



St Mary's Newsletter

WELCOME TO WEEK 6

This weekend we began the season of Pentecost - the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit - "Paraclete" has two meanings - "comforter" and "advocate"; they express what the Holy Spirit is for Christians. Pope Francis called for unity in the church and rejection of the ideologies "that divide and separate us," as he celebrated Mass in St. Peter's Basilica on the feast of Pentecost. He told believers worldwide that "the Holy Spirit is telling the Church that today is the time for comforting."

Thank you to all of our families who made arrangements for Friday to allow all staff to take part in our annual Spirituality day. The staff truly enjoyed the experience and learning. We were joined by Maria Forde from Catholic Education Sandhurst who challenged us to think deeply about our Catholic Identity and Vicki Clark who nurtured our understanding of connecting and teaching Aboriginal children. The staff away from school were able to connect and enjoy the learning.

We are now in Week six and the term is quickly passing us by. We have much learning ahead and events to support. Some key events will be our day trip to the Pioneer Settlement on 4th June and our Learning Expo on the last day of term. This week we will have a visit from the school nurse for our Prep Learners. This is a great initiative that can sometimes be very informative. Our teachers have finalised all camps for the year and some year levels we soon be given permissions and detailed information.

Our teachers have now entered the initial stages of reporting. St Mary's readiness for this has been exploring our academic data from 2020, until now. It has been extremely affirming for all in the community to note that our learners and school as a whole is showing growth. We have areas to continue to focus on and areas we would like to extend. Given the uncertain year that we had it is extremely pleasing to know the learning and teaching provided still supported growth and development in our Learners.

Last week 13 Learners attended Swan Hill for the Zone Cross Country. Everyone did exceptionally well, finishing, improving on personal bests and most importantly supporting one another. Well done to Harry Link, Chloe Dehne, Elliza Brown, Tommy O'Mahony, Mac Ryan, Kane Mihailovic, Jim Waitkins, Jack Pollock, Noah Mathers, Charlie Hauser, Kieran Jameson., Bella Douglas and Milla Ryan. An exceptional effort from Bella Douglas who came second and will now compete at St. Arnaud on 1st June - awesome achievement Bella!

This week we welcome some new learners and families to our community. Welcome Indi McInnes and Ryder Cameron. We know our new learners will enjoy our school and community.

God Bless and have a great week!



DATES AHEAD

- 28th May: Whole School Assembly @ 2:20pm
- 31st May: School Nurse to Visit Prep Learners, School Advisory Council Meeting @ 7pm
- 27th - 3rd June: National Reconciliation Week
- 2nd June: Senior Class Mass (Yrs 4 - 6)
- 3rd June: Lightning Premiership (Yrs 4 - 6)
- 4th June: Whole school excursion to the Pioneer Settlement
- 14th June: Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday - No school
- 15th June: Festival of the Sacred @ St Mary's Echuca - 5/6 Learners to attend



St Mary's is a Child Safe School.

We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

A PRAYER

Beatitudes for Parents

Blessed are those parents who make their peace with spilled milk and with mud, for of such is the kingdom of childhood.

Blessed is the parent who engages not in the comparison of his child with others, for precious unto each is the rhythm of his own growth. Blessed are the fathers and mothers who have learned laughter, for it is the music of the child's world.

Blessed and wise are those parents who understand the goodness of time, for they make it not a sword that kills growth but a shield to protect.

Blessed and mature are they who without anger can say "no", for comforting to the child is the security of firm decisions.

Blessed is the gift of consistency, for it is heart's-ease in childhood.

Blessed are the teachable, for knowledge brings understanding, and understanding brings love. Blessed are the men and women who in the midst of the unpromising mundane, give love, for they bestow the greatest of all gifts to each other, to their children, and—in an ever-widening circle— to their fellow men.

Amen

Canteen Special

Ham & Pineapple Pizza

Pita bread base topped with Tomato Pizza Sauce, Ham, Pineapple, & Mozzarella Cheese.

