



St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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Date: 27th August, 2026 Newsletter No: 14

Term: 3 - Week: 7

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 -
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

Loving Jesus,

Help us to follow you with courage, even when the path is difficult.

Teach us to think with hearts centred on God and to put others before ourselves.

May we carry our daily crosses with faith, kindness, and hope.

Bless our St Mary's community and guide us always in your love.

Amen.

As we move through another rewarding term at St Mary's, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous strength of our school community. The recent School Improvement Review and Catholic Identity Review provided an opportunity to reflect on our achievements, celebrate our successes, and identify ways to continue growing as a learning community. The feedback received was overwhelmingly positive and affirmed what we know to be true: St Mary's is a place where students, staff and families work together in partnership to create a nurturing, faith-filled and high-achieving environment.

A particular highlight of the review was the recognition of our dedicated and professional staff. Our teachers consistently hold high expectations, not only for their students but also for themselves. They are committed to ongoing learning, reflection and improvement, always striving to provide the very best opportunities for every child. This commitment was clearly reflected in the review findings, which indicated that our school is performing at an outstanding level across a number of key areas. Such feedback is a testament to the hard work, dedication and passion of our staff, as well as their unwavering focus on student learning and wellbeing.

I would also like to sincerely thank the students and parents who generously contributed to the review process. Your participation through interviews, surveys and discussions provided valuable insights and helped paint a rich picture of life at St Mary's. The positive feedback about our welcoming community, strong relationships and commitment to Catholic values reinforces the importance of the partnership we share.

While it is important to celebrate these achievements, we also recognise that improvement is an ongoing journey. The feedback and recommendations from both reviews will play a significant role in informing our future strategic planning. By carefully considering the insights provided, we will continue to build on our strengths, identify opportunities for growth and ensure that St Mary's remains a place where every student can thrive academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Thank you for your continued support, trust and commitment to our school. Together, we can be proud of all that has been achieved and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for St Mary's.

Andrea O'Connor

CREATIVE HUB LANDSCAPE PROJECT

We are delighted to share with our school community that the landscaping surrounding the Creative Hub has now been completed.

While the garden beds are not yet planted, it has been wonderful to see our children already enjoying and exploring these new outdoor spaces. The area has quickly become a welcoming extension of the Creative Hub, providing opportunities for connection, play and learning.

Over the coming months, we look forward to working alongside our community to design, plan and plant the garden beds. This exciting project will give students, families and staff the opportunity to help shape these spaces into vibrant and thriving gardens. Keep an eye out for information about upcoming community working bees and planting days.

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.

As part of the ongoing development of our school grounds, we will also be introducing changes to our school entry points and implementing a new traffic management plan in early Term 4. Further details will be shared with families closer to the time to ensure a smooth transition.

We thank our community for its continued support and look forward to seeing these spaces grow and flourish in the years ahead.



SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST

Friday 28 th	Book Week Dress up Parade 9am
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SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 1 st	School Swimming Wangaratta
Wednesday 2 nd	School Swimming Wangaratta
Thursday 3 rd	School Swimming Wangaratta
Thursday 3 rd	Fathers Day Breakfast 8:00am 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)

BOOK WEEK PARADE FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST! 🎉📚

Our Book Week Parade will be held on Friday 28th August, beginning at 9:10am.

Students are encouraged to come to school dressed as a character from a favourite book for the parade.

Following the parade, students will return to their classrooms. Later in the morning, classes will rotate around the school to visit the different Book Week displays and enjoy some of the books selected by each class.

Important details:

- Date: Friday 28 August 2026
- Book Week Parade: 9:10am
- Dress-up: Come dressed as a favourite book character

We are looking forward to a fun morning celebrating books, reading and some fantastic costumes!

Families welcome to come along.

SCHOOL SPORT POLICY

As our swimming program and athletics days are coming up parents are invited to read through the St Mary's PS school sport policy.

[School Sport Policy](#)



MYRTLEFORD SCHOOLS SKI PROGRAM

The Myrtleford Schools Ski Program has once again been a fantastic success, with students embracing the challenge and excitement of learning to ski and snowboard. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, confidence and skills grow throughout the season, while having plenty of fun with their friends on the slopes.

Although there was less snow than in previous years, students still enjoyed an outstanding experience in our alpine environment and made the most of every opportunity on the mountain.

