

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2024    Newsletter No: 7    Term: 2 - 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 2

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

### Term 3

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September

### Term 4

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October  
Friday 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

## JUST A REMINDER THAT TOMORROW FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> IS A PUPIL FREE DAY

Dear Families,

With a heavy heart I write the last introduction to the school newsletter and say my goodbyes to staff, students and families. It has been both an honour and privilege to have been appointed as Acting Principal over the last few months and I thank you for your welcoming spirit and your desire to assist in continuing the work Mrs. Hancock had set in place in this flourishing school community. She is most eager to return to foster further development.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have:

- Completed the first round of PSGs under the leadership of Ashley Pasqualotto and teachers.
- Enjoyed the theatrical delights of G.R.O.W. and our Year 3 actors.
- Kicked up our heels in the autumn leaves with the Junior Learning Community.
- Held an Emergency Drill to ensure we are all prepared.
- Participated in the Cross Country and were impressed by our students' efforts. Thank you to Adam.
- Been visited by Michael Bennett and explored an ambulance (Juniors).
- Shared morning tea with our mums, grandmothers and significant females.
- Challenged our thinking, learnt new skills, and revised our knowledge!

A community of learning, community and fun.

Next week sees an opportunity for many of our teachers to be involved in further professional learning with network days in numeracy, learning diversity and learning leaders. Thank you to Hannah Wall, Ashley Pasqualotto and April Nannipieri for attending these days. We culminate the week with the whole teaching staff attending the Unlocking 2030 Conference at Galen College Wangaratta with a focus on data collection, analysis and interpretation, among other topics.

Next week Julie Humphrey, Kelly Martyn and Ashley Pasqualotto will attend two days training in the Berry St Education Model (BSEM) which equips both mainstream and specialist schools with practical, classroom-based strategies to increase the engagement of all students, including those with complex, unmet learning needs. The education model enables schools to support students' self-regulation, relationships and wellbeing to increase student engagement and significantly improve academic achievement. A fantastic opportunity provided through Boost Funding. This is one off funding from the Australian Government to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the mental health and wellbeing of students.

Finally, a big thank you to Jo Bennett, April Nannipieri and Julie Humphreys for supporting our Year 3 and 4s students in preparing for their Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Kind Regards,  
*Trish Merlo*  
Acting Principal

Thank you to our volunteers for all the time and extra effort for St Mary's students:

**Cross Country Event**

Kaelah Barnes, Jane-Maree Fitzpatrick, Kate McLean, Sally Lewis, Jayne Pozzan, Helen McNamara and Kelly Reynolds

**Scone Making**

Mel Barry, Juliette Masin, Sharan Rivett, Kate McNamara and Tiffany Iaria

**Cake Making**

Carly Montgomery

**Cereal**

Angela & Callum McDonald

**Set Up For Mother's Day Morning Tea**

Juliette Masin, Mel Barry Sharan Rivett and Jayne Pozzan

**GROW assistants**

Jayne Pozzan, Kate McNamara, Nicole Carroll and Jane Murray

**Members of our Advisory School Council**

Genna Richter, Carli Montgomery, Helen Howell, Jaclyn McAlpine, Nathan Mirt, Sharan Rivett, Tom Mullane-Grant and Renee Cullen



**National Reconciliation Week – 27 May – 3 June 2024**

Dear Creator,

**We come before you on National Close the Gap Day, with hearts filled with hope and determination.**

**We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this beautiful land, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and we thank you for their wisdom, resilience, and knowledge.**

**We pray for healing in our nation, as we confront the injustices and disparities that have plagued our Indigenous brothers and sisters for too long. We pray for the health professionals who work tirelessly to Close the Gap, that they may be filled with compassion and understanding.**

**Guide us, Lord, in our journey towards reconciliation and true friendship. Help us to bridge the gap in cultural understanding and access to health services. Show us how we can each contribute to creating a more equitable and inclusive society.**

