



St Mary's Newsletter

TERM 4, WEEK 10

I was moved by the scenes at Sunday's St Patrick's Pyramid Hill celebration. It was a clear look at the impact a Catholic school has on its local community. It was heartening to see so many people attend the event and talk about the impact schools like St Pat's have on those involved. It's a small school that has a big heart. Please keep their community in your thoughts and prayers over the coming weeks as they finish up and close the doors for the last time.

We have our biggest week of the year this week! Today (Monday) our Yr5 students presented their leadership speeches in the hope of obtaining a 'titled leadership position' at school next year. Every student in Yr6 is looked at as a leader by their school mates and that's the expectation we teachers place on them too. We will announce those successful students (but not their specific roles) at our End of Year Mass later in the week. On Tuesday 10th December we will hold our 'Step Up Day' where students will spend the day in their 2025 classes, with their 2025 teachers. Staff have spent many hours arranging classes so that our students have a successful 2025. This is often a day of anxious, nervousness for all involved, so please keep an eye on your children and let us know if we need to provide any 'added support' during this time. On Wednesday 11th Dec we will celebrate the Graduation of our Year 6 class at the Tav. Thanks to Nerissa, Jess, Miss Dennis and Miss Douglass for their preparation. On Thursday 12th Dec we will host our End of Year Mass and BBQ. Mass will begin at 6pm and include our end of year awards. Everyone is invited over to school following mass where the Lions Club will cook a free BBQ, and we may even get a visit from Santa!! We ask that families bring a plate to share. Can families with a surname beginning with A-K please provide a salad, and can families L-Z please provide a sweet. BYO picnic blankets, chairs, drinks etc.

Please ensure that all Christmas hamper items are brought into class by Wednesday 11th Dec. We need all raffle tickets in by this date also (which is a 2-day extension from the previously asked date).

Thank you to Tanya who was able to help us out covering literacy resource books for next year – we only have about 15 boxes to go!!

It has come to that time of the year again when we need to say thankyou and goodbye to our departing staff.

Lily Beer will finish up with us at the end of the year. Lily has taught at St Mary's for the previous 2 years, and has been an asset to our staff. I'm sure any parent who has had a child in Lily's class will agree that she is a classroom teacher of the highest quality. Lily is always well planned and prepared and knows exactly where each of her students sit academically and how they're traveling emotionally. Lily has a real maturity about her teaching which is incredible for someone in the early years of her career. We wish Lily all the very best in her future endeavors.

Unfortunately, the travel from Bendigo has finally taken its toll on Mr Mann. At the beginning of 2023 Matt offered to come up from Bendigo twice per week to help out teaching Music for one term. Matt fell in love with the school, staff and more to the point - the kids. His one term position turned into 2 fabulous years. Many people don't know that Matt was a principal in Bendigo for close to 20 years and brought all that experience, and passion for teaching, to our school. We are all the better for having been around Matt and it won't just be the sounds of guitar that we miss, it will be Matt's kindness, knowledge and friendship that he has brought to our school over the past 2 years! Thank you so much Matt!

Georgia Mullavey will conclude her time at St Mary's Cohuna. Georgia is currently on maternity leave and had planned to return to teaching at St Mary's some stage in the future - however won't be able with our move to Sacred Heart. Georgia is excited about the move to Yarrawonga, but sadden to leave behind the friendships she has made with staff, students and families. I know Georgia has loved teaching the students at St Mary's and is very appreciative of the way our family has been supported during our 3 years here.

And lastly, Marie Kelly has made the difficult decision to move on from St Mary's Cohuna after serving our school for 28 years ... that is not a misprint - 28 years! Many of our teachers weren't even born when Marie began teaching! I am excited at the thought of how many young lives Marie has had a positive influence on during this time! Marie is the type of teacher (and person) that we should aim to emulate. She is kind, patient, faith-filled and generous. Marie understands what counts in education and what is just a fad (because she's seen many come and go in her years in schools). Our St Mary's Community will forever be indebted to Marie and we wish her all the very best in her move to St Joseph's Kerang next year (2mins from home!). Congratulations Marie!

I am absolutely thrilled (and a bit sad that I won't be here to work with him) to announce that Chris Distefano will join our team at St Mary's next year. Chris is a local who has a vast amount of teaching experience all over the globe. Most recently Chris spent 2024 teaching at St Patrick's Pyramid Hill. Chris enjoys all sports and has expertise in teaching with technology and a passion for STEAM. Chris will be a full-time classroom teacher at our school in 2025. Please be sure to welcome Chris and his partner Bec when you get the opportunity.

Meaghan Lamb will return from Maternity leave in Term 2. Meaghan and Will have been very busy raising Billie (6 months) with the help of Charlie of course!! We are all looking forward to the return of Meaghan, we have missed her dearly.

Tomorrow I will share the complete teaching 'line-up' including our 2025 class structure and Specialists programs. We will maintain 6 classes, keeping class sizes small.