A sincere thank you to our parent volunteers, whose time, support and commitment make this program possible each year. We also acknowledge the strong partnership between Myrtleford P-12 College and St Mary's. By working together, we can provide local children with this unique and memorable opportunity to learn and thrive in the alpine setting that surrounds us.

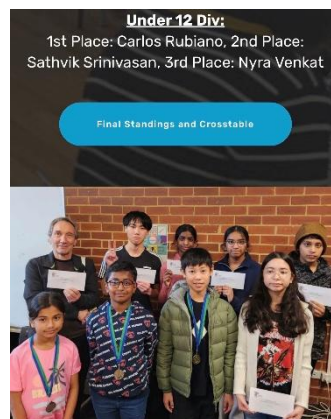
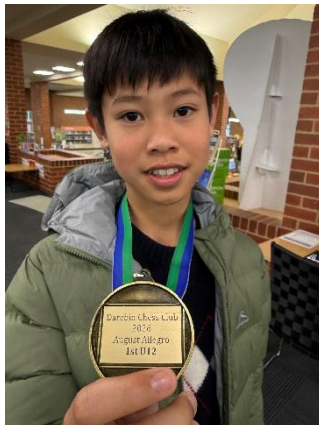


CONGRATULATIONS TO CARLOS RUBIANO

On Sunday 23rd August Carlos Rubiano competed in the Darebin Chess Club August Allegro Tournament.

Carlos won 3 out of 7 rounds to win the U/12 chess competition.

Well done Carlos!

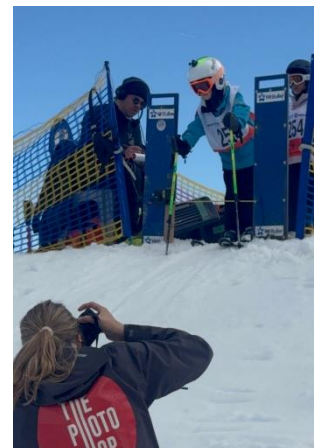


VICTORIAN INTERSCHOOLS SNOWSPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP

Bill and Oscar Howman competed at the Victorian Interschools Snowsports Championship at Mt Buller from Sunday-Tuesday.

They competed against 150-200 students from prep-year 2 in skiercross and GS and additionally Bill went up an age group to compete against students in year 3 and 4 in moguls.

Both boys finished among the stronger competitors in each of their events. Bill has qualified for the Nationals for GS which will be held at Perisher early September. Well done Bill and Oscar!



WEEK 7 UPDATE - FOUNDATION

It has been another busy week in Foundation, with plenty happening across our learning and some special activities to look forward to.

LITERACY

In InitialLit, the children have been learning and revising the sounds **sh, qu, ee, z and zz**. We are continuing to practise blending sounds together to read words and listening carefully for the sounds we can hear when spelling.

We are also working on tricky words including **all, call, ball, tall, little, go, so, no, this and then**. The children are becoming more confident using their sound knowledge when reading and writing, and regular practice at home continues to support this.

WRITING

In Initial Write, we are continuing to build our understanding of stories. The children are learning about characters and the different parts of a story and are using these ideas to help with their own writing.

We are also continuing to focus on writing complete sentences, using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children are being encouraged to have a go at spelling unfamiliar words by listening carefully for the sounds they can hear.

MATHEMATICS

In Maths, we have started a new focus on **measurement**, particularly **length and height**. The children are learning to compare objects and use words such as **longer, shorter, taller and shorter** to explain what they notice.

We are also practising ordering objects by size and encouraging the children to explain how they know when one object is longer or taller than another.

WELLBEING

In our Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships learning, we have been talking about things that can make us feel worried, uncomfortable or stressed.

The children are learning that different people can find different situations challenging, and that there are things we can do to help ourselves feel better. We have been discussing helpful strategies such as talking to someone, taking some quiet time, drawing, playing, listening to music or spending time with people who help us feel calm.

OTHER LEARNING

In Religious Education, we are continuing our learning through **Let's Celebrate Creation**. The students are also continuing with Science, PE, Italian, Performing Arts, Blueearth Sport and Library.

We are also looking forward to having **Marian Year 9 students visit Foundation to read with the children**. This will be a lovely opportunity for our students to enjoy books and share their reading with some older students.

