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

87 Southey Street, Inglewood 3517 Phone: 03-54383075

Email: <a href="mailto:principal@sminglewood.catholic.edu.au">principal@sminglewood.catholic.edu.au</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.sminglewood.catholic.edu.au">www.sminglewood.catholic.edu.au</a>

Term 4 - October 12th 2023 No.15

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Families and Friends,

Last week, we welcomed the return of students who were eager to discuss their break. It feels like we picked up where we left off in Term 3, as pupils were able to dust off any holiday fatigue quite quickly. This is due to the fact that we hit the ground running in our classrooms and conducted structured lessons prepared by our staff. As you are aware, Term 4 is filled with many great learning opportunities and extracurricular activities. Feast Days, Energy Breakthrough, Inglewood Alive, Bowls Social Evening, Graduation and sporting events are some of the exciting events taking place. For Year 6 students, this will be the last term in which they can impact St Mary's with their leadership skills. We also look forward to welcoming our newest school members to Foundation next year and will run several transition days to help them prepare for 2024 at St Mary's. For returning families, if there are any changes in your intentions for 2024, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you about some important changes we are making to our teachers' work patterns, conditions and benefits. These changes have been carefully considered and are necessary due to various factors, including how all Victorian schools are required to allocate a teacher's workload.

These changes deliver several positive modifications for both our dedicated staff, including enhancing their wellbeing and work-life balance and the overall functioning of our school. We continue to ensure the quality of Catholic education persists and to maintain a safe and nurturing environment for our students, this remains our top priority. However, implementing these changes will mean that an additional pupil-free day will be taken this term on Monday 27th November. This day will focus on maximising student learning in multi-age classrooms.

We appreciate your understanding and support with this matter. Our commitment to your child's education, experiences and wellbeing remains, and we will continue to communicate any updates or adjustments as they occur. Thank you for your continued partnership as we strive to provide an outstanding education for our students.

Those of you who will be voting on Saturday regarding the important referendum can find locations at Inglewood Primary School and Bridgewater Recreation Reserve.

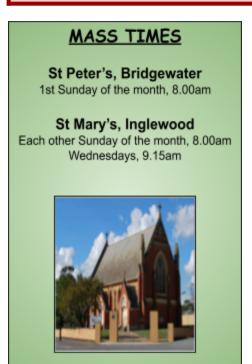
**Stephen O'Shannessy** Principal

## **CALENDAR**

TERM 4, 2023	
Monday 16th October	Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Tuesday 17th October	School Council Meeting 6pm Wedderburn College Transition Day
Friday 20th October	Awards Assembly 2:50pm All Welcome
Monday 23rd October	Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Tuesday 24th October	St Mary's Community Bowls Social Night - Family and Friends are welcome to join
Thursday 26th October	Lions Club Vision Screening
Friday 27th October	World Teachers Day
Monday 30th October	Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Wednesday 1st November	All Saints Day Liturgy 10:30
Thursday 2nd November	Cluster Schools Technologies Day
Sunday 5th November	Inglewood Alive Festival (10am - 2pm)
Monday 6th November	PUPIL FREE DAY (Curriculum Day) Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Tuesday 7th November	PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Melbourne Cup Day)
Monday 13th November	Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Monday 20th November	Energy Breakthrough Session (Maiden Gully 4-6pm)
Tuesday 21st November	School Feast Day - All welcome 10am
Tuesday 22nd November	Transition Day (New Foundation Students)
Wednesday 22nd - Friday 24th November	Energy Breakthrough at Maryborough Grades 4-6
Monday 27th November	PUPIL FREE DAY (Multi-age Teaching and Learning)
Wednesday 29th November	St Mary's Transition Day (New Foundation Students)
Friday 1st December	Milo Cricket Grades 4 & 6

	Caritas Grade 5 Leadership Day @ St Kilians
Tuesday 5th December	Marist 2024 Orientation Day Learning Conversations School Council End of Year Dinner - 6.30pm
Wednesday 6th December	Wedderburn College Transition Day St Mary's Transition Day (New Foundation students)
Thursday 14th December	End of Year Mass @ 6pm Graduation awards and dinner to follow
Friday 15th December	Grade 6 Big Day Out
Monday 18th December	STUDENTS LAST DAY
Tuesday 19th December	PUPIL FREE DAY - 2024 Staff Planning Day
Wed 20th December	PUPIL FREE DAY - Staff Last Day

## **CATHOLIC IDENTITY**



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. This month the Church celebrated the Marian advocation of "Our Lady of the Rosary" on October 7th.

As we approach the upcoming harvest season, many community members have and will be reliant on suitable weather and market conditions. The stresses of the unknown and the business of farming families may arise for some.

