



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

43 O' Donnell Ave.
(P.O. Box 320)
Myrtleford Victoria 3737
Phone: 03 5752 1808

e-mail: principal@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au

web: www.smmyleford.catholic.edu.au

Date: 13th August, 2026 Newsletter No: 13

Term: 3 - 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 3

Monday 13th July-
Friday 18th September

TERM 4

6th October -
15th December Students
Last Day
16th December Staff Last
Day

MASS TIMES

Myrtleford

Saturday @ 5:00pm
Sunday @ 9:00am

Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the
Month @ 5:00pm



Click on the link

***Hail Mary, Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death.
Amen***

As we celebrate the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop and the Assumption of Mary, we are reminded of the power of faith, hope and trust in God. Both Mary and St Mary MacKillop responded to God's call with courage and generosity, showing us the importance of caring for others, especially those who need support, encouragement and love.

These celebrations are particularly meaningful for us as a Presentation school. The Presentation charism, inspired by Nano Nagle, is at the heart of who we are and shapes the spirit of our community. It calls us to be people of compassion, kindness and service, always looking for ways to bring light and hope to those around us. Every day, we see this lived out by our students, staff and families through the care they show one another, the welcome they extend to others and their commitment to creating a community where everyone belongs.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all staff, students and families who contributed to our recent School Improvement Review. Your feedback, perspectives and engagement are invaluable. The review provided an important opportunity to celebrate all that we do well, while also helping us identify ways we can continue to grow and strengthen our school.

The insights gathered through the review will help guide our future planning and decision-making, ensuring we continue to provide the best possible opportunities for our students. We are grateful for your partnership and support as we work together to nurture a school community where every child is known, valued and able to flourish.

Thank you for all that you do to make our school such a special place. May the examples of Mary, St Mary MacKillop and Nano Nagle inspire us all to continue living with faith, compassion and hope in our daily lives.

Andrea O'Connor

CESSUS SURVEY

Next week, St Mary's will participate in the CESSUS Survey, an important opportunity to gather valuable feedback from our school community. The survey will involve students, staff, and families, with each group invited to share their perspectives and experiences. The information collected will help us celebrate our strengths, identify areas for growth, and continue to enhance learning and wellbeing outcomes for all students.

Eighty families will be randomly selected to participate in the survey. Families chosen will receive a letter on Monday containing a unique access code and an email as well with the link and instructions for completing the survey. We encourage all selected families to take part, as every voice is valued and plays an important role in shaping the future direction of our school.

Thank you for your support and participation.

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.

SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST

Monday 17 th	Ski Program Day 5
Tuesday 18 th	School advisory council Meeting 6pm
Friday 21 st	Assembly 2:20pm Nagle Centre
Monday 24 th	Year 5/6 Family Puberty Info Night 5pm
Friday 28 th	Book Week Dress up Parade 9am

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 1 st	School Swimming Wangaratta
Wednesday 2 nd	School Swimming Wangaratta
Thursday 3 rd	School Swimming Wangaratta
Friday 4 th	Fathers Day Breakfast 8:15am to 8:45am
Friday 4 th	Assembly 2:20pm Nagle Centre
Tuesday 8 th	JLC Excursion
Monday 14 th	Athletics Day (Marian College Oval)
Tuesday 15 th	Respectful Relationships Student Forum (Year 5)
Friday 18 th	Footy Colours Day
Friday 18 th	End of term Liturgy/Assembly 11:30pm
Friday 18 th	Last Day Term 3 (2:20pm Finish)

PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

TUESDAY 18TH
AUGUST
@ 4PM IN THE
CREATIVE HUB

Our next Parents and Friends meeting will be held at 4pm in the Creative Hub on Tuesday 18th August.

At this meeting we will be preparing for the School Fete set to be held in November! We would love you to join us, share your ideas and help us make this year's School Fete the best yet!

