and were so impressed with their final results. We hope that our mums loved this little gift of love.





## YEAR 2

We have had a wonderful two and a half weeks with the amazing Miss McCoy (pre-service teacher) in our classroom. Melanie has been working with the Year 2 students and taking most classes as a part of her training to be a teacher. Miss McCoy will be with us until next Friday. If we are lucky, we will see her again next year as a qualified teacher.

In Literacy, we have focused on the book 'Mr Archimedes bath' by Pamela Allen. Our focus vocabulary words are: overflowed, depth, bellowed, puzzled and measured. We have written detailed sentences stating why a picture does or does not show an example of one of these words. We have also continued to build on our sentence writing by expanding our use of conjunctions or joining words.

The students wrote to the Big Write prompt 'The Full Moon,' last week and are writing to the prompt 'Space' this week. Please discuss what they are writing with them, as they are planning and writing detailed and interesting narratives and informational texts each week.

In Maths, the students have worked on the place value of numbers to 1,000 and have been extending themselves by working with and understanding the value of numbers to 10,000 with Miss McCoy. Last week we investigated Australian coins and notes and practised counting specific amounts of money. The students have also been completing some midyear overall maths testing to calculate their growth over the semester.



Last week, we had so much fun creating a beautiful pom pom flower for our gorgeous mums. The children really focused on the process for making a pom pom and were so impressed with their final results. We hope that our mums loved this little gift of love.



Have a fantastic week,  
Ashley, Carolyn, Jo, Sonia and Sandra



**MOTHER'S DAY**

The 3/4 students had a lovely morning enjoying a special breakfast last Friday for Mother's Day. Thank you to all the parents/grandparents and staff who made this beautiful morning happen. Our 3/4 children put lots of love and thought into the necklaces and cards which were made for their mums too. We hope you all had a great day.

**RECONCILIATION**

Congratulations to our Year 3 students who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Tuesday night, 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The children and their families have been preparing for this step in their Catholic faith for a few weeks. We will keep them in our prayers.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Congratulations to all our students who participated in the school cross country on Monday. It was a beautiful Autumn day for a run and we're very proud of all our students taking part. Thanks to Mr Davis who always organises this day so well.





## ALPINE SHIRE VISIT - GREEN KERBSIDE BINS

On Wednesday, the 3/4 Unit had a visit from a team from the Alpine Shire to educate us about a great initiative happening in our shire. Starting in July this year, Alpine Shire Council is introducing a new green kerbside bin and kitchen caddy for food and garden organics (FOGO) across the Alpine Shire.

The students learnt a lot from this visit and it was excellent to see how much knowledge they already knew about reducing and recycling waste. Please ask your children to share a bit of what they learned. Thanks to Bron and Michelle for visiting us and teaching us.

Visit <https://www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/community/news/get-know-fogo> for more information.

## 'BE KIND TO YOUR MIND' GAMES DAY THIS FRIDAY

We're very excited to be part of a great day of fun and games this Friday, when we will be joining with P-12 students in a session of outdoor games (think - a huge game of Scrabble or Connect 4). It sounds like lots of fun and problem solving activities.

Have a great week ahead.  
Julie, April, Lucia and Anna



## SENIOR NEWS

We had our first elective session last Monday which was enjoyed by all. Some of the activities included play dough, lego, drawing, boot camp, Bluearth, a library visit and sporty challenges. Everyone is eagerly awaiting Session 2 next Monday!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Nathan Sacco, Judd Carroll and Emily Law

Congratulations to every student who completed the 3km cross country course this Monday, it is no small task to run constantly for that distance. The cheering and encouragement was outstanding! For all those who progress to the next round in Week 7 - Good Luck!!







## HOMWORK

This week for homework students have to write a statement, question, command and exclamation sentence that relates to animals that live in mountainous areas. We have been working on different types of sentences during our writing lessons and mountains are our Inquiry focus.

There is also something new for students to try independently or as a family (don't worry if these are too challenging or your week is already full enough). A sheet of word-picture quizzes has been sent home and they can be quite enjoyable to nut them out as a team. From my experience grandparents are fairly handy at these too!!

## MATHS

The Daily Review is a short warm-up session that we regularly complete during our math lessons to ensure we are revisiting skills we have learned throughout the year. We conduct these on our whiteboards which makes it very easy for teachers to check for student understanding.

Our focus for the remainder of the term will be fractions, decimals and percentages. On Tuesday morning, all students completed an Essential Assessment fractions pre-test so we can tailor our lessons to meet the learning needs of all students in the SLC.

## RELIGION

The students have finished up their topic on Creation, where we are all caretakers of the earth. One of the actions from this unit was for the students to name something they could do to help the environment. Some of the students' ideas include the following:

- Take shorter showers.
- Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth.
- Make sure the rubbish goes in the correct bins.
- Use containers for sandwiches or snacks rather than glad wrap.
- Put more clothes on rather than have the heater running at a high temperature and walking around in shorts.
- Choosing to buy products with less packaging.
- Walk or ride to school instead of getting a lift in the car.
- Turning the lights off, TV off or devices off when you leave a room.

