

St. Mary's Primary School is committed to the safety and welfare of all children, within a secure environment. All children have a right to be treated with respect and to be protected from abuse and harm

St. Mary's School Newsletter



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We acknowledge and pay respect to the Jaara people as the original and ongoing custodians of the land we meet on.

We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.



“The Lord waits for you to come to Him so He can show you His love and compassion” - Isaiah 30: 18

Term 1 - Thursday, 12th March 2020

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

In our last newsletter, I spoke about how Lent can be seen as a 'spring clean' opportunity - an opportunity to throw out bad habits and fill our lives with acts that improve our lives and the lives of those around us. Over the weekend, while I was resting on the couch with my cold (no, nothing more sinister), I came across an interesting article about how parents can really embrace the season of Lent as a time to change.

The article speaks about a 3 step action process for parents, which reflects the 3 pillars of Lent - *Fasting, Almsgiving and Prayer*.

Step 1: Let go of a bad habit - As parents, we all have habits that annoy those we are closest to. If I asked my kids what mine would be, I'm sure they would say 'nagging'. Take this opportunity to rid yourself of a bad habit that you have, that has a grip on your life.

Step 2: Strengthen a good habit - Take a moment to think about 3 good habits that you have as a parent. Maybe you are calm in the face of a storm or you have a great sense of humour that is appreciated by everyone. Choose one of your strengths and make a commitment to use it everyday during Lent.

Step 3: Ask God to lead you - This one is simple - Every morning, first thing, ask God to help you be a better mum or dad. You have a wonderful gift from God - being a parent.

Practise Lent, right where you are. It's where God is waiting for you.

Marg

March

Fri 13th	P&F Trivia Night
Tues 17th	Crazy Hair Day
Wed 18th	Tuning Into Kids - Session 3
Thurs 19th	AGM - School Advisory Board All Welcome
Wed 25th	Gym/Swimming - Grades 3-6
Fri 27th	End of Term 1 2.30pm finish Assembly - 2pm

April

Mon 13th	Easter Monday Public Holiday
Wed 15th	School Photos
Tue 28th	Gr 5/6 Student Leadership



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RE News & Prayer for the Week with Mrs Brohm

This week through Project Compassion, we learn about Phany (pronounced Parn-ee). Struggling to earn a living as a farmer in Cambodia, Phany was forced to leave her daughter behind in the village to take up construction work in the city. Thankfully, through a Caritas funded program, Phany learnt new farming techniques which enabled her to get a better yield from her vegetable crops and to conserve water in her drought-stricken region. Phany's community also took part in training in health, nutrition, hygiene and disaster preparedness, arming them with better strategies to cope with environmental changes.

*Let's Go Further, Together! Please support the Project Compassion:
lent.caritas.org.au*

PRAYER

God of all peoples and nations,
As you accompany us on
our Lenten journey,
May our fasting strengthen our
commitment to live in solidarity,
Our almsgiving be an act of justice,
And our prayers anchor us
in love and compassion.
Awaken our hearts and minds that
we may be one human family
As we all go further together.
We ask this in Jesus' name,
Amen

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER
 Caritas AUSTRALIA End poverty
Promote justice
 Uphold dignity
LENT.CARITAS.ORG.AU

World's Greatest Shave

It's efforts like this one that brings a smile to the faces of so many. Ryder Smith and his dad, Andrew, are taking part in the World's Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundation. Both of them will have their heads shaved in Inglewood tomorrow - Friday 13th March.

I have also heard that Andrew's beard may also be coming off if they raise enough!

To support this wonderful commitment, please visit

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/rydersmith1>

The Grade 3-6 students will be walking into town to watch this all take place. Next week, we will be having a "Crazy Hair Day" to raise money for Ryder. This will take place next Tuesday 17th March. Students can come with crazy hair styles and coloured hair spraying will be available at school. Students will need to make a donation to wear this hairstyle - we are not putting a price on this, as the amount can be a family decision.