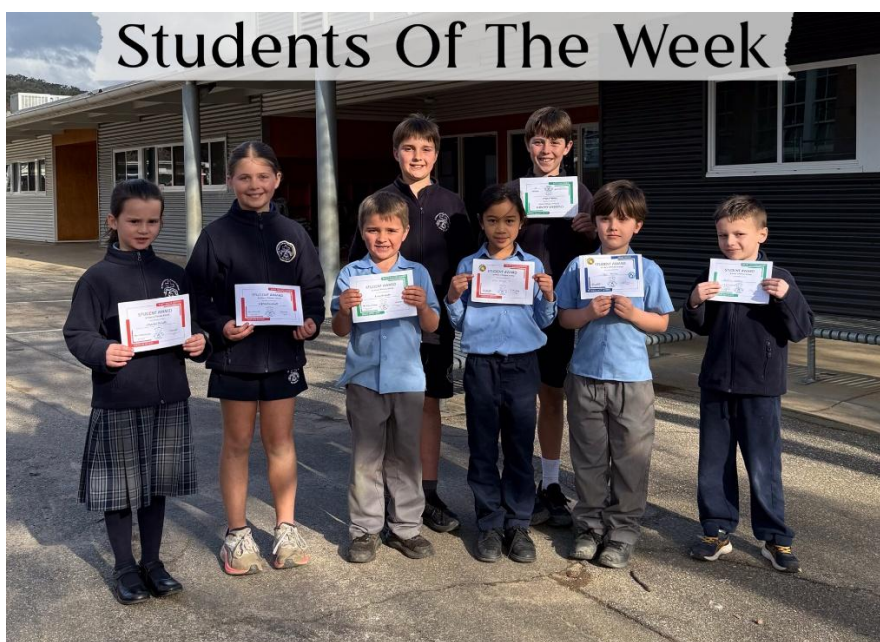
BOOK FAIR THANK YOU

A big thank you to our wonderful families for your generous support of this year's Book Fair. Thanks to your enthusiasm and participation, the event was a great success.

The funds raised (\$836.00) will go towards purchasing new books for our library, helping to provide exciting reading opportunities for all students.

We are incredibly grateful for your support. Without our school community's involvement, the Book Fair would not have been such a success. Thank you for helping foster a love of reading at St Mary's! 🎉🌟

Mrs Southern (Librarian)



YEAR 1 - HOME READERS

We are working towards a faster pace at reading in Year One. Students are encouraged to read their readers a number of times and set a timer for one minute to see how far they read and try to beat their previous record each day. While doing this there are a number of things to look out for...we want to ensure all words are read exactly as the text in the book says (no skipping words or adding extras onto the end of words) and we are listening for smoothness and expression. Some parents have asked for more challenging readers for their children, this is the challenge. Your child has been given a level that should be easy enough for him/her to do this with. Should you want a more challenging reader, there are the decodable readers online or you can use other books from home or at the library to read.

READING STORYBOOK LESSONS

Our focus is about reading and finding the main idea in a text. We are looking at particular words in the story that expand our vocabulary eg. 'notice' and 'daydream'.

Our focus text is: Today We Have No Plans – Jane Goodwin

HANDWRITING

Students have become complacent about pencil grip this semester. It is really important that they continue to write with the correct pencil grip. At home you can help support this by asking your child to write for you and observe the way they hold the pencil.



SPELLING / GRAMMAR

Tricky Words: I'm, about, ask, our, fast & last these were introduced last week and the coming weeks we will be learning: kind, find, thought, only

In Grammar, we are learning that sentences can be joined by the word 'and' and that we can omit any repetition in sentences.

MATHS

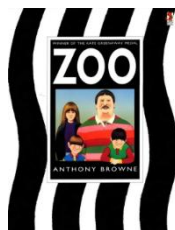
Patterns have been a bright spot in our learning this term, with students exploring repeating patterns, growing patterns, and skip counting in fun, hands-on ways. Children have been building colour and shape sequences, identifying what comes next, and explaining the "rule" behind each pattern. They've also been extending growing patterns by noticing how they change, and using skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s to describe and continue number patterns. These activities strengthen number sense, support early algebraic thinking, and help students recognise structure in maths — all while keeping learning playful and engaging.

RELIGION

In this unit students will learn about Jesus. They will discover what life in Nazareth was like at the time of Jesus and where possible, make links with their own life experience. We have read the story in the Bible of Jesus Lost in the Temple, Luke 2:45-50.

YEAR 2JH - HOME READERS

My apologies to students and parents for not getting readers back to students last week. Thank you to the families who are listening to their students read so regularly. Please ensure all readers/reader books are at school each Friday so that I can change the books and send new books home.



READING COMPREHENSION

Our focus is about reading and finding the main idea in a text. Fluency reading is happening every morning in the classroom and the students are really practising how fluently they read and how they use their voice to show expression.

Our focus text is Zoo by Anthony Browne.

SPELLING / GRAMMAR

Tricky Words for Week 5/6: though, can't, don't, around, could, couldn't. It is hoped that students will learn to spell this tricky words independently and we understand that they are tricky words because they while most of the word follows the sounds we know, there is part of the word that we need to learn by heart because it doesn't follow the rule.

Our focus for spelling is learning about contractions (do not = don't, can not = can't, would not = wouldn't, he'll = he will etc).

In Grammar, we are learning that conjunctions join words, phrases or sentences together. (Eg: I like apples and bananas. Sam is tired, but he is happy. Do you want milk or juice?)

MATHEMATICS

Over the next three weeks, students will explore 2D shapes and 3D objects. We will learn about identifying, sorting and creating shapes and investigating features such as sides, faces, edges and vertices.

Numbots – Congratulations to our students who are doing an amazing job at school and at home on developing number fluency and moving up in their levels! A great achievement!

JLC Teachers

SLC NEWS

YEAR 6 BABY PHOTOS

Thank you to the students/parents who have already sent in baby photos for our end of year mass. Please take a moment to reminisce through old photos and find your cherub as a baby, and a first day of school or kinder photo and send it to your child's teacher. We have a Year 6 photo.

