



St Mary's Newsletter

TERM 4, WEEK 11

Here it is, our final newsletter of the year as we head into our final week for our learners. Sunday's Gospel (Mk1:1-8) shows us the role of John the Baptist fulfilling the prophecy of 'preparing the way of the Lord.' As we lead into Christmas we too are called to prepare for the coming of Jesus by walking a little slower, speaking a little softer and loving unconditionally. Even as we wait in hope for 'new heavens and a new earth,' there is still work for us to do.

Last week our Preps, Yr1's and Yr2's walked to the nursing home at the hospital and spread some Christmas cheer by singing carols to the residents. We will continue to link in with these residents in 2024. Our Yr6's enjoyed celebrating their primary schooling at their Big Day Out in Echuca. And Mrs Fry hosted the final Playgroup of the year. I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Julianne for all the work she puts in week after week to ensure our playgroup program is of such a high quality! Also Leasa Edge has been arriving at school early every Thursday to meet with Julianne and help with the set up. Thank you ladies!!

We have a big final week to finish off 2023. On Monday, Miss Dennis is hosting a 'bus party' to reward our bus travelers for their good behaviour traveling to and from school each day. Mr Mann is taking whole school dress rehearsals for our Christmas concert. Tuesday is our Community Step Up Day where all learners will 'graduate for the day' and meet their 2024 teachers. We will 'release' the learners' School Reports on SIMON also on Tuesday. On Wednesday we begin our day with our Christmas Concert (from 10am) and celebrate our End of Year Mass and BBQ together from 6pm - we may even receive a visit from Santa. It would be great to see as many families as possible attend these events. On Thursday we have our whole school Pool Party (11:30am-2:30pm) followed by Yr6 Graduation dinner at 6:30pm. And on Friday (if we have any petrol left in our tanks!) our Yr6's will host a Colour Run and then enjoy their traditional water fight before we finish at 3:15pm!! The Colour Run will be for all learners and will be optional. If your child/ren would like to participate please send them to school with a set of old clothes they can change into for the Colour Run. The run will take place at 12:40pm. Staff will return the following week for 2024 planning and staff's last day will be Wednesday 20th Dec.

This year we will farewell one staff member; Tess Warrington. Tess stepped in earlier this year when we were short staffed in the Yr5/6 area. She continued at our school in the role of Art teacher for the final 2 terms of the year. We thank Tess for her contributions to our school and wish her all the best in the future.

Next year we will welcome Carla Walker to our staff. Carla and her husband Josh are originally from Ballarat and have spent the last year traveling Australia with their two daughters in their bus! Carla will take over the P.E. role (Chloe Adams will move back into the classroom) and I am thrilled to announce that she will also teach our learners Auslan (sign language used by the majority of the Australian Deaf Community). Auslan will replace Italian as our 'Language Other Than English' (LOTE) subject. We also look forward to welcoming Carla's and Josh's daughters Amersyn (Yr1) and Amaeley (Yr4) into our learner community.

I am very excited to announce that Alex Douglass will also join our team next year, in the role of Learning Support Officer (teacher aide). Alex is highly qualified and skilled in early childhood education and her calm and kind nature will make her a real asset to our school. As Bella graduates to high school at the end of this year, Tilly will be joined by Brooks, meaning that Alex and Tim will have all their kids at school in 2024! Alex will work alongside Zoe Dennis in the Yr6 class.

We are delighted that Sarah Vevers will return (part time) following maternity leave. Sarah will teach the Specialist class of STEAM across all year levels and is very excited about doing so.

Part of Kayla Williams' role next year will be to lead our staff in the area of curriculum development and implementation. Kayla will focus on improving teaching and learning across our school and implementing initiatives from our strategic plan.

2024 STAFFING & CLASS STRUCTURE

2024 Staffing and Class Structure

We will operate again with 6 classes in 2024. Our class and staff structure will be:

Prep - Graecen Cartwright (Tues-Fri), Kayla Williams (Mon) and Julianne Fry

Yr1/2 - Meg Cooke and Leasa Edge

Yr2/3 - Meaghan Lamb (Mon-Wed), Georgia Mullavey (Thurs-Fri)