Alert - School Sores

Parents are to be aware that we have had a reported case of school sores within our school community. School sores (or Impetigo) is a superficial skin infection, which often appears around the nose and mouth. If your child has any signs of this condition, please seek treatment from your local doctor. Attention to personal hygiene and good hand washing practises are some ways in which such infections can be controlled.

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Grade 5/6 Camp to Anglesea

The Grade 5/6 students had a fun-filled week at Anglesea for their annual camp. They were kept very busy with activities such as paddleboarding, playing on the campground activities, swimming in the beach and the pool, visiting Sorrento on the ferry, going rock pooling and discovering our solar system, just to name a few! All the kids were very well behaved and it was an absolute pleasure to take them away. A huge thank you to Deb Smith and Brooke Smyth who came with us and were amazing helpers.



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2020 School Photos

Our school photos have been booked for Wednesday, 15th April. This is the second day of Term 2 so we will ask all students to be wearing their summer uniform for these photos.

Indigenous Perspectives

Last Friday, we had the privilege of Troy Firebrace from the CEO visit our school. Troy did some Art lessons with the children and showed them some interesting Indigenous artefacts such as possum skins, didgeridoo and coolamons.



Family Home Learning Task

Following our 3 Way Chats, a couple of weeks ago, it was noted that the amount of 'screen time' that students were having is quite a concern for both parents and teachers.

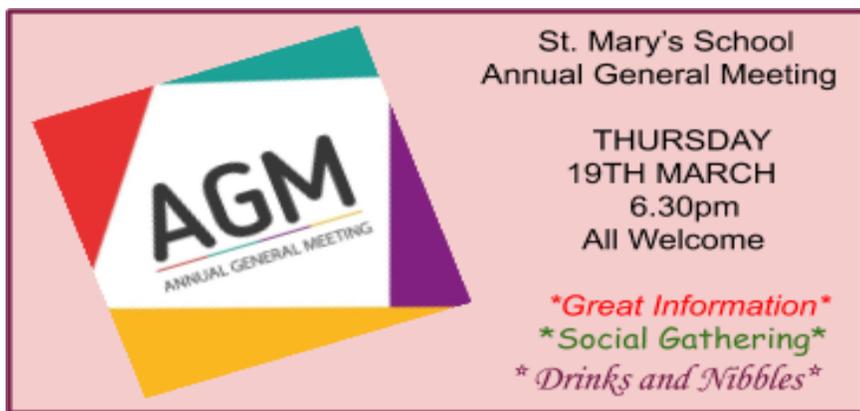
Our task this week is to make two nights a week - "SCREEN FREE" nights.

What does a "SCREEN FREE" night look like?



What will your "SCREEN FREE" nights look like?

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“On-Call Bus Driver”

From time to time, Dianne Wayman is unable to drive our school bus due to other work commitments. If you have a medium - heavy rigid bus license and an up-to-date First Aid certificate and you would be willing to be a backup driver for us, please contact me at school. There is a little bit of paperwork that needs to be done but the process is fairly simple. Thanks.

School Governance Updates

As many of you may be aware, schools within the Diocese of Sandhurst will be governed under a new model as of 2021. There is currently a working party who is developing a structure that will meet the needs of all key stakeholders. Please refer to the latest Governance Bulletin attached to this Newsletter. Monthly updates by way of Governance Bulletins with information regarding the work of this significant Diocesan Working Party will be provided in this way to all members of our school community throughout the year. You are invited to email any questions or comments that you might have to sgwp@ceosand.catholic.edu.au

Wellbeing

Arriving to school on time allows children to settle in for the day by bringing in their readers, fruit and drink bottles into the classroom. They can then go and play with their friends and make plans for their day and be prepared for learning. When children arrive late, they have missed the social interaction with their friends before school. They may miss information that is given by their teacher or they feel rushed and anxious, which is detrimental to their learning.

