



St Mary's Newsletter

WELCOME TO WEEK 1

I hope that all learners and families were able to enjoy the weekend after our first week of schooling. I know for myself, it is always a tough transition from late nights and sleep-ins during the holiday period to setting an alarm and getting up at what feels like 'way-too-early o'clock!'

Thank you to our families who understand the COVID management practices we have in place at St Mary's, and thank you for playing your part in keeping our school as COVID safe as it can be. I don't envy any parent who has to carry out a rapid antigen test on their child twice per week. Thank you also to parents who are keeping their sick and symptomatic learners at home (even those learners who test negative to COVID in the morning). As a community we have to remain vigilant in this area. Any learner (or staff member) at school who is showing symptoms of being sick or ill (headache, coughing, running nose etc.) will be sent home.

Last week staff enjoyed meeting their new classroom learners and have begun setting our school expectations. As many of you are aware, at St Mary's we follow a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) approach where learners focus on respect for self, others and the environment. Our current PBIS focus is around how we behave when going to the toilet. We will continue to focus on different areas of the school as the term progresses.

We all enjoyed our Inquiry Launch last Friday. As I moved around the school, I saw students dancing, sticking their hands in 'mystery boxes', listening to inspirational speeches, creating catapults with marshmallows and skewers and moving cotton balls by blowing through straws! These activities (and many more) were designed to excite and engage students in activities that required the use of our school dispositions. We look forward to continuing our learning around "What makes an effective learner?"

Parents and guardians will soon receive an email from teachers, inviting them to our Parent Information Night. This invitation will be in the form of a Google Meet link. I know staff are looking forward to this night and learning more about the learners in their classrooms. This night will begin at 6:30pm.

And finally, our new staff have written a short piece introducing themselves (see below). We look forward to the relaxation of the current COVID restrictions (as early as Week 5) and meeting our families in person.

Take care and God bless,

Jarrold Mullavey (**Principal**)



Meet some of our new staff!

Tamara Brereton -

Hello to the St Mary's community, my name is Tamara Brereton or you will get to know me as Miss B. This year I have the pleasure of teaching a year ½ classroom and physical education classes to the entire school. I have been teaching in the Sandhurst diocese for the last 12 years and lived and taught in London which allowed me to travel to many amazing parts of Europe. I enjoy spending time outside in my garden or you may find me in a boat fishing, behind a boat water skiing or balancing on my paddleboard with my dog Zoe somewhere along the Murray River.

I look forward to getting to know everyone at St Mary's.

Jodie Tieppo -

Hi my name is Jodie Tieppo and I will be teaching The Arts at St Mary's this year. I have been teaching for the last 20 years and am really excited about starting at St Mary's.

My husband Matthew, my two boys Levi and Kai and myself moved to Koondrook from Melbourne half way through last year. We are loving our new lifestyle. We like getting out in the bush for a bit of fishing and my boys have enjoyed swimming and kayaking at places such as Lake Boga, Lake Charm and here at Cohuna Beach. As a family we love our footy. My husband follows Essendon however, the boys and I are mad Carlton! Go Blues!

I am really looking forward to getting to know everyone.

Raewyn Smith -

Kia ora, my name is Raewyn Smith from New Zealand. Stewart (a teacher) and I have three adorable children. Victoria 10 years, Scarlett 8 and Carlos is 2. I am an experienced Early Years leader and Primary teacher of fourteen years. I have a Bachelor of Teaching and Learning Primary and a Graduate Diploma in Early Years and will continue my studies learning Māori and Indigenous studies.

I have been fortunate to teach and live in some of the most beautiful places in the world including Hong Kong, Brunei Darussalam, London, Indonesia, Nanjing China, New Zealand and now Cohuna! I also am a small business owner 'Culture Club NZ' www.cultureclub.nz.com designing and stocking educational resources incorporating New Zealand's native language Te Reo Māori.

I am a very ambitious, organised, and an effective practitioner promoting a love of learning while supporting student's intellectual curiosity in the classroom. I enjoy working collaboratively and with the greater community. When possible..... I enjoy jogging, the theatre, socialising and swimming.

I thank you for entrusting your child to our Year 1/2 class, I will do my best every day to be your child's guide in learning and development. I look forward to the new school year ahead.

Ngā mihi nui and thank you. Raewyn Smith (Mrs Smith)

Jarrod Mullavey -

Hello St Mary's families and friends, my name is Jarrod Mullavey and I am the new Principal here at St Mary's Cohuna. My wife Georgia and son Patrick and I have recently moved to Cohuna from Melbourne. I grew up in north east Victoria in Rutherglen. I have been teaching for 16 years and love it! My interests include all sports - especially running, footy (Go Saints!), cricket and golf. I enjoy cooking, but I'm not that good at it. I love music but can't play any instruments and I am currently hooked on a couple of Netflix shows! My Catholic faith is very important to me. I spend much of my time outside of school with my family and look forward to getting involved in the parish and local community. Please come up and say hi whenever you get the chance.



A PRAYER

A Blessed are you, Lord God,

Creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways.

At the beginning of this new school year we implore your mercy: bless the students, teachers, and staff of St Mary's, that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus.

Expand the horizons of our minds, that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need. Glory and praise to you, Lord God, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

Amen

Canteen Returns!

Leasa has enjoyed a break over Summer and is back to her busy best in the canteen!

Canteen is now open for orders on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays!