**We lift up those who feel hopeless, especially the families and communities affected by suicide. Bring them comfort and peace and help us to support and care for them in their grief. With the same hands, we also lift up the young people who are struggling, feeling lost or hopeless. May they find strength and resilience and may we as a community offer them support and guidance towards a brighter future.**

**We also give thanks for the wisdom and resilience of our Elders, who have carried the stories and traditions of their people for generations. May they be filled with strength and courage as they continue to guide their communities, and may we learn from their teachings and wisdom.**

**May we be agents of your healing, Lord, working together to Close the Gap and build a better future for all Australians, especially our young people. Give us the wisdom to learn from the past, the courage to address the present, and the vision to create a future where all Australians stand together in equality and harmony.**

**In your name, we pray.**

**Amen.**

**by Cameron Balcombe**

## 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

### ST MARY'S WINTER UNIFORM

We are now in Week 6 of Term 2, so all students should now be in full winter uniform. All winter uniform items are available to purchase at Billy and Me. Please contact the Office if you have any issues or concerns on (03) 5752 1808.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Free Day (Staff PD)
JUNE	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm EMPAC
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country O & M Division Wangaratta
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Life Relationships Evening Year 5/6 EMPAC 6pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Free Day (Staff Catholic Identity PD)
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	No School Buses Running (due to MP-12 having a pupil free day) <b>St Mary's is Open</b>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm EMPAC
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Cross Country Benalla
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	SLC Mass 9:15am
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day Term 2



# Students of the Week



## Positive Behaviour Points Winners Year 2 MR



### LIBRARY NEWS

Issue 4 of Book Club was sent home with every student yesterday. Orders need to be in by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May.

If you place an order over \$15 online, you will receive a \$5 promotional code to spend on the next issue!

If you ordered from the last issue, use your \$5 code before it expires.

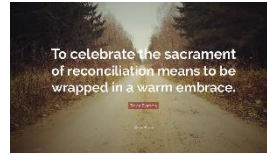
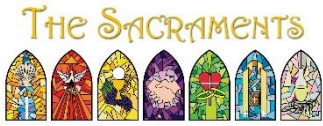
Thank you to our families who have placed orders through book club. Every purchase you make earns our school rewards. We use these to purchase more books and educational resources for the school.

Lucia Southern

Providing Value to Families

Issue 4 **Out Now!**

SCHOLASTIC Book Club



# Our Baptism



  
**Brodie & John**

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

On Tuesday evening eleven candidates received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. The candidates, with the help of their families, have prepared to receive their First Reconciliation over the past five weeks.



*We congratulate John Carroll and Brodie Pozzan who were Baptised into the Church last Saturday by Father Tony.*

*Congratulations to these candidates for taking the next step in their faith journey: Javier Banigo-os, John Carroll, Pippa Carroll, Lachlan Earl, Maisie Fitzpatrick, Lui Iaria, Archie Josipovic- Rossato, Poppy Montgomery, Brodie Pozzan, Spence Reynolds and Zoe Richter.*

### NATIONAL SORRY DAY AND RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024



This week and next week, the students across the school will be learning more about National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week. National Sorry Day is on May 26<sup>th</sup> and National Reconciliation Week runs from May 27<sup>th</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

*National Tribune*

St Mary's students have been creating designs on a feet template in response to National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week. These feet will be laminated and placed in the school's garden with the theme 'Walking Together'.

### SACRAMENTAL DATES 2024

Confirmation and First Eucharist Parent Information Evening:  
Sacramental Masses:

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 6:30pm  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

Have an amazing week,  
Jo Bennett  
Catholic Identity Leader

### FOUNDATION - RELIGION

We have been learning about The Bible as a 'special book' and The Church as a 'special community' in religion. Students are learning all about the contents of the Bible and the celebrations that we share in the church.

### HANDWRITING

Students are continuing to practise the letter formations of uppercase and lowercase letters and the starting point and the direction in which to write on the page.

