

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.



"Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you"....Romans 17:7

Term 1 - Thursday, 30th January 2020

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

A very warm welcome back for 2020! It was great to have some time with family and friends over the holidays, but it was just as good to see so many smiling faces yesterday as all the students walked into school again. I think they have all grown a few inches, which was realised by a number of parents when school uniforms were put back on after 6 weeks!

I trust that everyone had a lovely Christmas and New Year with those closest to us. As we would all be aware, there were so many in our country that experienced some very challenging times. It has been an unprecedented and tragic summer in Australia and although we have been fortunate to not have been directly affected by the bushfires and now, floods, all of us are feeling the devastation to differing degrees. Our heartfelt support goes out to those who are now trying to recover and get their lives back on track.

We welcome Ethan Sheahan, Kiarah McEwan, Braxton Barns, Cooper Smyth, Lucy Morrison, Edmund Wilson and Harry Patterson to our school for their first year of schooling. It only seems like yesterday when my own boys were heading off for their first day. We also are pleased to welcome two new families to our school community - Mel and David Patterson and Amber Barns and Joshua Aldous. We know that they will feel very welcomed by all. And lastly, but certainly not least, we welcome Ibu Cath as she becomes a full time member of our staff. Our school is very lucky to have you all and we know that you will be an asset to our family.

Marg

February	
Tues 4th	Gym/Swimming - Grades 3-6
Wed 5th	Prep Day Off
Thurs 6th	Opening School Mass 6pm
Wed 12th	Prep Day Off Gym/Swimming - Grades 3-6
Wed 19th	Prep Day Off Gym/Swimming - Grades 3-6 Reading Information Session - 6pm
Tues 25th	Shrove Tuesday
Wed 26th	Prep Day Off Ash Wednesday Gym/Swimming - Grades 3-6
Thurs 27th	3 Way Chats

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RE News & Prayer for the Week with Mrs Brohm

A Prayer for Our Students

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of education in every form. As our children prepare to start a new year, may confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. I pray they would have eyes to see the needs of those around them and a heart to love well. May they face each day with positivity knowing that no matter what comes their way, they don't have to face it alone. In Jesus' name, amen.



Our new Foundation students....
Ethan, Kiarah, Cooper, Edmund,
Braxton, Lucy, Harry

Thank You

A very big thank you to the Shane Maxwell and Illona McEwan, along with Poppy Twinks, for their willingness and hard work to keep our gardens flourishing and looking spectacular over the school holidays. With the weather we experienced, this was a mammoth task, for which I am truly grateful. My thanks also to Tania and Emily Rollinson, Sarah Terry, Brooke and Julie Anderson and Lesley Morrison for their help in doing some cleaning jobs around the school in readiness for the start of term.

Information Packs for 2020

Each family received an information pack late last year. It contained a number of forms and information sheets, that need to be completed and returned as soon as possible. We legally require this information in order for students to participate in events, to ensure our details are up to date and to fulfill our child safe standards. Please return them as soon as possible.



Reader / Library / Computer Bags



Every child now has one of these bags. It is expected that these bags will keep books dry from leaking water bottles and keep the ipads safe for our Grade 3-6's when they start to take them home. These resources in our school are very costly and are a valued part of our learning. If your child misplaces this bag, we will be expecting families to purchase another one. Please make sure the bag comes to school with your child/ren every day.

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You are invited to our.....



Opening School Mass
Thursday 6th February
6pm
St. Mary's Church

All Welcome.....



***Please note.....there is no picnic tea to follow Mass this year.*

Please join us for a lovely celebration to start our school year and welcome our Foundation students to our school and parish family.

(We will not be having a tea afterwards as there are a number of occasions this term where families are going to be asked to attend sessions in the evenings.)

Sport Days 2020

On Sport days, the students are able to wear their sports uniform. The following days are each unit's sport days this year:

P/1/2	3/4/5/6
Tuesday Thursday	Monday Thursday

Gym / Swimming Program for Grades 3-6

It has been decided that this year, we would make the most of 'Nora' to transport our students into Bendigo for their gym and swimming programs. This will save on the costs of buses, which can be quite expensive. However (and I don't often say this), we are too big to all fit on the bus! So we are going in two groups this year. The Grade 3-6 program will be in Term 1 and the P-2 program will be in Term 4. Notes for those students in Grades 3-6 have been sent home today and need to be returned ASAP. Please note that we will be requiring a parent helper each week to accompany the students for the day.

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Poppy Twinks

Our love and thoughts are with our dearly loved Poppy Twinks as he undergoes surgery this week. We wish him all the best, with a speedy recovery, so that we can once again, see him pottering around in our garden! Take care and get well soon, Poppy Twinks!!



Reading Information Session - WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY - 6pm

This is a date that I am going to ask every family to put on their calendars as every family needs to have a parent present at this meeting. Reading at home is such a vital part of any child's reading development and progress and it is crucial that all families receive some very important information about this process. We also often have questions asked of us about what to do when listening to students when they are reading at home. This will give staff and parents an opportunity to work in partnership to encourage our students to be the best readers they can be!



More information will follow soon.

Family Home Learning Task

How many times have you picked your kids up at school and had the following conversation:

Parent: "How was school today?" **Child:** "Good."

Parent: "What did you do today?" **Child:** "Nothing".

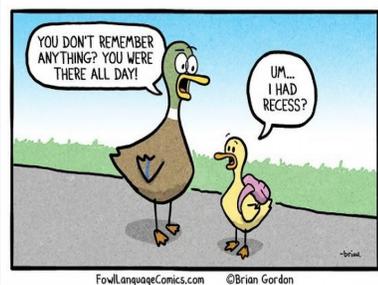
(End of conversation!)

Try these ones to keep the conversation going.....

"Tell me about something that made you laugh today."

"Tell me about your favourite time of the day."

Who did you play with today? What did you play?"



Not only do these questions focus upon the positives of your child's day, they also require answers that have more than one word in them!

End of the School Day Routine

At the end of our school day, we organise the students with notes, readers, bags and any other belongings they have. Students then gather on the basketball court, if being picked up from school, or in their groups, if travelling by bus. Once we have organised the bus travellers, the teachers will bring the students out to the front gate to meet those that are taking them home. We will not let them out of the school gate until we can see the person who is picking them up. This process enables us to ensure that all students are accounted for and leave the school grounds safely.

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FIRE Carriers - Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education

On Thursday 13th February, the Grade 5 & 6 children and Mrs Holland will be initiated as FIRE carriers for St Mary's. This special ceremony will be at 2:15pm with Troy Firebrace from the CEO.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



Summer Reading Challenge

Let's see how many days reading we achieved over the holidays. Return your reading log to the Office and we will count them up.

Did we reach 1000 days?

Wellbeing

Welcome back! I hope that everyone enjoyed a lovely Christmas and New Year. Over the following weeks, I will be phoning or catching up with all families to check in and see how you and your children have enjoyed your holidays, how your child is settling back into school and to see if there is anything that I may be able to help with. If you ever have any Wellbeing related questions or if you would like to speak with me, I can be contacted Monday-Thursday 8.45am-3.30pm by phoning 54 383 075 or via email: innes@sminglewood.catholic.edu.au

Franceen Innes

School Chaplain, Wellbeing Support.

Tuning into Kids 3 Day Workshop.

This term, St Mary's Primary School will host a 3 day 'Tuning into Kids' workshop, facilitated by Jo Rodriguez from Family & Relationship Services, Catholic Care Sandhurst.

Want to learn how to help your child manage feelings and emotions (emotional intelligence)?

In this program, you will find out how to help your child understand and manage feelings such as worry, frustration and anger.

When: Wednesday's 4th, 11th & 18th March 2020

Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm Morning Tea & Lunch provided

Where: St Mary's Primary School, 87 Southey St, Inglewood
Childcare will not be available for these sessions

Cost: \$40 or \$30 concession

Contact: Jo on 5438 1300



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P&F News

*ST MARY'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL*

**FRIDAY
THE 13TH
TRIVIA NIGHT
MARCH 13TH | 7PM**

**AMAZING PRIZES
BYO FOOD & DRINKS
TABLES OF 6-10 PEOPLE
\$10 PER PERSON**

**TO BOOK YOUR TABLE CONTACT US VIA FACEBOOK
(@SMPS3517) OR 5438 3075 FROM 1 FEBRUARY**



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 2020 FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

\$25

Tip online
Season starts 19/3

**Join and pay before Round 1
to go in the Early Bird Prize Draw**

Win a gift basket valued at \$75 from
The Australian Eucalyptus Oil Company

To register online go to:

<https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/SMPS2020&p=SMPS2020>

Password: SMPS2020

All payments due by Round 2

Direct Credit - BSB: 633000, Account: 162137665 (SMPS Footy Tipping)
or visit your local Bendigo Bank branch