



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 21st May, 2026 Newsletter No: 8 Term: 2 - Week: 5

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

20th April –
26th June

TERM 3

Monday 13th July-
Friday 18th September

TERM 4

6th October -
19th 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

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

It has been a vibrant and rewarding time at St Mary's, with our school community truly thriving amidst a busy and exciting few weeks.

Our recent Cross Country was a wonderful success, and I congratulate all students for their enthusiastic participation. It was fantastic to see such strong encouragement of one another, with students proudly supporting their Houses—Romero, Nagle, and Gomez. The spirit of teamwork and perseverance on display was something we can all be proud of. We wish our students who will be representing St Mary's at the Mitta Division Cross Country in early June all the very best of luck.

We were also delighted to welcome AFLW star Tayla Harris to St Mary's as part of the Melbourne FC clinic. Students were inspired by her story and fully engaged, showing great energy and enthusiasm throughout the session. Opportunities like this not only motivate our students but also reinforce the message that with high expectations, dedication, and belief in themselves, they can achieve great things.

This week, we have embraced Myrtleford Mental Health Week with the theme # Be Kind to Your Mind. Our Year 5 and 6 students were fortunate to attend a workshop facilitated by Cooper Chapman from The Good Human Factory, which provided valuable insights into wellbeing and positive habits. In addition, the whole school enjoyed the Wellbeing Activities Day at the P-12 campus, further strengthening our focus on caring for ourselves and each other.

As always, it is wonderful to see the strong sense of community that exists at St Mary's. Even during busy times, our students continue to support one another, embrace opportunities, and live out our school values.

Finally, I ask that you keep our Eucharist and Confirmation sacramental candidates in your prayers. As they continue to prepare for these important sacraments with their families and the parish, we support them on this special faith journey.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school.

Andrea O'Connor

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS VICTORIA - SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Catholic School Parents Victoria (CSPV) has been re-established to strengthen the voice of parents and carers in Catholic education across Victoria, recognising parents as the first educators and key partners in their child's learning, wellbeing and faith journey.

CSPV is guided by a Council of parent representatives from across the state, ensuring that the diverse perspectives of families in Catholic schools are reflected in its work and advocacy.

We invite you to explore the CSPV website at <https://cspv.catholic.edu.au>, where you will find a wealth of information and resources to support your parenting journey within Catholic education, including guidance on wellbeing, faith, learning and key issues impacting families. You can also subscribe via the website to join the CSPV community, receive the quarterly newsletter and be

invited to upcoming events.

You can also connect with CSPV on LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook to access valuable insights, updates and practical resources.

Together, we can continue to strengthen the partnership between families, schools and the wider Catholic community.

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.

BEHAVIOUR TRACKING UPDATE

As part of our continued commitment to fostering a positive, respectful, and productive learning environment, we would like to share an update to our behaviour tracking process. This approach is designed to support students in making positive choices, while ensuring their learning remains a priority.

The process will be as follows:

- **1st Warning:** A gentle reminder is given to help guide the student (no further action required).
- **2nd Warning:** The student will spend 10 minutes in the library during lunchtime.
- **3rd Warning:** The student will spend 10 minutes in the office (Principal/Deputy Principal) for support and reflection, along with 20 minutes in the library at lunchtime to make up any work missed.

During time in the library, students will be supported to complete any missed classwork or work on assigned learning tasks, helping them stay on track with their learning.

If your child is asked to attend the library as part of this process, you will receive a letter to keep you informed.

We believe this structured and supportive approach encourages students to reflect on their choices, build positive habits, and remain engaged in their learning.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please feel free to contact the school—we are always happy to speak with you.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY	
Wednesday 27 th	National Simultaneous Storytime “Luna Roo”
Friday 29 th	Reconciliation Liturgy and Assembly 12:30pm St Mary’s Church
JUNE	
Wednesday 3 rd	Division Cross Country Wangaratta
Friday 5 th	School Closure Day (Wellbeing: CESL)
Monday 8 th	Public Holiday
Thursday 11 th	School Closure Day
Friday 12 th	Regional Cross Country
Friday 12 th	Assembly 2:20pm Nagle Centre
Friday 19 th	St Mary’s Performing Art Festival
Sunday 21 st	Confirmation & Eucharist Mass 9am
Monday 22 nd	Ovens & Mitta Division Winter Sports (Year 5/6)
Wednesday 24 th	Whole School End of Term Mass 11:30am
Thursday 25 th	School Reports Released via SIMON
Friday 26 th	Last Day Term 2



LITURGY AND SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - ST MARY'S CHURCH - 12:30PM FRIDAY, MAY 29th

Next week we celebrate National Reconciliation Week (27th May – 3rd June). This is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to reflect on how we can each contribute to reconciliation in Australia.