### READING

We are building our decoding skills as we work through the Level 1 Main Fiction Decodable set of books. Well done to everyone that has been working hard at this at home.

### MATHS

Last week we learnt about length and we measured ourselves with informal measurements and compared one another's measurements. This week we are learning about the weight of objects, measuring them on scales and determining which is heavier than the other.

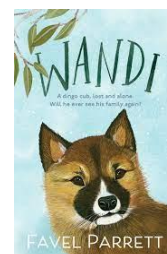
### YEAR 1

(Please see our weekly class newsletter for more details.)

### LITERACY

We are continuing our daily sessions with phonics and phonemic awareness. In Orton Gillingham- O.G, we are working on split vowel digraphs. This is where two letters make the one sound, but these are split and have a consonant in the middle, such as the word 'these'. e-e . The last 'e' tells the vowel 'Say your name'.

We are studying the book 'Wandi' by Favell Parrett in Literacy. The students are enjoying this true local story, but from 'Wandi's' perspective.



### MATHS

We have been completing mid-year testing and have also investigated the key features of 2D and 3D shapes.

### RELIGION

This week in Religious Education we have finished our study of 'Daily Life in Jesus' time' and have begun to investigate 'Pentecost'.

### LETI

We were excited to have Paramedic Michael visit last week to talk to us and show us the ambulance. This week, we were delighted to have Bec Piazza talk to us about the bones, muscles and tendons in our bodies.

### CROSS COUNTRY

The students all enjoyed participating in the Cross Country last week and all put in 100%. Well done.

### YEAR 2

### LITERACY

We continue our work with Orton Gillingham and Heggerty in the mornings. We are also reading texts related to our LETI Unit of Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies. Currently we are enjoying reading 'What's on my plate?' Choosing from the five food groups by Jennifer Boothroyd. Our vocabulary words for the week are diet, nutrient, protein, energy, refined, raw, calcium and dairy.

Our spelling focus has been 'ey' as in key and we've been identifying other words that have this sound and when words are spelled with 'ey' which goes at the end of words.

### MATHS

We have moved on from our financial unit to working with arrays and multiplication. We are busy looking at different ways to represent multiplication - arrays, repeated addition, groups of and modelling on a number line.

We have also been continuing telling time half past, quarter past/to. This is a tricky concept, so we encourage students to practise time regularly at home.

It was amazing to see so many Year 2 students take up the 'optional' opportunity to complete some maths homework alongside their reading and spelling. We will continue to make this a regular thing.



## RELIGION

We have just wrapped up our learning about Jesus' life and how he lived in comparison. It has been very interesting looking at the different types of housing, modes of transport and what jobs people of this time did. On Wednesday afternoon we had a special feast of ancient foods from Jesus time -turkish bread, pita breads, hummus, olives, dates, grapes and different cheeses like goats cheese and greek yoghurt to mark the end of this religion unit. We now move onto learning about The Bible as a 'special book' and The Church as a 'special community'.



## LETI LEARNING EXPERIENCES THROUGH INVESTIGATION

In exploring our topic of Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies we have had some great and informative experts come to visit. Recently we had an interesting visit from paramedic Michael Bennett. Mr Bennett showed a video on all the things paramedics do particularly in our area. We then got a chance to explore the ambulance and answers to our probing questions!!!

On Friday we were very lucky to have a special guest speaker Rebecca Piazza, assisted by her helper Laura Cartwright (on work experience) Bec talked to us about our bodies and how we can keep them healthy. We also found out about our bones and muscles and how they work. We thank Bec (and Laura) for her time and information.

## LEMONADE QUEENS

Congratulations again to these thoughtful Year 2s Milla, Lara, Isabel, Anna, Sophie and Matilda very deserving 'Student of the week' award winners. Here they are with their letter to Peter Mac Cancer Foundation and their donation cheque of \$96.20, (our previous total increased due to a generous anonymous donor - Thank you!) Thank you again to the entire school community for buying a lemonade at their stall. Thank you also to parents who helped out at home in any way with lemons, juice, ingredients and utensils. You are inspiring girls!