Just a reminder that we will hold our Christmas Carols Concert on the morning of the last day of the year Wednesday 18th Dec. Carols will begin at 10am and will take roughly an hour and a half. School will finish at 3:15pm (the usual time) on this day.

Take Care

Jarrold Mullavey

Principal

St Mary's Cohuna families - Term 4- 2024



10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mon 9th Dec - Yr5 Leadership speeches ● Mon 9th Dec - Christmas Raffle items and tickets due in today ● Tues 10th Dec - Community Step Up Day ● Wed 11th Dec - School Christmas Carols @ 2pm ● Wed 11th Dec - Yr 6 Graduation Night @ The <u>Tav</u> ● Wed 11th Dec - Christmas Raffle items and tickets due in today (new date) ● Thurs 12th Dec - End of Year Mass and BBQ ● Fri 13th Dec - Prep Transition # 8
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mon 16th Dec - Pool Party!! ● Mon 16th Dec - Reports go home ● Wed 18th Dec - School Christmas Carols @ 10am (new time and date) ● Wed 18th Dec - Learner's last day - 3:15pm finish ● Thurs 19th Dec - Staff strategic planning day ● Fri 20th Dec - Last day of the school year!



Attendance Matters

ARE YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE???

Please contact the office of any changes to your details!!!

PLEASE ADVISE THE OFFICE OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES OR PHONE NUMBERS FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY PLEASE.



WEEK 1
Hope

Reminds us... Jesus is coming

Bible Verse
Romans 15:12-13

WEEK 2
Peace

Reminds us... To prepare the way of the Lord

Bible Verse
Luke 2:14

WEEK 3
Joy

Reminds us... The joy at the coming birth of Jesus

Bible Verse
Luke 2:10

WEEK 4
Love

Reminds us... of the gift of God's love, Jesus.

Bible Verse
Luke 2:11

PRAYER



Lord, let us hear your voice so that we may open the gate of our hearts for you. Draw us to the pathways of life. May others then see us as a safe gateway leading to abundant life.
Amen



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AMARLEE WARREN 7TH DEC

REX POWER 9TH DEC

EMMA NICHOLSON 10TH DEC

CHARLIE GRILLS 11TH DEC

ADA WILLIAMS 12TH DEC

SAMYAK RANA 13TH DEC

MILLIE DOBIE 15TH DEC



How to access BorrowBox

Your children may have come home asking about BorrowBox last week, after meeting Stig Weymess, an audio narrator. Here are the steps to follow...

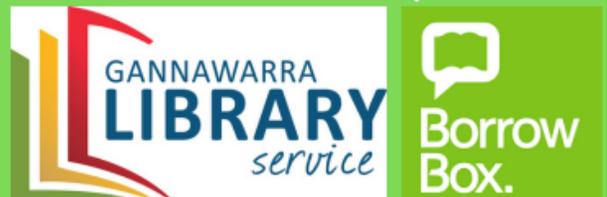


1. Join your local public library at this link or by visiting your closest library branch <https://www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/Libraries>
2. Install the BorrowBox app on your device
3. Select your library service
4. Activate with your library membership
5. Borrow free eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobooks!

Start by searching 'Stig' to see the titles available!

To borrow physical items (i.e. books, magazines etc), you must come to the library branch in-person to complete your membership, but if joining for online use only, you can complete the Online membership request which gives you access to any of the E-Library resources available!

Tip: Check your spam folder for the 'Welcome' email as sometimes they go there



School Term Dates 2024:

Term 2: 15th Apr - 28th Jun

Term 3: 15th Jul - 20th Sept

Term 4: 7th 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.



St. Mary's

PREP ENROLMENTS

NOW OPEN

School tours available daily!
Contact the office
(03) 5456 2062




Check for the 10c mark

DONATE YOUR DRINK CONTAINERS TO COHUNA ST MARY'S SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

EVERY CONTAINER YOU RECYCLE CAN EARN 10c FOR OUR CAUSE

We are raising funds for:
GARDEN GREEN HOUSE



IMAGINE THE FUN

Join Woolworths Cricket Blast
Designed for kids to learn skills, exercise, and make friends.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Play Cricket

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY Woolworths CRICKET AUSTRALIA



JUNIOR PATHWAY

From Woolworths Cricket Blast through the Junior Cricket stage, all kids can advance their skills and discover how awesome it is to be part of a team through fun game-based activities. The stages have been developed based on academic research, testing and community feedback.

This includes consideration for physical, mental and emotional development. Participation and progression through the stage is based on ability level, therefore the ages are indicative only. Players are encouraged to participate at a stage appropriate for them.