\$5.00 each

*Gluten free available

**Also please make sure you rec'v an e-mail confirmation for ALL canteen orders

PBIS

Respect for Others

We are being mindful of how we speak to one another in tone, words and body language.

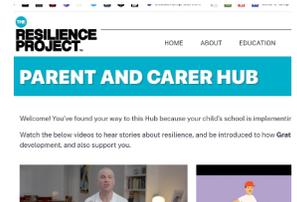


St Mary's acknowledges and pays respects to the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet: the Barrapa Rappa People, and pay respects to elders both past and present.



We welcome our families to the Resilience Project journey and hope you join us by exploring and discussing GEM at home. Please use the link below to get started. We look forward to hearing your feedback and learning throughout the year !

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/parent-and-carer-hub/>





PREP FOR A DAY!

Call Us To Register



COME LEARN WHO WE ARE...

Are you curious about our school? Or maybe you missed our Open evening? Join our Prep for a day on 18th June from 9am - 11am. Your child will take part in Prep learning while you enjoy morning tea and hear all about our school!

Call or email to register:
5456 2062
principal@smcqhuna.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's is excited to announce...

PLAYGROUP IS BACK!

Please join us on Wednesdays throughout the school term from 10am - 11am in the St Mary's playground!

Starting back 12th May 2021

COME PLAY, EXPLORE & CREATE!



Junior School Team

WOW half way already!

We hope you enjoyed the extra day off last week and are well rested for another busy week of learning.

Learners in the Junior School have begun focusing on their final product for our Australian history Inquiry this Term. In Year 2/3 the learners have chosen a topic to focus on and have begun researching facts and details for their information reports, which will take shape in many different forms. This week they will begin researching using out essential questions to guide their research to link with our classroom inquiries. The Prep Ones have been learning all about significant people over the past few weeks and will begin focusing on their favourite to form their individual inquiries.

In individual classrooms:

In Year 1 this week in reading we are focusing on developing our comprehension skills through unpacking our weekly text. We wrote a recount of our weekend on Monday for writing and have been continuing to work on our 'sizzling starts' for our Narratives. In Maths we have been exploring fractions which we have loved! We have had another sensational week in Year 1 and have all been putting our best foot forward!

We have had a busy week in prep this week testing our reading. We are all showing great improvement. The Preps are challenging themselves with their M100W words and are enjoying the opportunity to watch their little character shoot up the M100W ladder. We are so proud of ourselves!

2/3 's have been focusing hard on writing information reports last week about the world wars and have found lots of interesting facts while doing so. In Maths we have been practising our multiplication and division when warming up our brains for Maths making groups of using arrays and dots. We have moved on from Addition to Subtraction and some learners have been focusing on the count up to count back strategy whilst others have been practising their vertical algorithms.



- Pippa Reid 28th May



Senior School Team

We are halfway through the term. Time is flying. We hope you enjoyed the long weekend.

Learners have begun to plan and research their question for their Inquiry investigation. They have created subheadings to match their investigation question. Learners will use their research skills to gather information about their selected topic and create a final production to showcase what they have learnt.

In Maths we are starting to focus on subtraction and using a range of strategies to support learners with solving subtraction equations. Learners will be split into group across both the year $\frac{4}{5}$ and $\frac{5}{6}$ learners space to target their needs and focus on where to next for their individual learning. Learners have been focusing on timetables during our warm up for maths and each learner has an individual times table goal they are focusing on during our timetable warm ups.

In reading we are continuing to focus on Australian History and Abogiringal culture to a line with Reconciliation week coming up and our Inquiry Investigation. Within guided reading learners are focusing on literal and inferred comprehension questions and going beyond the text and thinking about what is the author trying to convey.

In P.E learners have been learning a class dance with the help from Bek Sherlock. Each class will have their own dance and these will be shown at the end of the term. It is great to see so many learners stepping out of their comfort zone and trying something new.

Just a reminder learners will be heading to Cohuna Consolidated on Thursday 27th May for a footy clinic.

Welcome



A warm welcome to Indi McInnes & Ryder Cameron to our senior classroom.