## DRA ONLINE - DECODABLE READERS

Last week students would have received logins for DRA Online - Decodable Readers Australia. This is targeted to where your child needs to work. This is optional for home as we will be using this during class at different times through the week. If your child is accessing their DRA Online at home please take a moment to read with your child and check in with the comprehension questions at the end of the book. This is super important, please ask your child the questions to check their level of understanding. We ask that your child is carefully reading these books and not racing through. Teachers will not unlock additional levels until students are fluent and can demonstrate solid understanding of what they are reading. If you have any questions please feel free to speak with us or send us an email.

Have a lovely longer weekend, teachers will be working hard learning in Wangaratta on Friday at the education conference.

Carolyn, Jo, Kelly, Nicole, Sandra and Sonia.



# Ambulance Visit



# Cross Country



# Cross Country





## MIDDLE NEWS

The Middle Unit made some lovely Magnets for their mums.

# Happy Mother's Day



# Mother's Day



We used a stocking as our oesophagus and a tennis ball as food and used our hands as muscles to move the food to our stomach.  
By Spence



When you chew, your saliva and tongue help to move food around your mouth and break it down.  
By Archie



## Digestive System



The digestive system starts at the mouth, moves to the oesophagus, stomach, intestines and exits the body as waste.  
By Lachlan



# Reconciliation



*Students in Year 4 made cards for the students that did their First Reconciliation on Tuesday night.*





Bowerbird  
Blues



National Simultaneous Storytime

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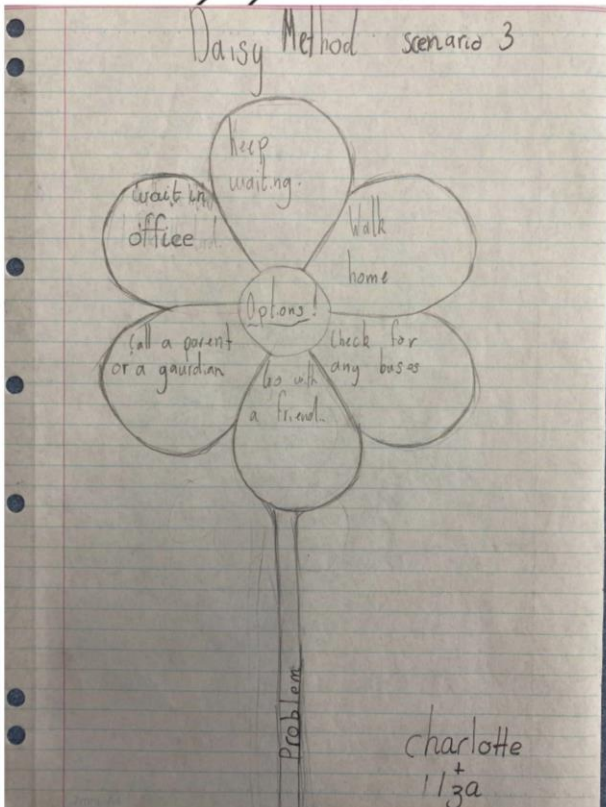
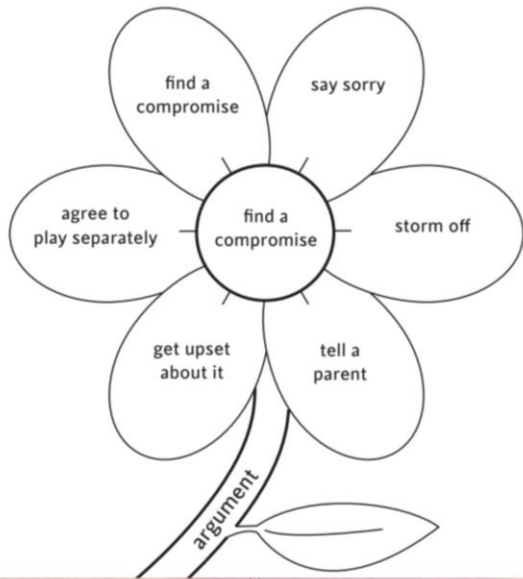
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**National Simultaneous Storytime**  
**BOWERBIRD BLUES**  
The MLC Unit enjoyed reading the Bowerbird Blues book. After they read the book, they did some activities. We had some great Bowerbird pictures, and they also made some birds using the origami technique.

In Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships, we have been looking at how it is helpful to brainstorm strategies to deal with a problem in order to find a solution. There are lots of different ways of doing this and different people will find some things more helpful than others. The 5/6s have learned about "The Daisy Method" to assist them in doing this. They also enjoyed participating in small group role plays based on tricky scenarios where they had to explore, solve and act.

Ask your child what their scenario was and how they role played it. Feel free to go through the scenarios with your child at home (attached below) and see how they would problem solve them!



**SCENARIO 1**

Samiya has been invited by two of her friends to their birthday parties, but both parties are on the same day. How will Samiya decide whose party to go to? What will she tell the friend whose party she doesn't attend?

**SCENARIO 2**

Jaxon has a very important homework task due tomorrow and he forgot to bring it home to work on.

**SCENARIO 3**

Claude has been waiting after school for 15 minutes and his dad still has not come to pick him up. Claude's dad has never been late before.

**SCENARIO 4**

A group of friends have started playing basketball at lunchtime. Flynn always starts playing and then walks off when things don't go his way. Some of his friends don't want to let him play anymore, but others think this would be mean.





## ASSESSMENTS

As we enter the middle of Term 2 the students have been busy completing PAT assessments in both English and Mathematics. We have seen some pleasing results and encourage the students to continue to have a growth mindset and challenge themselves to constantly improve.

## IPAD AGREEMENTS

The students have been working on their ipad licence. These have been a culmination of lessons including making folders and organising their work, eSmart activities on Fridays with Mrs Ivone, cyber safety with Police Officer Hayley and going through the policy and expectations.

## WINTER WORDS WRITING COMPETITION

The students have been working on the Winter Words topic, 'The cave you fear to enter, holds the treasure you seek'.

There have been some very creative interpretations of this topic and we can't wait to share them in the coming weeks. If your child would like to officially enter the competition a permission form will be sent home to sign.

## CROSS COUNTRY

It was a beautiful morning with the sun pushing the fog away. Those who competed did themselves proud - a fantastic effort!! Congratulations to all of the SLC students who progress to the next round of Cross Country which will be held at The Barr Reserve in Wangaratta on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

## LIFE RELATIONSHIPS EVENING

As part of our Life Relationships we require all students to attend an information evening accompanied by at least one parent. This evening will provide you and your child with accurate information about puberty and allow you time to share and discuss some of the learning in a private and informal setting. This evening will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 6:00pm at EMPAC. This is an excellent way to support your child in their learning.

## FAMILY SHIELDS

The students are currently working on family crests/shields. This is a great opportunity for you to share some family history, perhaps you know your family motto, crest, tartan (we seem to have a lot of Scottish descendants). These will be displayed in our classroom when they are finished.

Have a great week,  
SLC Teachers

## PE NEWS



### WINTER SPORTS UNIT - NETBALL

This term MLC and SLC students have been engaged in winter school sports and cross-country training during their PE lessons. We have been focussing on the core skills and rules of netball; passing, defending, finding space to receive a pass, shooting and understanding the positions and understanding rules, such as - stepping, obstruction, contact and addressing the line when inbounding the ball. We have played modified games of netball that maximise inclusiveness to ensure everyone gets equal time on the court. This week we will be moving on from netball and focussing on Aussie rules football.