ENGLISH

We are nearing the end of our novel, *Convict Boy* by Jackie French. The content in this story has resonated well with our Year 6 students who have been to Sovereign Hill and will be excellent background information for the Year 5's for next years camp.

MATHS

The Year 6 students will finish up their unit on angles and begin work on decimals. The Year 5 students have finished their work on fractions and are currently also working on angles.

RELIGION

We continue our unit on Created In God's Image. The students are currently working on an assessment piece that demonstrates understanding of identity, belonging, dignity, conscience and respectful choices. The SLC will be organising and running the end of term liturgy in Week 10.

INQUIRY

We are continuing our geographical study of Greenland, Vietnam, and Australia. Last week, we explored the diverse landscapes and geographical features of each country. This week, we are turning our attention to resources and the economy as we continue to develop our understanding of how people interact with and shape their environments.

Have a great weekend

SLC Teachers

SPECIALIST NEWS

SCIENCE WEEK 15-23 AUGUST

The schools' theme for National Science Week 2026 is Seeds of science: Nurturing knowledge for all. This theme invites students across Australia to explore the power of curiosity, inquiry and shared learning in growing scientific understanding. Aligned with the 2026 United Nations International Year of the Woman Farmer, this theme explores the secret world of seeds and how they grow. Other things grow from a 'seed' too, such as pearls, crystals, snowflakes and even planets. We can even think about ideas and knowledge as seeds that start small, grow and change agriculture and other industries in Australia.

St Marys' will be participating in this initiative by offering hands on activities at lunchtime on Tuesday 18th August and Thursday 20th August in the Science Lab. Students will be given an opportunity to make something related to our topic and be able to take it home and share in the garden or on the farm. This is an optional activity, but we encourage all students to join in the fun and get their hands dirty.

Our plants are coming to life and the students are loving this activity. It is wonderful to see them so immersed in this hands on activity understanding the parts of a plant and how the life cycle of a plant works. The plants will come home soon and most of the children are wanting to plant them in their gardens at home.



Mrs Noble

VISUAL ARTS UPDATE

BRINGING CLAY CREATIONS TO LIFE!

Our Visual Arts room has been buzzing with creativity as students have been getting their hands stuck into clay! Students have finished building and shaping their armatures (skeletons) to create the structure for their sculptures. They are now carefully covering their armatures with clay to add shape and detail to bring their ideas to life. There have certainly been plenty of messy hands along the way! Enjoy some photos below.

Mrs Ivone



ITALIAN

In Italian, the students were introduced to the story of *Pinocchio*. To make the experience even more engaging, Pinocchio paid a special visit to the classroom, delighting the students and bringing the story to life.

During Italian, Lara spoke to the class about her recent trip to Italy. She shared her experiences, highlighted some of the places she visited. The students were very interested and enjoyed learning about Italy through Lara's firsthand experiences.



CONGRATUALTIONS TO BILL AND OSCAR HOWMAN



Bill and Oscar competed for St Mary's in the Regional Victorian School's Carnival which was held at Falls Creek.

Both boys competed in the following events:

Bill: GS, Skicross and Moguls

Oscar: GS and Skicross

GS is downhill on skis around gates

Skicross is kind of like a BMX course but in skis

Moguls is steep bumps and a jump

The boys competed against other students from the region who were in Year 1 and 2. When it came to Bill competing in Moguls he had to go up a division and compete against students in Year 3 and 4.

Results:

Oscar: 4th GS and 2nd in Skicross

Bill: 1st in GS, 1st in Skicross, 2nd in Moguls

CATHOLIC IDENTITY NEWS



ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP MASS

Thank you to the JLC students and families for all their support with our Mass last week to celebrate the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. It was lovely to have Fr Tony celebrate it with us and share his sermon with us – a reminder that we now need to take her message forward into our lives. Some of St Mary MacKillop's famous quotes are:

'Have courage, no matter what your crosses are.'

'Never see a need without doing something about it.'

'God gives me strength for what is necessary.'



ASSUMPTION OF MARY

On Wednesday, we joined Marian College in celebrating the Assumption of Mary through a special liturgy. The Feast of the Assumption is celebrated on 15 August and is an important feast day in the Catholic Church. It is also a national public holiday in Italy, where it is known as Ferragosto and is celebrated with family gatherings, festivals and special church services. We also enjoyed a delicious pasta lunch and gelato to help commemorate this special day in our Church calendar. Thank you to the Parish ladies for the yummy pasta.



Julie Humphreys (Catholic Identity Leader)

Term 3

School Holiday

Program



Group 1: 10-12 years
Group 2: 13-14 years
Group 3: 15+ years



Technical skill development
Coached gameplay



Strength, Nutrition and
Recovery

INCLUSIONS:

- ✓ **4 sessions over 2-weeks**
- ✓ **2-hour sessions**
- ✓ **Small coaching:athlete ratio**
- ✓ **Alpine Academy Sports Shirt**



Register Interest & More
Information via QR code



Scouts
VICTORIA

Remember the days of camping
and hanging out with friends?
MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD DOES TOO.