Yr4 - Lily Beer and Julie McLoughlan

Yr5 - Chloe Adams (Mon-Wed), Marie Kelly (Thurs-Fri) and Sally Fields

Yr6 - Zoe Dennis and Alex Douglass

Auslan - Carla Walker

Music - Matt Mann

STEAM - Sarah Vevers

P.E. - Carla Walker

Leading Curriculum - Kayla Williams

Literacy Support and Intervention - Angie Jones

Well being - Janine Fletcher

Chaplain - Leiza Mathers

Office Admin - Jenny Barry (Tues-Fri) and Stacey Patterson (Mon-Tues)

Principal - Jarrod Mullavey

Parish Priest: Fr Dean Bongat

I would like to finish off by thanking our parent community for their support throughout the year. We have managed staff shortages, the impact of floods and COVID waves as well as the odd case of gastro or flu, not to mention all the challenges that come with school life. The staff and I have always felt the support of our school families and have enjoyed working in partnership with you to educate our children. I would like to thank Brent and the School Advisory Council for their guidance and the Parents and Friends Committee for their support at numerous school events. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe Summer break. I will share more information towards the end of the week regarding our start back in 2024.

Take care and God bless,
Jarrod Mullavey (Principal)

<u>St Mary's Cohuna Families - Term 4- 2023</u>	
Week	Dates & Items
10	•
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 12th Dec - St Mary's Feast Day/End of Year mass @ 6pm WED 13TH DEC • Thurs 14th Dec - Learner Pool Party! • Thurs 14th Dec - Yr6 Graduation @ Tavern • Fri 15th Dec - Learner's last day of 2023
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon 18th Dec - Staff professional development • Tues 19th Dec - Staff 2024 planning • Wed 20th Dec - Staff last day • Wed 20th Dec - CES Ltd office closes for 2023

A PRAYER

A Prayer for Holidays

"Thank you for all of the beauty and joy and wonder of the holidays. Bring sweet moments into the hard days. Show your fingerprints and signs of your faithfulness and goodness."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



11TH DEC
CHARLIE GRILLS

12TH DEC
ADA WILLIAMS

15TH DEC
MILLIE DOBIE

19TH DEC
NATHAN
MIHAIOVIC

23RD
ABRAHAM
MATTHEWS

HOLIDAY BIRTHDAYS



1ST JAN LETTI FRIEDBERGER
2ND JAN DAN MURRAY
5TH JAN NATE HIPWELL
9TH JAN BROOKLYN BEATTIE
12TH JAN XAVIER RAFFAUT
13TH JAN THEO WILSON
14TH JAN OLLY MARTIN
29TH JAN SETH HOGAN

JUNIOR SCHOOL

**ENJOY A WELL DESERVED BREAK, WISHING YOU A
HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
PREP YEAR 1 & YEAR 2**



SENIOR SCHOOL

Marley

As a year six this week has been super fun!

For math we have been learning about Coordinates. Very interesting when you do 4 quadrants.

In inquiry we are doing a play about a modern version of the story of the Three wise men, Mary, Joseph, Eric, Kenny, Three street ballers, Message angel and Barry.

Next week on Wednesday we are performing the play! I'm a part of the set crew so I will be helping change the backdrops and props.

One very tiring part of this week was the Year Six Big Day Out, going to Echuca swimming and getting Mcdonalds, KFC or fish and chips, but no one got fish and chips.

After eating we made the grave mistake of going to the playground. Running, spinning and so many more things.

The bus back from Echuca was spent with all the year six girls singing no, screaming songs that played on the speakers.

During the week we made gingerbread houses. I was in a group with izzy and it was eventful because it started with a mansion, then a small house, then a village and then we ended with a pizza.

I think this week was an amazing second last week, can't wait for the next!!!!

From the Senior Team we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday, and a very Merry Christmas.

COMMUNITY NEWS



PLEASE JOIN US FOR



END OF YEAR

Massey

FOLLOWED BY BBQ

Wednesday, December 13th, @ 6pm
St. Mary's Church

A - K Families to bring a SWEET
L - Z Families to bring a SALAD

RSVP via School Stream



Hello December

SPECIAL EVENTS

26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 5 Year 6 - St. Joseph's Echuca Step Up Day
- 7 Year 6 - Big Day Out
- 12 Community Step Up Day
- 13 Christmas Performances
- 13 St. Mary's Feast Day & End of Year Mass
- 14 Pool Party & Year 6 Graduation
- 15 Learner's Last Day
- 20 Staff's Last Day



STOP MOTION ANIMATION WORKSHOP

With Elaine Keely

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN
3hr CREATIVE WORKSHOP FOR KIDS

Beginners Class

Thursday 11th January 9.30am - 12.30

Learn the basics of this creative medium.

