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 1359) 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 4 - November 24th 2022 No.18

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

Wednesday was a wonderful chance for our school community to gather to celebrate Presentation Day and the special part that Mary plays in our lives. A special thank you to the Grandparents and Special Friends who joined us as we read, prayed and learned together that morning.

Days like this help us to work towards our Wildly Important Goals:

- Every Child, Every Day
- Every Child Reading
- Every Family Connected

Whilst discussing our 2023 annual actions and goals at recent School Council and Staff meetings, it was decided that St Mary's will continue to work towards the above Wildly Important Goals in 2023. We encourage all families to show a commitment to improving student attendance, reading, learning and wellbeing outcomes and becoming more active, interested and connected in the school community and the important work that we do here at St Mary's.

On Tuesday 13th December, our school community will have another opportunity to gather for our End of Year Mass and Graduation Ceremony. We hope you can join us as we pray together and celebrate the achievements of our graduating Grade 6 students.

November		
Fri 25th	Caritas Leadership Day Gr 5	
Wed 30th	Flying into Foundation	
December		
Thur 1st	Junior Day Out Gr P-2	
Fri 2nd	Milo Cricket Gr 4-6	
Tue 6th	Transition Day	
Fri 9th	Grade 6 Big Day Out	
Tue 13th	End of Year Mass - 6pm	
Wed 14th	Students Last Day of Term 4 3.20pm finish	
Thur 15th	Staff Planning Day	
Fri 16th	Staff Last Day of Term 4	

CALENDAR

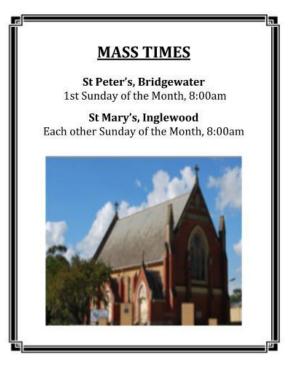
As we draw towards the end of the year, it is important that all school fees are paid or payment plans put in place. We would appreciate it if all families that do not already have direct debit arrangements in place and who have outstanding school fees to please contact the office and arrange payment. Please do not hesitate in making contact with myself to discuss your school fees, your individual situation and the options available to you.

Our 2023 planning continues tomorrow as we welcome Mr Stephen O'Shannessy to St Mary's. Over the next few days, Stephen will be involved in a range of induction and handover tasks to ensure a smooth transition between principals. The wider St Mary's school community will have the opportunity to meet and welcome Mr O'Shannessy at the beginning of the 2023 school year.

Kim Carter Principal



CATHOLIC IDENTITY



gospel focus

Get Ready!

Jesus draws a parallel between the people in Noah's time and the people of his own time. What it reflects is a complacency that periodically overtook the Jewish people. When the people bound themselves to God in covenant their lives gradually became better. Inevitably, their lives improved to such a state that they forgot God was responsible for their blessings. They ignored their relationship with God and became complacent about their good fortune. Ultimately, their comfort was brought to an end and they recognised once again their need for God. Jesus calls the people to get ready because the pattern is repeating itself.

Historical Context

The Advent Wreath

One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God. There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle – the rose or pink candle – celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.



SCHOOL NEWS

MONDAY 28th NOVEMBER - SPORTS UNIFORM REQUIRED:

There is a slight change to our timetable next week. Students are asked to please wear their Sports Uniform on Monday 28th November.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL:

It's not too late to donate! Thank you to families who have donated to our Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

Christmas can be a very difficult time of year for many and the basic human rights of food and shelter can often be taken for granted. St. Vincent De Paul is a charitable organisation that provides support to needy families and senior citizens in many ways. During November we will be collecting non-perishable food donations in support of St. Vinnies Christmas Appeal. A collection basket is located in the Grade 1/2 classroom in support of this worthy cause. Together, we can make a difference.

Donation items can include: toiletries, grains and pasta, tinned foods, holiday treats, savoury items, condiments and breakfast cereals.

Donations due by the 2nd December please.



NEWS FROM FOUNDATION - GRADE 2:



In our Inquiry unit we have been learning about the weather and diverse tools that we can use to measure weather including rain gauges, windsocks and thermometers. Last week we created our very own rain gauge and the students were so excited to test their rain gauge and understand how to interpret the water levels.



What's happening this fortnight in PREP - GRADE 2	
Religion	Advent - Ready for Jesus
English	Reading: Character Profile Writing: Information Reports on our chosen animal
Maths	Week 8: Money Week 9: Data
Personal Learning	Earth's Resources
RRRR	Help-seeking: Creating social stories
Performance Arts	The Beatles and dances of the sixties Christmas Carols
Visual Arts	Stop Motion Animation and Paper Plate Santa Claus
Health	Fire Safety
Sport	Bluearth Games
Indonesian	Wayang Kulit (Shadow puppets)

What's happening this fortnight in GRADE 3 - 6	
Religion	Christmas - The Message of Joy and Peace
English	Information Report
Maths	Angles
Personal Learning	Earth and the Solar System
RRRR	Help Seeking
Performance Arts	The Beatles and dances of the sixties Christmas Carols
Visual Arts	The Year That Was - Pulling it all together and Snow Globe Christmas Tree Ornaments
Health	Fire Safety
Sport	Bluearth Games
Indonesian	Film Festival - How can we look after our marine life?

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.

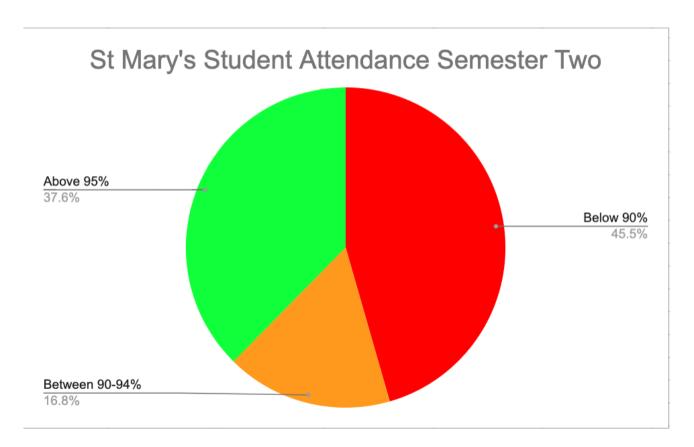


Expressive Language

We speak and write for many reasons; To tell a story, to recount an event, to question, to argue, to socialise, to describe etc. Children need to develop the skills to communicate for a wide range of purposes, verbally and in their writing, in order to succeed in life.

Activities:

7. Try some acting! Bring your child's favourite story to life by creating masks, costumes, dress ups, or puppets. Get in character and act the story out, or create a new story or problem for the character. Entertain the whole family by putting on a show.



Big congratulations to those students who are 'in the green'! You are giving yourselves the best opportunity to soar!





COLLEGE BENDIGO

TUESDAY DECEMBER 6

9.30AM-2.30PM

PLEASE BRING: Pencil case, hat, drink , bottle, snack

WEAR: school uniform & hat LUNCH: BBQ lunch provided



November

29th ~ James Rollinson

December

4th ~ Ethan Sheahan

P&F NEWS

Thank You:

A special thank you to our P&F, namely Suzi, Tania, Jaqui, Ebony, Julie, Bev and Zelma, for their recent catering efforts! The P&F pulled together for a two day catering event for the LEAD Loddon Murray Leadership Program. Your efforts are very much appreciated.



COMMUNITY NEWS