Families are warmly invited to join us for our Reconciliation Liturgy and whole school assembly on Friday 29th May. Assembly will be held in St Mary’s Church immediately following our Reconciliation Week Liturgy. Our liturgy will begin at 12:30pm, with the whole school assembly taking place afterwards in the church.



JLC NEWS

FOUNDATION - WRITING

In writing, we have continued using InitialWrite to support students with saying, drawing and writing ideas. Our focus has included saying and drawing three actions, learning to write a word, talking about Pat the Cat and reviewing the skills we have been practising. The students are continuing to develop their confidence with orally rehearsing ideas, drawing to match meaning and beginning to record words and sentences.

READING AND SPELLING

In InitialLit, students have continued practising text reading and writing. We have also introduced new sounds, including /d/ and /h/, and linked these sounds to the letters d and h. Students have been practising reading and spelling using the sounds and letters they have learnt so far. We are continuing to build confidence with blending sounds together and having a go at reading simple words.

STORYBOOKS

Our storybook lessons have continued to support speaking, listening and comprehension. This week, we have been reading Farmer John's Tractor. Students have been encouraged to listen carefully, discuss the story, answer questions and share their ideas. These lessons help students build vocabulary, understand story events and practise speaking in full sentences.

MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics, we have been exploring number pairs and smaller parts within numbers. Students have been making number pairs to 5 and 10, as well as making numbers up to 10 from smaller numbers. We have continued using hands-on materials, five-frames and ten-frames to help students see the parts within a number and explain their thinking.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In Religious Education, we have been learning about the features of a Catholic church building and their purpose. We have also discussed that the Church is not only a building, but also a community of people. The students have shared thoughtful ideas during our discussions.

WELLBEING

In RRRR, we have been focusing on positive coping and noticing emotions. Students have been learning to recognise feelings in themselves and others, and to talk about different ways we can respond when we experience big emotions.

Mr Corcoran

YEAR 1

We welcomed Miss Demi Johns into our classroom last week for her teaching placement from La Trobe University. Demi will be with us until the end of next week.

ENGLISH

We have been learning about verbs and nouns and have been practising using the connecting words /and/ and /because/. Students have done an assessment piece of writing and have watched a miniscule youtube video and then written a story about it. The writing was extremely impressive and will help guide us in report writing. We are revising the tricky words: then, they, there, were, what, want, where, some, should.

MATHS

We have been learning about length and mass. We made homemade scales with coat hangers and egg cartons and string and took our maths lessons outdoors to hang our scales and compare the mass of feathers, stones and bark. This was a great opportunity to escape the classroom and make the most of sunshine.

In Religion, RRRR and Inquiry we have been exploring our emotions and the way our feelings change. We have discussed ways we can deal with these emotions and looked at zones of regulation (green, blue, yellow and red). Students have been keeping track of their feelings throughout the day to see the way we change and the reasons why.

We have Ava and Fergus doing some special roles at the beginning of our Reconciliation Mass at 12:30pm on Friday 29th May in the church.

YEAR 2 - ENGLISH

We have been reading a text 'Chooks in Dinner Suits' by Diane Jackson Hill. It recounts the true story of a man who tries to protect the penguins on Middle Island in Warrnambool. We have been reviewing our understanding of verbs, nouns and adjectives and our spelling has been focussing on the ou/ow as in cloud/now. In reading, we are learning about Visualising. This is when we make a picture in my mind when we read or listen to something being read. We've been visualising about a short story we've read about the future titled 'Kids in Space'.