Cold and Flu Season

Yes, this season is upon us and it is a timely reminder to do our bit and practice good hand hygiene. A good tip for this is using soap and water, washing the hands while counting to 20, reciting the alphabet or for younger children, singing their favourite song or nursery rhyme. This might also be a good time to teach your child/ren how to use a tissue, throwing the tissue in the bin (*because we don't want to find them in the washing machine*) and then washing their hands. When a tissue is not available, show them how to sneeze or cough into the crook of their elbow to prevent the spread of germs.

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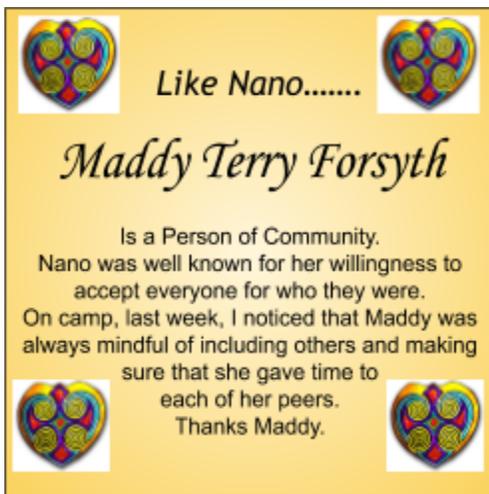
Library News

Thank you to the children and parents who have brought along their Library Cards so far. These children have now been connected to Borrow Box from the Goldfields Library and are enjoying borrowing Audio and Ebooks.

Nicole Holland & Franceen Innes.

Awards for 2020

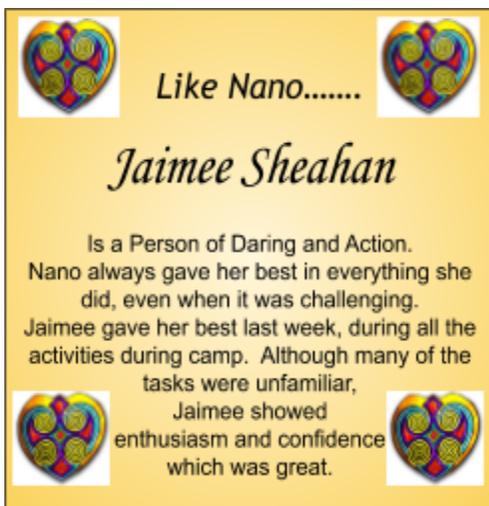
As many of you would be aware, from 3 Way Chats, we are making some slight changes to our awards system this year. We will continue to have our Nano Nagle awards each week, in the newsletter, and these will be presented at our assemblies throughout the year. In regards to the student awards, we are having a real focus on the effort of achieving a goal, rather than the achievement itself. Students may not always achieve their goals but they are to be commended for their efforts along the way. These efforts will be acknowledged through postcards that will be sent home to parents. What a lovely surprise this will be to collect the mail and find a postcard (not a bill) from school!



Like Nano.....

Maddy Terry Forsyth

Is a Person of Community.
Nano was well known for her willingness to accept everyone for who they were.
On camp, last week, I noticed that Maddy was always mindful of including others and making sure that she gave time to each of her peers.
Thanks Maddy.



Like Nano.....

Jaimee Sheahan

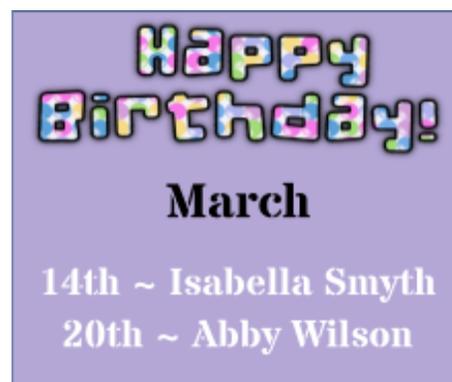
Is a Person of Daring and Action.
Nano always gave her best in everything she did, even when it was challenging.
Jaimee gave her best last week, during all the activities during camp. Although many of the tasks were unfamiliar,
Jaimee showed enthusiasm and confidence which was great.



