



St Mary's Newsletter

WELCOME TO WEEK 3

What a fabulous day of fun and achievement at our annual swimming sports! It is such a busy day with much going on and we thank all of our families who could come along and support and take part in our day! We could not hold such a fantastic day with out our family support!

Well done to our new Year 5/6 senior leaders who supported their team mates so enthusiastically! You too were a great help to the teachers and the co-ordination of the day! It was impressive to see you take to your new roles with such commitment!

Well done to Carmel who has taken out the 2020 title! It was close with Lourdes coming second and Fatima in third place! It was very close between first and second place so next year will be interesting also! Overall it was most impressive to see all of our Learners swimming improve and the willingness of everyone to have a go!

Thank you to all who attended our 2020 Parent Information evening. It was well attended and we hope informative for you all. Attached to this newsletter is the Communication processes which were discussed on the night. This will also be stored on PAM . We hope that the session holds us all in good stead for a successful year! The teachers really appreciated your attendance and meeting you all!

God Bless - Jasmine Ryan (Principal)



DATES AHEAD

- 12th Feb: Playgroup 10-11am, No Pres today
- 17th Feb: Kerang Zone Swimming
- 19th Feb: No Preps today, Playgroup 10-11am
- 24th Feb: Zone Swimming Heat 2 @ Swan Hill
- 25th Feb: Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Tuesday, Assembly @ 2:20pm
- 26th Feb: Ash Wednesday - Mass @ 12:30pm in the Church
- 4th Mar: Playgroup 10-11am
- 9th Mar: Labour Day - No school
- 11th Mar: Playgroup 10-11am
- 18th Mar: Playgroup 10-11am
- 20th Mar: Harmony Day



St Mary's is a Child Safe School.

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

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Learning Every Day Counts

School Board AGM

16th March @ 7:00pm

Please come along and express your interest in joining our school board Working towards school improvement and achieving goals!

P&F AGM

23rd March @ 7:00pm

Please come along and express your interest in joining our P&F! There are many roles and all are welcome!

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.



PBIS

At St Mary's we believe that all learners, their families and staff have the right to a safe and supportive learning environment.

Our Schools Positive behaviour policy is supported by our Diocesan Positive Behaviour Intervention and Support (PBIS) framework. This framework is based on the fundamentals of;

- Respect for self
- Respect for Others
- Respect for the Environment

PBIS is a positive approach to developing acceptable and cooperative social cultures, supporting all Learners in the school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. PBIS is the teaching initiative used daily.



A PRAYER

This week, I offer up a prayer for all those impacted by the fires in the hope that they will soon all be out and that people can begin to rebuild their homes and lives. I hope we can continue to pray for them over the long months of recovery.

Our heavenly Father, creator of all things and especially the creator of this land and its original peoples, we call out to you in these tough times as fires have swept across many parts of our country. We ask for your care and mercy for those who have lost loved ones, and those who have lost properties in the wake of these terrible fires. Guard those volunteers, rural fire service personnel and emergency services who selflessly volunteer to fight these fires. Guide police and authorities who help evacuate and shelter those who are displaced. Bring comfort and healing to all who suffer loss. We pray that you would open the heavens to send refreshing rain upon our parched land, to quench these fires and to bring life back into the earth, so that crops may grow, farmers may bring forth the harvest of the land again and that our beautiful bush lands and animals can once again flourish. We bring these requests before you Lord, Amen.

PAM - Informing you of medical visits to the sick bay

We now have 'Sick Bay Passes' up and running on Simon. This means that parents will receive a notification on PAM when their child has visited the sick bay. You will receive an email notification informing of the reason for the visit and the treatment that has been provided. You can access all sick passes on you PAM account. Phones calls will still be made to home for any incidents relating to the head.

If you are yet to set up your PAM account and would like assistance please call the office and speak to Alex or come and visit her at the front office on Monday and Tuesday's.