MATHS

Addition and Subtraction are the focus for this week and next week. We've been learning about doubles and near doubles. Ask children if they can double some numbers up to 10 and even up to 20 (e.g. double 13 is 26). We've also been learning to break apart and put together two- and three-digit numbers in different ways to better understand how numbers work (for example, knowing that 356 can be thought of as $300 + 50 + 6$). We've been learning about different strategies to add and subtract numbers.

RELIGION

We're in our last week of learning about Pentecost and what it means to be 'Pentecost people'. The students created some special hats which signify the Pentecost story. Next week we are beginning our new topic titled 'Grief and Loss'.



Have a lovely weekend
Leigh, Sandra, Carolyn, Nicole, Anna, Demi, Julie and Grace

MLC NEWS

YEAR 3

In Literacy, students have continued studying Yirra and her Deadly Dog, Demon by Anita Heiss. As part of this learning, students have been developing their understanding of factual recount writing through exploring the history and creation of the Aboriginal Flag. Students have worked through the structure of a factual recount, including the introduction and three body paragraphs, using clear sequencing and topic-specific vocabulary. Next week, students will complete their writing by developing a strong concluding paragraph.

In Mathematics, students have been learning to measure length using rulers and measuring tapes. They have explored metric units including millimetres, centimetres and metres, while developing their understanding of converting between units and accurately recording measurements.

During Bluearth sessions, students participated enthusiastically in a range of activities including a dodgeball variation, Lions & Leopards, Aeroplanes and Airports, and Beat the Buzzer. It has been fantastic to see students demonstrating teamwork, resilience and positive sportsmanship throughout these activities.

A huge congratulations to all Year 3 students for successfully completing their first 2km Cross Country run. Students should be very proud of the persistence, determination and effort they demonstrated during the event.

Adam

SLC NEWS

Another busy fortnight in the SLC! As part of Myrtleford Wellbeing Week, students took part in a range of wellbeing activities at Myrtleford P-12 College and attended the Good Human Factory workshop at EMPAC, which explored practical tools for supporting wellbeing and resilience. Year 5/6 students also participated in Cross Country and the Melbourne FC AFLW clinic, where a special mention was made by the players about the fantastic behaviour of our students! During discussions, students learned about training, challenges, and what it means to be a good team player.

ENGLISH

This week, students continue to work on their narratives. The brief is a fictional recount of an event in the late 1800's in Myrtleford. There is some interesting reading. The students are demonstrating their understanding of exploring different uses of sentences: compound, simple or complex. They have also incorporated adverbs, adjectives, similes and metaphors.

MATHEMATICS

Over the last fortnight, students completed their first unit on Fractions. Students represented, compared, and ordered fractions using fraction walls and parallel number lines, and identified equivalent fractions. They also developed their understanding of mixed numerals and improper fractions by using multiplication to convert mixed numerals into improper fractions, and division to convert improper fractions into mixed numerals. Next, students will explore 3D Objects, where they will identify, draw, and design nets, and identify and sort objects based on their cross-sections.

RELIGION

In Religion, Year 6 students began their Risen Christ unit, where they explored how Jesus' followers experienced confusion, hope, and faith after His Resurrection. Students learned how Mary Magdalene responded to Jesus' death and how her encounter with the risen Jesus led her from grief to hope and witness. They also explored how Peter responded to the risen Jesus, and how forgiveness led to restoration and mission in his life.

INQUIRY

In our new unit on Australia in the 20th Century, students explored significant individuals, events, and ideas that led to Australia's Federation, as well as the changing experiences and perspectives of Australian democracy and citizenship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples since Federation. Next, students will explore the experiences of women, children, and migrants.

Students created PowerPoints or posters on our inquiry topic on Democracy. Homeroom RS, have successfully presented their understanding of the topic. Homeroom JI, have staggered the student's feedback. Last week Madi Rae presented her poster, discussing her knowledge of the three levels of government. Great job Madi. Javi presented his knowledge using a PowerPoint presentation. This has been a good opportunity for students to explore different forms of media to demonstrate their understanding. Well done to 5/6 RS students who completed their presentations in Week 2.

RESILIENCE, RIGHTS AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

In RRRR, students have been learning about problem solving. They devised strategies and plans to assist in completing challenging tasks, making decisions, and resolving problems. They also identified factors that influence decision making.