## BLUEARTH

Last week in Bluearth, the students played a variety of games. Using core poses and following the instructions, the students completed different activities. The major game was the Ground is Lava. The students love this game. It requires them to work as a team, moving the chairs without falling off, otherwise they have to start from the start again. It is hilarious to watch but rewarding seeing teams working together.





## PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

### ST MARY'S CROSS-COUNTRY

What an awesome day for the St Mary's Cross-country! We were blessed with great weather and the perfect temperature for running. Well done to all students from Foundation through to Year 6 for their efforts on the day. A massive thank you to all our parent volunteers for helping keep our kids safe out on the track and thank you to all staff members who helped with various jobs such as catching and ordering kids as they crossed the finish line and recording their positions on the recording sheets. It was extremely impressive to see the JLC students run their version of the cross-country, we have some great runners coming up through the ranks.

Well done to the top four students in each of the MLC and SLC age groups who have now qualified for the O&M Division cross-country in Wangaratta on the Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

The qualifying students from 1<sup>st</sup> down to 4<sup>th</sup> in each age group are as follows:

	9/10 YEAR GIRLS	9/10 YEAR BOYS	11 YEAR GIRLS	11 YEAR BOYS	12/13 YEAR GIRLS	12/13 YEAR BOYS
1 <sup>ST</sup>	Phoebe Cresswell	Ben McLean	Aimee Pozzan	Xavier Millar	Milla Corcoran	Leon Wilkinson
2 <sup>ND</sup>	Lila Murray	Hunter Harris	Willow Szaraszek	Mitch McMasters	Neve Cresswell	Ashton McManus
3 <sup>RD</sup>	Mackenzey Reynolds	Lachlan McDonald	Violet McKeone	Benji Lupo	Izzy Richter	Hunter Coleman
4 <sup>TH</sup>	Aviva Lovelle	Claye Corcoran	Emily Law	Kirk Quintana	Emma Pasqualotto	Tom McDonald

Mr Davis (PE)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### TERM 2

## Singing Lessons!

ALL AGES WELCOME

Via online video sessions


Half hour \$30 Hourly \$50



**Claire: 0481387127**

Community Seminar

## BUILDING HAPPINESS & RESILIENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE & THEIR FAMILIES




Guest Speaker  
**DR MICHAEL  
CARR-GREGG**

Wangaratta

THURSDAY  
04-MAY-2023

Mortlock


THURSDAY  
18-MAY-2023



nesay.com.au/upcoming-events

(03) 5720 2201

All events are FREE - scan here for more:



Family Connections Through Art

CREATE AN ARTISTIC IMAGE OF YOUR FAMILY TREE WITH THE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE OF LOCAL ARTIST *Lisa Bishop*

Wangaratta

TUESDAY 9TH MAY 2023

5:30PM

Mortlock

TUESDAY 16TH MAY 2023

7:30PM

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO BOOK NOW & DON'T MISS OUT!  
This is for young people aged 10-18yrs, & a parent, grandparent or other important adult in their life.

Rhythmic Drumming Together

Connect and have fun through African Drumming

Wangaratta 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Tuesday 23rd May 2023

Mortlock 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Tuesday 6th June 2023

This is for young people aged 10-18yrs, and a parent/grandparent or other important adult in their life.  
Places are limited, so book now & don't miss out!



LISA  
BISHOP







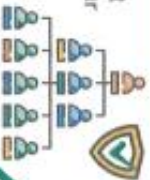
# Victoria's Child Safe Standards

Plain language summary

**1** Your organisation welcomes Aboriginal children. You support them to express their culture and to enjoy their rights. You don't allow racism.



**2** Child safety is important to everyone at all levels in your organisation. You document how you find, avoid, and stop risks of child abuse or harm.



**3** Your organisation supports children to know their rights to be safe from abuse, informed, and involved. You help them to talk openly and take part in decisions that affect them.



**4** Your organisation tells families and the community about what you do, and how you keep children safe from harm and abuse. You help families to have a say and to take part in decisions that affect their child.



**5** Your organisation understands that every child is different and has different needs. You make sure that they can get the information and help that they need.



**6** Staff know what they must do to keep children safe from abuse and harm. They record, report, and share information about child safety when they should. Staff who work with children have had the background checks they need.



**7** Children and their families know how to make a complaint and what happens when a complaint is made. Your staff know how to respond properly to complaints.



**8** Your organisation trains and supports staff to keep children safe from abuse and harm. Your staff know the signs of child abuse and harm and what to do if there are issues of abuse and harm.



**9** Your organisation makes sure children are safe when they use your services, settings, and activities. This includes when children are online.



**10** Your organisation checks and improves the ways you keep children safe from abuse and harm.



**11** Your organisation has written policies about how you keep children safe from abuse and harm. They are easy to understand, and all staff follow them.



For more information, contact the Commission for Children and Young People [www.cccyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.cccyp.vic.gov.au)