OUR LEARNING

JUNIOR TEAM

This week the Prep - 2 learners have enjoyed participating in swimming. The learners have finished off their swimming program from last years and have completed swimming sports. The Prep learners are settling in well and enjoying their time at school. The Year 1 & 2 learners have enjoyed exploring 'stewardship' and are making connections to 'The Lorax'. We have been making predictions about texts before we read them. In maths we have been counting to 100 and singing a song to help us! We have had a lovely but very busy week.

SENIOR TEAM

Our annual swimming sports carnival was a fantastic end to our second week of school. It was great to see our new sports captains step into their leadership role and set great examples to other learners at St. Mary's. Miss Colbert and Miss Cooke are enjoying getting to know their learners and sharing their holiday experiences through 'Flat Stanley'. Learners are loving the daily 'Boggle' challenge to improve their word work. Miss Santilla is very impressed by all the 5/6 learners settling into their new learning space and being very focused on growing their learning.

The 3-6 learners have been tuning into their Inquiry investigation 'How does our past shape our future?' by exploring the Good Samaritan story. We have all been focusing on growing our understanding of numbers by reading, recognising and investigating the properties. We are all full of energy and ready for the week ahead!

BIRTHDAYS



- Jonty Lucas - 7th February
- Elliot Warren - 10th February
- Lotti Murray - 11th February

Missing T-Ball Shirts

We are missing 2x School T-Ball shirts. If we can get everyone to please have a look at home for these, and return to school ASAP if located. Thank you

Zone Swimming Trails

Congratulations to those learners that have made it through to the Zone Swimming trials on Monday 17th February in Kerang. We wish Jorji Easton, Mackenzie Dobie, Abigail Gray, Joelle Mathers, Mac Ryan, Harry Link, Edie Power, Sam Dobie, Cienna English, Millah Crichton and Milla Ryan all learners the best on Monday.





St Mary's Communication Processes

School Level (Community Communication)

Mode of Communication	Purpose of Communication
St Mary's Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our website is updated regularly with current information, events and promotions • Our community calendar is also embedded here • A variety of policies and procedures can also be found on our website Eg: enrolment, child safe requirements.
School Stream - School App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Mary's predominantly uses our School Stream App for communication alerts eg: changes to a time, event or schedule • School stream also allows parents to log absentees, access newsletters & permission slips • Information regarding uniform, health & wellbeing and our canteen menus can be located here
Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A newsletter is released weekly on a Monday • The newsletter reflects, shares and celebrates all that is happening at school • It will support community advertisements & events • Provides families with current dates & events • The newsletter can be accessed on School Stream, the website & PAM
PAM: Parent Access Module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This private intranet provides each individual child with an account • Each family is provided with a username and log on • PAM shares a weekly organiser of events and daily requirements • PAM also provides access to school policies & procedures, calendars, school links, newsletters and Parent Notified Absence • Parents can access their individual child(rens) attendance records, school reports and update medical records at anytime • Attendance of injury or illness will also be logged on PAM and families will receive an email • St Mary's requires that all families complete their child(rens) medical records annually on PAM
Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group email is used to circulate whole community documents eg: the newsletter • On occasion the email will be used for unexpected reminders
SMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMS is used to inform parents of awards & special roles for assembly
'All About Us' Information Booklet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The All About Us booklet provides general information of how the school operates • This document can be accessed on the website or from the front office • All Prep families are provided with this booklet on enrolment
St Mary's Facebook Page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook is used to promote and market the school • Community events and announcements will be shared here
School Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At varying times throughout the year parents are invited to complete surveys • Surveys are shared digitally & invite parents to share opinion on initiatives & strategies to further school improvement
Parent Discussion Forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent discussion forums are meetings with the Principal / Leadership / School Board will occur at various times throughout the year • These events are small gatherings that invite parents to share informal feedback on school goals, directions & initiatives
Paper Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Mary's aspires to be paperless & environmentally conscious. Minimal paper will be sent home

- Families can request paper access to school communication by contacting the office at the beginning of each year
- St Mary's Administration staff are always available to support families in accessing all digital communication

Classroom Level (Teacher / Parent Communication)