Woolworths Cricket Blast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SHALL BE FIRST FREE TO ALL CHILDREN LEARN THE SKILLS THROUGH FUN, PROGRESSIVE GAMES STRONG FOCUS ON JUNIOR CRICKET 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEARN THE SKILLS THROUGH FUN, PROGRESSIVE GAMES UP TO 10 YEARS 	
JUNIOR CRICKET 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 PLAYERS NO PRICE 30 MIN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 MIN BOWLING 10 MINUTE GAMES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEARN THROUGH PLAY UNDER 10
JUNIOR CRICKET 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 PLAYERS UNIFORM 30 MIN GAMES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 MIN BOWLING 15 MINUTE GAMES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLAYING THE GAME UNDER 10
JUNIOR CRICKET 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 PLAYERS NO UNIFORM 30 MIN GAMES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 MIN BOWLING 15 MINUTE GAMES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLAYING AND COMPETING UNDER 14-16

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY Woolworths CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Play Cricket



If anyone is interested in joining in saying the Rosary on a Wednesday morning at 10am please contact

Donna 0431 737 790.




SATURDAY JUNIOR PROGRAM

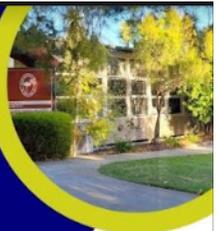
Are you a Junior keen on playing Tennis this year?
 Starting **26th September 2024**. Every Saturday Morning, 9:00am - 10:30am
 The first three sessions are **FREE!**
 No need to register for the first three sessions — just turn up and have fun!
 After three sessions, membership is only \$60 for the season.
 Program runs throughout:

- Term 4, 2024
- Term 1, 2025

Come and Try!

All abilities welcome – come join the fun, learn new skills, and make new friends!

**Contact Cohuna Lawn Tennis Club on FB,
 Jason Hensley: 0429 428 084 or cohunatennisclub@gmail.com**

School Saving Bonus

Enrol for 2025 by 18th of October 2024

\$400 School Saving Bonus

Enrol now

Actions for parents and carers

Before 18 October 2024, parents and carers are asked to:

- Complete enrolment: Starting Year 7 or changing school
- Check your contact information: Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you:

- in October, to verify your email address
- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus and access to an online system



GEOFF SWIM SWIMMING LESSONS

PRE SCHOOL - SCHOOL AGE

FOR ALL
AGES

3
WEEKS

30 MIN
LESSONS

WHERE: Cohuna Pool

WHEN: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Starting Monday 6th January 2025

BOOK - Phone: Geoff 0428 563 395
Email: geoffdale29@gmail.com



Geoff Swim

Swimming Lessons and Coaching

Pre School - School age -

Cohuna Swimming Pool

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Starting Monday 6th January

3 Weeks

Phone Geoff Dale 0428 563395

Email. geoffdale29@gmail.com



SWIMMING LESSONS AVAILIABLE
AT THE LEITCHVILLE POOL

OPEN TO AGES 5 - 12



contact me via message if your interested on
0408804131

providing name and age of children that you
would like enrolled
more details to come.

Deadline for
enrolment is
Friday the 22nd
of November

Marli Easton

Use our Online Store

Any device, any time!



How to get started



Say hello to a cash-free solution

Visit <https://smcohuna.cdfpay.org.au> or scan the QR code below to order online today!





Executive Director

27 November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

My name is Kate Fogarty, Executive Director of Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd, and I'm excited to introduce a new program, **Magnify Sandhurst**, which will begin in January 2025 across all CESL schools. This initiative is based on the latest research in educational practices and designed to create a learning environment where each child can thrive academically and grow personally within our Catholic values.

What is Magnify Sandhurst?

Magnify Sandhurst combines evidence-based practices in teaching and learning to support each student's unique needs, strengths, and goals. This program will focus on strengthening core areas like literacy and numeracy, building supportive classroom environments, and integrating Catholic values in daily learning.

Key Features of Magnify Sandhurst

Magnify Sandhurst aims to enhance learning outcomes through several key components:

- **Structured and Evidence-based Learning:** Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding. A low-variance curriculum provides students with a consistent learning experience and reduces the amount of preparation and planning required by teachers, allowing teachers to focus on individual student needs.
- **Amplifying Literacy and Numeracy:** Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus will be on Structured Literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.
- **Instructional Coaching for Teachers:** Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs.
- **Calm Classrooms and Positive Learning Environments:** Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning.

Key Changes for Your Child

Magnify Sandhurst, you will see:

- **Streamlined Curriculum:** Teachers will implement a clear and structured curriculum that prioritises essential knowledge and skills to reduce unnecessary complexity.
- **Personalised Learning Support:** Every teacher will work with a coach to apply the latest techniques for meeting individual student needs, helping all students—whether they excel or need additional support.

How You Can Be Involved

Education is a partnership, and we encourage you to stay engaged in your child’s journey with us. Here’s how:

- **Participate in Learning Conversations:** Look forward to regular updates on your child’s learning milestones. We aim to keep you informed and involved every step of the way.
- **Access Your Child’s Learning Data:** Throughout the year, you will have opportunities to review your child’s progress, including assessment results, so you can stay connected to their academic growth.

Looking Ahead

Magnify Sandhurst will be introduced across 2025 to 2027, with each phase designed to bring measurable improvements in our learning environments. We are committed to making this journey meaningful for every child and every family, ensuring that learning is both challenging and supportive.

Thank you for your support as we embark on this exciting journey together!

Peace and blessings,



Kate Fogarty
Executive Director, Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited.