

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. This school supports the Child Safe Standards (Ministerial Order 870) and actively seeks to ensure that all students are kept safe from all forms of harm at all times.



St. Mary's School Newsletter

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Term 3 - September 2 2021 No.14

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

Spring has sprung! There is pollen in the air and the sun is shining. Again we find ourselves in lockdown and our children are learning from home. This can be a challenge on many fronts and I thank the whole St Mary's Community for their efforts, students, staff and parents. I read a poem this week which resonated with me and made me think how important our perspective is at this time.

*Not Everything is Cancelled
Sunshine is not cancelled
Spring is not cancelled
Love is not cancelled
Relationships are not cancelled
Reading is not cancelled
Prayer is not cancelled
Naps are not cancelled
Music is not cancelled
Imagination is not cancelled
Kindness is not cancelled
Conversation is not cancelled
Hope is not cancelled*

CALENDAR

September

Fri 3rd	Father's Day Afternoon
Sun 5th	FATHERS DAY
Wed 8th	Gr3-6 Festival of the Sacred Rescheduled
Fri 10th	P&F Meeting - 2 - 3pm Assembly - 3pm
Sat 11th	Lion's Country Market - TBC
Fri 17th	LAST DAY OF TERM 3 2.20pm finish

October

Mon 4th	FIRST DAY OF TERM 4
Thurs 7th	P-2 Gym & Swimming starts

Spring

REMOTE LEARNING:

With the increased periods of Remote Learning, staff are working hard to ensure a continuation of learning for our students. We have emphasised to our students that we need to keep on learning and that at home we need to work as if we are at school. We ask that you support them to turn up for meets and complete the task set each day. Although we expect students to do most of the work independently they still need guidance and supervision, as a lot of work has not been submitted.

If you are experiencing any difficulties during remote learning, please contact the classroom teachers, Franceen Innes or myself. Dr Neil Coventry (Victoria's Chief Psychiatrist) has provided the following tips for families:

1. Maintaining normal routines. This includes sleep patterns, exercise and meal times. Children need time to relax whilst maintaining good routines.
2. Parents talk to kids about how they are feeling. Have these repeated conversations in an informal way rather than intense one off conversations.
3. Help is available for parents and kids who need extra guidance and support. E.g. Kids Helpline.

SHEPPARTON:

Last week I attended a briefing regarding the situation across the Diocese and in particular the Shepparton area. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Shepparton and our Sandhurst Diocese colleagues, as they face the current COVID critical incident. Shepparton FoodShare is currently working to provide hampers to many families facing a food shortage and consequently ask that at this critical time those who are able, support those in Shepparton at this time. If you can support this great organisation currently providing even more support than they would normally be expected to, please log onto Shepparton Foodshare and make a monetary donation. It takes no time at all and you can be reassured that the funds will be going to very good use immediately.
<http://www.sheppartonfoodshare.org.au/>

CONVENT RENOVATION:

In very exciting news, renovation works have begun on the convent with electricians beginning the rewiring of the building today. This project has certainly been a long time in the making and we are all extremely excited to see the opportunities and improvements coming to fruition. Students and families are now reminded that as an active building site, St Mary's school and community currently don't have access to the convent.

BOOK WEEK:

It was great to see the children (and teachers) have a bit of fun during the lockdown and take time to dress up despite the challenges. Feel free to share your photos with the teachers and we can use them on our Facebook page and newsletter if possible.

FATHER'S DAY:

Thanks to Gabbi and the P&F for putting together the Father's Day gift packs. It's not too late to collect the pack for your family or for students to send in their "Father's Day Shout Out". Video messages will be collated and uploaded onto Facebook on Sunday.

Finally, I would like to wish all our Dads and Grandfathers all the very best for Father's Day. Sadly we will be unable to celebrate at school this year, however I trust you will have time to share with your children and they will spoil you as we acknowledge the special and important place you play in the lives of children.

Kim Carter
Principal

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Words of inspiration from our Holy Father...



"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you.

Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life.

Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple.

It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes".

It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry".

It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you".

It is to have the ability to say "I love you".

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ...

That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom.

And when you make a mistake, start all over again.



For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance.

Use your losses to train patience.

Use your mistakes to sculpt serenity.

Use pain to plaster pleasure.

Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence.

Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show" (Pope Francis).

'We are blessed with many 'father figures' to inspire us.....Happy Father's Day to everyone!'

PARISH MASS TIMES:

Due to the lockdown in Victoria, Masses will not be available to attend onsite. The St Mary's community are welcome to join with the streaming schedule of St Liborius (see below).

You can view Masses live by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-XHmve7qXxM&feature=youtu.be>

Mass Times:

Sunday 10:30am

Monday 6pm

Tuesday 6pm

Wednesday 6pm

Thursday 6pm

Friday 6pm

Saturday 9:15am

Saturday 6pm

St Mary's school community is saddened to hear of the passing of Father Paul Purcell this week, aged 94 years old. Father Paul served the St Mary's parish and community for several years presiding over Sunday masses. Father Paul was often on hand to help Fr Rom during our Sacramental and Graduation masses even up until two years ago, and always enjoyed the gathering of our community afterwards. "In the 20 years that I've known him, he's never said no to anything," says Fr Rom. "He's tough. Very tough."

In 2012, Fr Paul 'retired' to St Kilian's presbytery where he continued to celebrate daily Mass and reconciliation in the parish. "What people don't realise," he says, "is that I've never actually retired."

A devoted man who dedicated his life to God. May he rest peacefully in God's care.



SCHOOL NEWS



Attending School = Brighter Future

- higher paying jobs
- improved overall health
- improved relationships and support networks

REMOTE LEARNING:

Some parents have asked the difference between homeschooling and remote learning. Homeschool curriculum is chosen by the parent and up to the family unit to decide what learning style, material and environment best fits the child, while remote learning is a structured curriculum managed by a teacher from afar.

Our timetable for Remote Learning moving forward (with CECV guidelines as to how much time should be allocated each day) will be the following. We are constantly looking to improve our remote learning program, so please let the teachers know if you have any questions or suggestions. Students are encouraged to submit their work once completed each day or during the catch up time on Friday for that week.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9am Google Meets	Prayer & Check in	Prayer & Check in	Prayer & Check in	Prayer & Check in	Prayer & Check in
45min - 60min	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy Catch Up
30min - 45min	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy Catch Up
30min	Physical Activities	Physical Activities	Physical Activities	Physical Activities	Physical Activities
Additional Learning Areas P-2: 30-45min 3-6: 90min	ODD WEEKS (e.g. next week is an odd week)				
	Religion	Performing Arts	Personal Learning	Indonesian	Additional Learning Areas Catch Up Time
	EVEN WEEKS (e.g. the last week of term is Week 10)				
	Personal Learning	Health	Religion	Visual Arts	Additional Learning Areas Catch Up Time

GOOGLE MEETS:

All students are expected to attend the 9am Google Meet with their classroom teacher. During the meets, student attendance will be marked, students will pray and check in together and any announcements given. These meets are designed to help students create a routine during remote learning. Ibu Cath has also emailed details regarding booking in for individual reading sessions with students.

ATTENDANCE DURING REMOTE LEARNING:

Parents are encouraged to complete the survey emailed to parents yesterday if they require their children to attend onsite supervision during the final fortnight of this term. Permitted workers are asked to update their work permits if the previously supplied document doesn't contain the upcoming dates.

FACE MASKS:

The Victorian Government has recommended (not mandated) that children of primary school age wear a mask in indoor areas. Students should bring their own mask from home.

CHILDREN'S CHATTER MATTERS

In order to prepare for the language & learning demands of the school environment, children need ample time and opportunity to engage in meaningful interactions with their family.



VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

5. Words Words Words

Look at an interesting picture (such as pobble365.com) or read/listen a short extract from a book/online story (<https://www.storylineonline.net/>). Write down words in each of these categories below.

Words for how the character is talking

Words to describe the setting

Words to talk about how the characters walk/move

Words to describe what the character looks like

Words to describe feelings

Any other good words



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September

3rd ~ Ryan Isaac

9th ~ Jenson Birthisel

14th ~ Addie Keats





BOOK WEEK 2021



P&F NEWS

2021 FOOTY TIPPING

We would like to thank you for your support of the 2021 tipping competition. The fundraising provides valuable resources for our students, this year the fundraising will be going towards playground equipment and musical instruments.



Congratulations to our St Mary's Footy Tipping Winners



**1st - Suzi Birthisel
2nd - June Mitchell
3rd - Menegola (Paul Wilkinson)**

COMMUNITY NEWS

FARMER DARRYL'S ANIMAL FARM - SATURDAY 11th SEPTEMBER:

St Mary's Primary School and Inglewood Primary School have teamed up and have been successful in receiving a Community Activation Grant courtesy of the Loddon Council. We have booked Farmer Darryl's Mobile Animal Farm for the **Inglewood Lion's Country Market** for **Saturday 11th September**. At this time, we are unsure if this market will be postponed given the current lockdown situation. We will notify families if the event date changes.



Building Resilience in Kids

Resilience is the ability to cope with the ups and downs of life. Learn how you can help kids develop skills, habits, and attitudes for building resilience.

Resilience is not just about managing current stressors, but also developing skills for dealing with challenges throughout life and enhancing mental health.

- Building good relationships
- Independence
- Confidence to face challenges.
- Managing Emotions.

✓ Resilience

✓ Independence

✓ Managing Emotions

Workshop dates & locations:

Location Name – Bridgewater Primary School,
34 Eldon Street, Bridgewater on Loddon.

Dates: Monday 11th October 2021 @
9:30AM – 11:30AM
Arrival and Registration – 9:15AM

Please note this is a single session workshop only.

There is no cost for this workshop.

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.

RSVP:

Alison Gillett | Bridgewater Primary School
M 0488 357 117 | E Alison.Gillett@education.vic.gov.au

Please remember your mask. We ask that all participants follow social distancing and face mask regulations.



Building Resilience in Kids
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