MASS TIMES

St Peter's, Bridgewater
1st Sunday of the Month,
8:00am

St Mary's, Inglewood
Thursday's
9.15am
Each other Sunday of the Month,
8:00am



Happy Birthday!

March

14th ~ Isabella Smyth
20th ~ Abby Wilson

Governance update

for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Sandhurst



BULLETIN ONE

MONDAY 2 MARCH 2020

Welcome to the first of a series of Governance Bulletins that will be circulated to you from the School Governance Working Party throughout 2020. As you are aware, Bishop Shane Mackinlay established a working party in December last year to advise him on the most appropriate model of *'Incorporated School Governance'* to suit the unique needs and aspirations of the Diocese of Sandhurst.

Progress to Date:

The Working Party has now conducted three formal meetings since it was commissioned. In this first phase of operations the focus has been primarily upon the investigation and discernment of the most appropriate new governance model for Catholic schools across the diocese. To this end the Working Party has:

- i. Developed a project plan and implementation timeline to guide the project;
- ii. Initiated a process that will identify the major *'Guiding Principles'* that should underpin *'Good Governance'* within the context of a Catholic community;
- iii. Researched nine different models of incorporation that have been implemented in other diocesan and Catholic education systems;
- iv. Initiated productive discussions with relevant agencies and advisers in the areas of industrial relations, legislative requirements and legal and canonical requirements which will remain an ongoing focus through Phases 2 and 3 of the process in the second half of this year.

Listening Assemblies:

The first of the Listening Assembly consultations for priests, principals and school board representatives will be held on March 17 and 18 in Shepparton. These will focus on five key objectives:

- i. Understanding the rationale as to **why** incorporation is occurring in our schools and how, if done well, it can be of great strategic benefit to our children's education into the future;
- ii. Recognising valuable dimensions of our current governance processes at the local parish level that should be captured and inform future models of governance;
- iii. Discerning the key *'Guiding Principles'* with respect to governance structures and processes that should underpin the decision-making process for a new model of Governance;
- iv. Identifying some of the major priorities and challenges facing Catholic education in the diocese in the coming decade and beyond; and
- v. Briefing participants on the further stages of the Working Party's project plan.

Where to Next:

Following the first round of Listening Assemblies a further Bulletin will be circulated providing a summary of the key understandings that have arisen from this consultation. The Working Party will subsequently begin investigating and developing potential incorporation models for the diocese, with a view to proposing a possible incorporated model that will be critiqued by our key stakeholders at the second series of Listening Assemblies on the 26th and 27th May.

As the consultation process unfolds any comments or questions you wish to direct to the Working Party can be made by utilising the dedicated School Governance Working Party email address: sgwp@ceosand.catholic.edu.au

Dr Dan White: Chair | School Governance Working Party | Diocese of Sandhurst

P&F News

Easter Raffle

St Mary's Primary School Easter Raffle

\$1.00 per ticket

3 Prizes: Easter Baskets

Drawn: Thursday 26th March 2020

Raffle will be sent home tomorrow to each family.

We appreciate families donating an Easter Egg for the prize baskets.

Please send in your easter egg donation, sold tickets and money to school by Tuesday 24th March.

Thank you!

The P&F Committee



2020 Footy Tipping Competition

Our Footy Season starts Thursday 19th March! Thank you to the tippers who have already joined up and paid their membership. This year we again have an early bird prize draw for tippers who sign up and pay their \$25 prior to Round 1. We would like to thank our sponsor – **The Australian Eucalyptus Oil Company** – for their generous support in again providing a gift pack valued at \$75 for the lucky winner of the early bird draw.

Joining the competition again this year? It's easy:

1. Click on this link:
<https://www.footytips.com.au/competitions/?ff=settings&competitionId=422393&password=SMPS2020>
2. Password: SMPS2020.
3. Accept the new Terms & Conditions.
4. Pay your entry fee (details below).
5. That's it! You're in.

Payment Details: Payment can be made via direct credit or by visiting your local Bendigo Bank branch.

Name: SMPS Footy Tipping

BSB: 633000

A/C: 162137665

Ref: Your name