BOOK WEEK

We are looking forward to our **Book Week Dress Up and Parade on Friday 28 August at 9:00 am**. Students are invited to come dressed as a favourite book character. It should be a fun morning and a great way to celebrate books and reading.

REMINDERS

Please continue with regular **home reading** and practise the sounds, words and tricky words that are sent home.

Please also remember to return **blue library bags and books on Mondays** so students can borrow a new book.

Thank you for your continued support at home.

Mr Corcoran

YEAR 1CD**HOME READING**

Often in class we work on specific letters and sounds for spelling and reading, and we often do worksheets and use decodable readers. Sometimes your child will have a copy of some text to practise reading fluency at home. If something is sent home in your child's bag, it is to read through and practise. Any incompleting worksheets will also be sent home to work through at home.

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: *Creatures with Features*: Shuffle, Bounce, Leap.

Spelling / Grammar

Tricky Words: **kind, find, thought** these were introduced this week.

BOOKWEEK

Our storybook for bookweek is 'Derek' a story about a fish that jumps from his bowl and lands in another fishbowl. Students have created fish for a display in our classroom.

MATHS

We have been revising skip counting by 2, 5, 10. We also have been revising partitioning. Students are learning to share a given number between a number of groups greater than two. We continue to revise patterns and number lines.

RELIGION

In Religion we have started learning about Creation. Students have taken a nature walk and done some rubbing with leaves and crayons onto paper.

YEAR 2JH BOOK WEEK

It is always an exciting time each August as we celebrate Book Week at school and get to see some amazing new Australia books that have been shortlisted in the CBCA Awards. Year 2JH have chosen the book *'The Colours of Home'* by Sally Soweol Han as our book to study and we've created a wonderful display in our room.



LITERACY READING COMPREHENSION



Finding the main idea continues to be our focus for our reading and we've just finished reading an information text about *Cyclones*. We learned the Cyclone Tracy in 1974 which hit Darwin, NT.

Our focus text this week and next week is *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, which is told from the wolf's point of view!

SPELLING / GRAMMAR

Tricky Words for Week 7/8: **favourite, should, shouldn't, interesting, would, wouldn't**. It is hoped that students will learn to spell these 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.

This week, our focus for spelling is learning about the suffix 'es' to make nouns plural (lunch – lunches box-boxes). Next week, we are looking at when to choose ge or dge at the end of a word.

We use **dge** when following a short vowel or consonant - fridge, wedge.

We use **ge** when following a long vowel or a consonant – cage, stage.

MATHEMATICS

We are in our final week of exploring **2D shapes and 3D objects**. We have had lots of fun creating some cool pictures with different shaped blocks and had a go at using tangrams!

Next week, we begin to solve word problems by working out which maths operation to use and to apply strategies we've learnt for addition, subtraction, multiplication or division.



RELIGION – CARE FOR CREATION

In our unit titled ‘Care for Creation’ students will focus on exploring the wonders of creation with the following Key Understandings as our focus.

- Creation is a gift that Christians believe God has entrusted to us.
- Our senses enable us to experience the beauty and delights of our world.
- We can experience God in the wonders of creation.
- We are called to be stewards of our world

MLC NEWS

Year 3 and Year 4 have been busy this term, continuing with our book studies. Year 4 are well into their second book, *The Wild Robot*. This is a lovely book about emotions and caring for others. It is so good to have these wonderful books to read as a class and to discuss the themes and issues that are presented throughout these books. The children are loving this book, and we hope to watch the movie when we have finished the novel.

Another exciting development in the class is the enthusiasm for learning our times tables due to competing on the site, *Times Tables Rock Stars*. This has captivated the reluctant students to learn their times tables. It is an expectation that times tables are automatic by the end of Year 4. I am pleased with how the children are dedicated to improving themselves in relation to learning their tables.

Spelling is also an area where the children are keen to do well. The new program that St Mary's is following in the Year 3 and Year 4 class is excellent. It is systematic and teaches the children explicitly the rules and spelling patterns. I have seen excellent development in this area.

Tomorrow is the Book Week Parade, and we are looking forward to dressing up and visiting other classrooms to check out their displays. It is always fun to dress up, and the children just love it. Hopefully we will see some parent faces in the crowd tomorrow at about 9:10.

SLC NEWS

RELIGION

What a lovely evening we had on Monday night, witnessing the strong bond between parent and child. We hope the Puberty Information Night has offered the opportunity to start conversations between yourself and your child. I'm sure your child will continue to have questions as they go through adolescence. We have sent the link through with further videos and information. It would be interesting to get feedback from parents as to how helpful this was.