### CROSS-COUNTRY

We were blessed with a perfect day for running the cross country this year! I would like to congratulate all participants who ran this year, from Foundation, right through to Year 6. Well done! The course was changed slightly from previous years to avoid construction work at Marian College, but the course turned out to be excellent, and we are looking to use this updated layout in years to come. Thank you to the parents who were able to volunteer, it is much appreciated, and we cannot run this event without you! Thank you to the parents who came to spectate from our newly appointed spectator shelter, we trust you were able to get a good view of the kids in action. Also thank you to the St Mary's staff who worked together to help facilitate this event. It was lovely to make the JLC a part of this event, and we look forward to including them with official time slots before recess in the future. Well done to students who have qualified for the Division Cross-country to be held in Wangaratta on the 5<sup>th</sup> June. Further information regarding this event will be available on PAM with the parental consent form.

*Year 3/4 Cross Country Winners*



*Year 5 Cross Country Winners*



*Year 6 Cross Country Winners*



Thanks,  
Mr Davis  
PE Coordinator

## ART NEWS

Year 2, MLC and SLC students have recently completed their self-portraits, which are now on display in the art room. These works were inspired by famous UK portrait artist Jonathan Yeo, who has recently completed a portrait of King Charles. Students used a range of media to complete these portraits, such as grey-lead, pastel and acrylic paint. The elements of art that were the foci for this piece were line, colour, shape, space and value. We are now moving into a unit of Indigenous style artwork, including x-ray animals and hand printing with acrylic paint and spray stencilling.

Foundation and Year 1 students have recently completed primary and secondary colour insects. They have experienced mixed primary colours to make secondary colours, they have made fold-print butterflies and cut out lady bugs. They also created a collage title for the works display.



SLC Artwork



MCC Artwork





**MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST**



# Happy Mother's Day





I'm so  
lucky  
to have  
**YOU**



*Happy  
Mother's  
Day*





*First my*  
**MOTHER**  
*Forever my*  
**FRIEND**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Families can book a tour by ringing Marian College office 5752 1596 to schedule a time and enrolment packs can be picked up from our Office with or without a tour. Then families are asked to return the Stage 1 paperwork inside the enrolment pack to start the process of enrolling their child for next year.



### Marian College Myrtleford

Smaller Community  
Big Opportunity

Confident Engaged Learners  
Personalised Pathways  
Building Community  
Learning for Life



### Every Day is Open Day

Book your personalised tour of the  
College and collect your  
enrolment package



**2025 ENROLMENTS - NOW OPEN!**

| (03) 5752 1596 | Prince Street, Myrtleford | [info@mcm.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@mcm.vic.edu.au) | [www.mcm.vic.edu.au](http://www.mcm.vic.edu.au) |

## FREE First Aid Course



**Thursday 13th June  
from 9.30**

Fully Funded through the  
Myrtleford Men's Shed.

Those who wish to register for this course  
or who would like further information  
please contact the below by June 1:

Please call or email:  
**Barry Holden** Ph 0433 229 431  
**Clive Walker** Ph 0479 437 964  
or **Kevin Dinneen** Ph 0472 751 443  
or email [myrtlefordmensshed@alpinehealth.org.au](mailto:myrtlefordmensshed@alpinehealth.org.au)  
**Myrtleford Mens Shed** - All Welcome  
Open Every Tuesday and Thursday 9am-2pm  
161 Standish Street Myrtleford



### PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS AT ST. MARY'S PRIMARY

*PIANO, CLARINET OR SAXOPHONE LESSONS  
WITH MRS RACHEL CAMPBELL  
(B.MUS PERFORMANCE, GRAD. DIP. ED)*

*AT SCHOOL, DURING SCHOOL HOURS*

*BEGINNER TO ADVANCED*

*CALL 0412635843 OR EMAIL*

*[rachelc@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rachelc@smyrtleford.catholic.edu.au)*

*FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND FEES*