Mode of Communication	Purpose of Communication
1:1 Meetings (Ph: 5456 2062)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are welcome & encouraged to contact the school office or teacher to arrange mutually suitable times for meetings. • 1:1 meetings are preferred to discuss any concerns, issues & changes to an individual's information.
Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are welcome to email teachers for minor communication and operational content. • All teachers will provide their school email addresses at regularly times throughout the year. • Emails are checked and responded to within 48 hours, Monday - Friday. • St Mary's staff will actively use emails between the hours of 8am - 6pm, Monday - Friday during school terms.
Seesaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seesaw provides parents / families with regularly insight and information about life & learning at school. • Each year level has a Blog that can be accessed by families with the QR access code. 3 posts will be made weekly. • Seesaw Journals will celebrate and share the individuals learning journey at school. This page belongs to the individual learner & progresses annually. • People with access to Journals are the teacher, parents / family members who have the QR code from the primary carer. 1 teacher & 1 learner post will be made weekly.
Curriculum Newsletters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A curriculum newsletter is provided at the beginning of each term & provides families with insights to key learning, dates, events and year level based information. • Curriculum newsletters will be sent home in paperform and shared on Seesaw
Formal Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two formal academic & social reports are provided for each learner twice yearly • Reports are sent home in June & December • All learners reports are accessible on individual PAM accounts.
Learning Conversations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning conversations are scheduled in week 9 or 10 of each term • Parent & learner attendance is encouraged • Bookings are made online @ School Interviews
Parent Information Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent information sessions are scheduled at various times throughout the year • The purpose of these meetings is to provide parents with general information about the class / school routines & procedures • At times these session may have a community focus Eg: Learning strategies & supports, school improvement
Learning Expos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Expos celebrate the terms learning journey & achievements • Learning will be shared from a class & individual perspective • Parents & family members are encouraged to attend
Special Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual classes may host special events throughout the year to link a learning occasion with the community • Individual class events will be shared on Seesaw
School Assemblies / Masses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Masses are held approximately once a month & are hosted by an individual class, parent attendance is encouraged • School assembly shares & celebrates the learning that is occurring at school • Assemblies will be hosted by individual classes throughout the year • Assemblies are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month from 2:20pm - 3:00pm & are currently held in the church • Awards are given out at assemblies - parents are notified via SMS if their child is receiving an award

CKFNC ARE SEEKING INTEREST FROM

UNDER 13'S NETBALLERS



With current registered interest we will not have enough numbers to fill an Under 13 reserves side this year.

If you or anyone you know are interested in playing netball this year and are born between 01/01/2007 and 31/12/2009 please come along to the club registration night on Thursday March 5th or contact us for more information.

ANY ENQUIRIES CONTACT GAB FITZPATRICK

PH: 0447 798 956

E: FITZPATRICK.GABRIELLE.L@EDUMAIL.VIC.GOV.AU



NDCH

Northern District Community Health

NDCH-your first port of call in the pursuit of good health!

Smart Device Safety Tips

With so many smart devices now available, it is more important than ever for you to be monitoring your children's safety when online.

Some smart devices include:

- Computer
- Laptop
- Mobile phone
- Smart Watch
- Google Home
- Smart TV



1. Talk openly with your child about their online activity

As soon as your child begins using the internet talk to them about what sites they are using – decide what is appropriate for yourself and your family. Remind them that what they post on the internet is not private.

2. Keep devices where you can see them

You can set your device to 'forget Wi-Fi password' so your children have to ask for the password and you will know when they are online. Come to an agreement that devices cannot be used in bedrooms.

3. Know your parental controls

The SafeSearch Filters feature on Google will block sites with inappropriate content. To turn it on, go to Settings/SafeSearch Filters. Paid options are available for better protection.

4. Teach your children to keep their location private

Public location is available on almost every app, even when you take a photo on your phone it stores the data of where and when it was taken. Location can be turned off by going to settings, then privacy, then location services.

For more tips visit: <https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/blog-10-things-keep-kids-safe-online/>

www.ndch.org.au