CARE BOXES

Students have been working thoughtfully on their Care Boxes throughout Semester 1 and are now ready to take them home to be completed and filled with meaningful donations. Example items might include stationery, small toys, books, sports socks, fidget toys, or gardening items. This project encourages students to support others through acts of kindness and generosity, reflecting our charism, In Deeds Not Words.

SPECIALIST NEWS



This week in Visual Arts students are participating in a special design challenge celebrating the 60th anniversary of Play School.

Students will design their own 2D original toy inspired by imagination, creativity and play. This exciting competition is open to children aged 2–12, and the selected design will be professionally recreated by the Play School team, featured on the show, and sent to the winning child to keep. The design part will be done during their Art class, but if your child would like their design entered families will need to do the following:

- Take a photo of their child's completed artwork
- Upload the image to the competition website with carer consent
- Include a short description of the toy design

More information about the competition, including entry details and terms, can be found here:

[Design a Toy for Play School - ABC Kids](#)

We look forward to seeing the students' wonderful and imaginative creations!

Mrs Ivone

PE NEWS

WOW! Our cross country this year was so terrific, and it was wonderful to see many spectators cheering our students along. We had a slight change this year to the course for years 3-6 and the students adapted beautifully. The emphasis was on giving your best and earning points for each students House. The sunshine was out and so was the House spirit. Well done to those students who placed and will be off to Division cross country on June 3rd in Wangaratta.

A big thank you to Marian for allowing some senior students to help out on the course to support our students. Also, a huge thank you to all the teachers and staff who helped out on the day which made the event run very smoothly.



Mrs Knobel (PE Coordinator)

White Snow

WINTER 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM



Toy Story 5

Talking T-Rex

Animal Sidekick Safari

Fish are Friends!

Book now at TheirCare.com.au
Save up to 90% with the Child Care Subsidy

Scan to find your nearest holiday program location



Holiday Program Important Information!

What to bring

- A healthy morning tea and lunch
- A labelled drink bottle for water
- Suitable clothing for an active day – closed toe shoes and jacket if wet/cold
- Sunsmart hat for Spring and Summer holidays
- Medical Management Plan & Medication if applicable – see below for details



Don't forget!

- Keep your lunchbox nut-free to keep everyone safe
- Do not include food items that need to be reheated
- Label all items with child's name!
- Bus departure and arrival times are indicative only. For an accurate estimated time of arrival and departure please contact your service directly.



Personal belongings

Electronic devices, money and other valuables should be left at home. If brought to the service, these items remain the responsibility of the family. TheirCare does not accept responsibility for loss or damage.



TheirCare provides

- Breakfast and afternoon tea snack
- Sunscreen
- Water to refill bottles



Unexpected changes to activities

In the unlikely event that an activity is unable to run, an alternative activity will be provided. Activities and times are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances such as severe weather or provider availability. If an alternative cannot be sourced we will update your notice to reflect this.



General daily advertised activities are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, at the discretion of the service coordinator.

Serious stuff!

Medical Management Plan & Medication

All children who have been diagnosed with a medical condition including allergies, food/chemical intolerances, anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy will need to provide:

- a completed Medical Management Plan with a colour photo
- necessary medication



Please note it is a legal requirement under the Education & Care National Regulations and the Terms and Conditions for booking that these are provided.

In the interests of child safety, care may be refused on the day should the appropriate documentation or medication or medication not be supplied.

Child Care Subsidy

Please note that subsidised hours are calculated and allocated by Centrelink on a fortnightly basis. Check Centrelink for eligibility.



Fortnightly childcare subsidised hours

Each session is calculated using the full service operational hours, not the hours attended by the child. Additional Child Care subsidy will not cover any hours beyond the subsidised hours per fortnight. Refer to TheirCare Holiday Program FAQ <https://theircare.com.au/holiday-programs/> for further information and example.

Changes to your booking

Simply log into your account any time to make the relevant changes or call us between 8:30am – 9:00pm weekdays on 1300 072 410.



Fees for changes to your booking

More than 5 days	Less than 5 days*	On the day
No Charge	\$10.00	Full Fee

*Less than 5 days from the start of the booking (120 hours from the start of the session). When making additional bookings the \$10.00 fee is eligible for the Child Care Subsidy, which means you may only need to pay the gap, depending on your families' circumstances.