Please note: If your child is absent and has a canteen order placed, please contact the school before 11am on the day so we can cancel this order.



PBIS

Caring for our environment

Our focus for the start of Term 1 is how we behave in the toilets.



Religious Education

The 2022 Theme for Catholic Education Sandhurst limited is "Tell the Good News"

This is related to a longer quote from Mark's Gospel 16:15 "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation". This theme follows on from themes of listening to what the Spirit is asking of us and faith in our future. It also aligns with the theme of Catholic Youth Day "Stand Up".

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.



Canteen supply delays.

Unfortunately we are experiencing delays with Sippah Straws at the moment. I will update availability as soon as possible.

Junior School Team

It was so good to see all the smiling and excited faces back at school this week. It has been so much fun getting to know each other and we look to build our relationships each day. The Juniors began the year with testing that allows us to understand where each of our learners are academically. This testing involved Maths, Spelling, Reading and Writing assessments.

On Friday the real fun with learning began when learners participated in our Whole School Inquiry Launch! We were dancing, exploring mystery boxes and having lots more fun experiences, all whilst learning how to put our St Mary's School Dispositions into action!

This term we are learning about what makes an effective learner. We drew self portraits to show what makes me 'me!'

At Friday Briefing we learned how to care for our school environment - we are currently focusing on the toilet area!



- Cienna English 1st January
- Letti Friedberger 1st January
- Dan Murray 2nd January
- Nate Hipwell 5th January
- Willow Bolch 6th January
- Brooklyn Beattie 9th January
- Olly Martin 14th January
- Allegra Toll 21st January
- Ryder Cameron 23rd January
- Lachlan Symons 24th January
- Seth Hogan 29th January
- Levi Nicholson 31st January
- Victoria Smith 31st January
- Aesha Bisset 2nd February
- Brock Mitton 3rd February

Senior School Team

Welcome back to school for 2022! We are so excited to have all the learners back on site, and have enjoyed hearing about their holiday adventures. We are all feeling refreshed and ready for a great year of learning.

Thanks to all of the learners for putting their best effort into their testing over the last week; it really helps us get an idea of where to begin with our teaching for the year ahead.

Learners have been settling into their new learning spaces, getting to know where everything is and helping to create some beautiful displays to personalise their learning space.

On Friday we had our Inquiry Launch, introducing our topic for this term, 'What makes an effective learner at St. Mary's?' The learners participated in a range of activities to get them excited and motivated to learn about how they can become an effective learner.





FOOTBALL PROGRAMS
KERANG SWAN HILL

WEDNESDAY 23RD OF FEB 4.30-5.30 KERANG FOOTBALL OVAL	TUESDAY 1ST OF MARCH 4.30-5.30 SWAN HILL REC RESERVE
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8-12 YEARS OF AGE BOYS
HAVE SOME FOOTBALL FUN AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2022 SEASON

REGISTER USING THE LINK OR SCAN THE QR CODE
<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/d3f3f1>



ANY QUIRES PLEASE CONTACT
 DAVID.ALDERUCCIO@AFL.COM.AU



COME AND TRY FEMALE FOOTY!

KERANG SWAN HILL

WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB 4.30-5.30 - KERANG OVAL 8-14 YEARS OF AGE	TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 4.30-5.30 - SWAN HILL REC 8-14 YEARS OF AGE
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QR CODE 8-12 YEAR OLDS QR CODE 13-14 YEAR OLDS

REGISTER USING THE LINK OR SCAN QR CODE
<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/827df0> 8-12 YEAR OLDS
<https://forms.office.com/r/5BaNe2BFb7> 13-14 YEAR OLDS




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Kangas Junior Netball

CKFNC are seeking interest from all junior netballers

- 18 & Under • 16 & Under • 14 & Under • 12 & Under •

Current Kangas or new players looking to join, we are seeking interest for season 2022!! Girls from 10yrs up and of all abilities encouraged and very welcome.

Why join the Kangas:

- For fun and fitness
- For great competition
- To build freindships
- To develop social skills
- To create long lasting memories

More info to come regarding Preseason Training and Registration dates



COACHES ALSO WANTED!!

For more information or to confirm playing interest for 2022 Please contact Gab Fitzpatrick 0447798956 or Kim Lister 0428557473

TERM 1 DATES:

Term 1 Dates:

Week 3

7th Feb - SAC Meeting 7pm

9th Feb - Prep Rest Day #2

- Parent Information Night 6:30pm (via Google Meet)

10th Feb - Curriculum Newsletter (sent home)

Week 4

14th Feb - P&F Meeting 6:30pm (online)

15th Feb - PSG's

16th Feb - Prep Rest Day #3

18th Feb - School Closure Day (Staff attending Visible Learning Professional Development)

Week 5

22nd Feb - PSG's

23rd Feb - Prep Rest Day #4

Week 6

1st March - Shrove Tuesday

2nd March - Ash Wednesday Mass 12:30pm (Preps attend today)

4th March - Clean Up Australia Day

- Assembly (Grade 6's to lead)

6th March - (Sunday) Cohuna Bridge to Bridge

Week 7

9th March - Resilience Project Parent Information Night (Webinar)

Week 8

14th March - Labour Day Holiday

Week 9

21st March - Harmony Day

Week 10

29th March - Learning Conversations (12:30-7:30pm)

1st April - Assembly (Grade 5's)

Week 11

6th April - Learning Expo

8th April - Term 1 ends (2:15pm)