Ages 8-12yrs Places limited

COST \$10 per child - Materials supplied
(iPads and iMotion App Required)



COHUNA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
The Heart of Our Community

TO BOOK
Call Cohuna Neighbourhood House
5456 4666

IMPORTANT DATES



Important Dates for the rest of the 2023 year

Pupil Free Day - Fri 24/11

Swimming Program/Week begins - Mon 27/11

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Yr3's) - Thurs 30/11

Yr6 Big Day Out - Thurs 7th Dec

Community Step Up Day - Tues 12/12

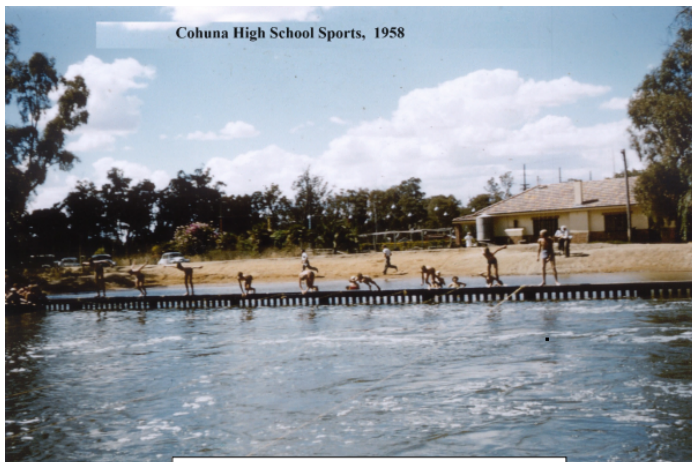
Christmas Performances - Wed 13/12

St Mary's Feast Day and End of Year Mass - Wed 13/12 (new date)

Yr6 Graduation - Thurs 14/11

Learner's last day - Fri 15/12

Staff's last day - Wed 20/12



Cohuna High School Sports, 1958

Photo courtesy Cohuna & District Historical Society

January 2024

Starts 8th January

Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

All ages and abilities.

Contact Geoff

Email. geoffdale29@gmail

Phone 0428563395

For information and enrolment form

**Mrs Mac's
EGGS FOR SALE
\$3.00**



COHUNA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

CAROLS IN THE PARK

20TH DECEMBER 6PM

BYO:

**CHAIR, SNACKS,
ALCOHOL**

SHOUT OUTS



A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER GARDENERS VAL AND PETE (LAINIE AND LEVI'S GRANDPARENTS) FOR COMING INTO HELP PLANT VEGGIES IN OUR GARDEN..



**A BIG THANK YOU
TO TIM FOR
CUTTING DOWN
OUR STUMPS**

The St Vincent de Paul Society is an international organisation operating in 153 countries and has over 800,000 members worldwide. The Society has a presence on every continent in the world with the exception of Antarctica perhaps. Mrs Mathers in her role as chaplain at our school is also a St Vinnies Kerang member. She is able to assist families with food vouchers or other resources that families require. You can make appointments to see her if a need arises. Please do not hesitate to contact the school.

"Helping one person may not change the whole world, But it could change the world for one person."

God Bless Mrs Mathers



Book Club

1. Your child will bring home a Book Club catalogue from school
2. Discuss with, and help your child pick the books they would like to read
3. Order online via the Scholastic Australia LOOP website or app and the school will take care of the rest! (LOOP orders are electronically linked to your school in an easy, secure online process)
4. The books are delivered to your child's classroom.

LOOP is the easy way for families to order and pay for Book Club.

Log in, or create a new account at scholastic.com.au/loop

1. If you are new to Book Club, follow the Wizard to set up your profile
2. Click the ORDER tab, and select your school and child's class
3. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
4. Enter the product item number shown on the Book Club catalogue
5. Make payment via credit card

SCHOLASTIC

Prep/1
Year1/2
Year3/4 LK
Year 3/4 B
Year 5/6 WM
Year 5/6 D.

LOGIN DETAILS

SCHOOL: St Marys School

SCROLL to Cohuna

Note: No cash please pay through Loop



School Term Dates 2023:
Term 1: 27th Jan - 6th Apr
Term 2: 24th Apr - 23rd Jun
Term 3: 10th Jul - 15th Sep
Term 4: 2nd Oct - 20th Dec

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.