SKI PROGRAM

Thank you to Mrs O'Connor for offering the opportunity for students to experience learning to develop their skiing skills. This program also requires students to learn to catch up on work, organise their equipment and meet deadlines.

STUDENT TEACHER

We welcome Pip Walpole to our unit as she completes her placement as a pre service teacher. It is always wonderful to have up and coming teachers in our school, they bring fresh ideas, develop new relationships and make us even better teachers.

BLUEARTH

On ski days we have joined the two classes together for Bluearth, which has been a nice change. This week the students reminded me of a great game of nerves of steel – *Precious Stone*. It was great to see the kids encouraging each other and having a red hot go.



SWIMMING

A reminder that we have swimming next week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Students are reminded to have a change of clothes (underwear specifically), wear their bathers under their uniforms as we are first to head to the pool at 8:40. Please make sure students are at school by 8:35 in order to be ready to leave.

Have a great week,

SLC Teachers

SPECIALIST NEWS

SCIENCE

The younger students continued to learn about the water cycle and how important water is in our lives. They also discovered how different animals consumed their water intake in different ways. They conducted an experiment about how water travels through plants.

The MLC students have been learning about light sources and how it travels. The year 3/4s made glasses with different lenses to see how it changed the environment they were in. We had lots of great discussions about light in our world, particularly regarding the sun and moon. The older students continued discussions on the water cycle, water and how it affects soil erosion. They participated in a hands-on activity where they created an ecosystem and placed objects around it to support its integrity when water is placed into it.

Mrs Knobel

PE

Students continue to work on developing their skills and confidence in preparation for the athletics carnival.

Event Reminder: Monday 14th September

VISUAL ARTS

This fortnight, students have continued developing their clay sculptures and build on the skills they have been learning each week. As the clay dries, some pieces develop small cracks or imperfections. This provided a valuable opportunity for students to learn the technique of **reinforcing clay** using additional clay. Students have carefully filled cracks, smoothed uneven areas and continued to build up and refine the forms of their sculptures.

I have been incredibly proud of the way students have embraced this new skill. Their confidence, patience and ability to problem-solve are developing with each lesson, and it has been wonderful to see their sculptures taking shape.

We are hoping to complete the clay stage this week before moving on to **painting and adding colour** in the coming weeks.

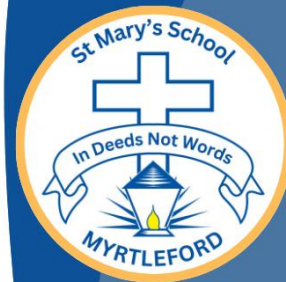
Mrs Ivone

Performing Arts

This term, our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students have been enthusiastically exploring Dance in their Performing Arts lessons. Throughout the unit, students have learned about a variety of dance styles and how movement can be used to express different emotions and tell stories. They have also developed their understanding of choreography by creating and performing simple dance sequences, while considering how an audience responds to a performance.

Students have particularly enjoyed learning several traditional folk dances, building their confidence, coordination and teamwork skills along the way. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and enthusiasm shine through during performances. This week, we will be transitioning into our Drama unit, where students will explore character, movement, voice and storytelling through imaginative play and performance activities. We look forward to sharing more of their learning and achievements in the coming weeks.





St Mary's Primary School

At St Mary's, Transition Days support both **academic** and **social wellbeing** by reducing anxiety and building a sense of **belonging**. They also provide valuable opportunities for staff to get to know students and plan for their individual learning **needs**, ensuring that every child is **welcomed**, **known**, and ready to **thrive** from the very first day of the school year.

Transition Days

Friday 16/10 – 11:30 to 12:30

Friday 23/10 – 11:30 to 12:30

Friday 30/10 – 11:30 to 12:30

Tuesday 10/11 – Information Session at 5:00

Tuesday 17/11 – 9:30 to 10:45

*morning tea for parents/carers

Tuesday 24/11 – 9:30 to 11:00

Tuesday 01/12 – 9:30 to 12:00

**Tuesday 08/12 – Statewide Transition
Day 9:00 to 1:30**



Enrol Today

 03 5752 1808

 www.smmyrleford.catholic.edu.au

 www.facebook.com/stmarysprimarymyrtleford