We can pray to Mary and use the Rosary as a way of handing over to God. Globally some countries are in conflict with each other. Being so far away from the impact of these conflicts, we can feel there is nothing we can do. By turning to Mary and praying the Rosary, we can share our petitions and pray for those in need and for leaders to show compassion and mercy, especially with civilians.



## SCHOOL NEWS

#### **2023 School Surveys**

It is that time of year again - it comes around so quickly! An email has been sent home to each family with a survey link attached. This survey is designed to assist our school in gaining an understanding of your perceptions, as parents, of your child's experience at St. Mary's. The feedback from this survey is very valuable in providing us with ways to improve our school. I strongly encourage all families to take the time to complete this survey, and thank you all for your support with this.

#### **Hats Reminder**

A reminder that all students should be wearing a hat by now for recess, lunch and any outdoor activity. The compulsory wearing of hats is part of our Sunsmart Policy which can be accessed on our school website. If students do not have a hat, they will be asked not to partake in some activities and/or play in the undercover area near the bag boxes. Please ensure that all hats are named clearly and encourage your child to be responsible for their own hat by putting it in their bag when they are not wearing it.

## **Convent Update**

Works are underway with the grounds surrounding the convent. We look forward to this completion in the coming weeks, allowing builders to continue vital refurbishments of our convent learning space. Once all works are completed, we will host our long-awaited opening and invite the community, former staff members and Catholic Education Sandhurst employees who have contributed to this project.

## Cardboard boxes and paper towel rolls.

In the coming weeks, we have a technologies day planned with IPS and Bridgewater Primary. To make this day a success, we are requesting families bring in empty packing boxes, card cereal/food packaging and empty paper towel rolls. We would need them to be approximately A4 size and larger to allow students the required space for the activities. Please, no toilet paper rolls as this is a hygiene risk.

## **Energy Breakthrough**

With support from our sponsors' donations, we have used a small amount of funds to hire the Bendigo Kart Club in Maiden Gully for the first eight Mondays of Term 4 between 4-6pm (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th October & 6th, 13th, 20th November). We will be seeking Year 4-6 parent helpers to supervise and nominate a week or two so they can transport our Energy Breakthrough vehicle to and from the event. Please get in touch with Stephen O'Shannessy if you have a specific date you would like to help out. A roster will be sent out via email.



Next Monday, Chris Earl from the Loddon Herald will be in attendance to capture the students and write an article for his newspaper.

## **Foundation Transition Program**





#### **Term 4 Social Event**



## **Energy Breakthrough**

Huge thank you to our generous sponsors! We thank the Bendigo Bank for their continued support of our Energy Breakthrough program. Bendigo Community Bank has been with us since the beginning of our EBT journey, supporting our students with the opportunity to be involved in this exciting and rewarding event.



























## **BIRTHDAYS**



## STUDENT NEWS

## 2023 Loddon Healthy Minds Network Art Competition

The network was very pleased to have St Mary's Catholic Primary School participating in this year's competition. The event would not be possible without the support of students and their teachers, who have guided them through the production of their artworks, and the network would like to extend its appreciation for their hard work and support of the event. 305 entries were received this year, and the quality of the work presented shows that there is exceptional talent within our Shire.

This year's judges were very impressed with the way entrants produced their artwork to the themes, and the network would like to congratulate all participants in the competition and announce the following winners from St Mary's Catholic Primary School:

Grades 5 - Yr 8 Themes - Be kind to your mind or Just don't give up

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Ruby Scolari Theme - Be kind to your mind - Artwork title - Glass Pebble Beach in California. Relax your mind.

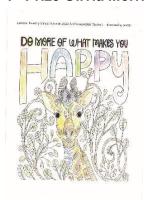


2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Ryan Isaac Theme - Just don't give up- Artwork title - Minecraft Farmer. Don't give up playing Minecraft

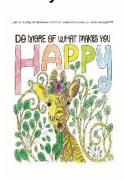


**Grades 3 - 4 Colouring Poster Theme: What makes you happy** 

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Olivia Morrison

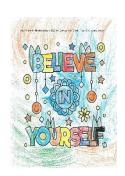


2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Lucy Morrison



Grades Prep - 2 Colouring Poster Theme: Believe in you

1st Prize Emmett Hodge 2nd Prize Nakodah McEwan



Communication of the second of

Head to

https://www.loddonhealthyminds.com.au/events/2023-loddon-healthy-minds-network-art-competition-results to see the competition results and view all the artworks.

#### **Energy Breakthrough**



Students, parents and staff have been preparing for the upcoming Energy Breakthrough Challenge using the Bendigo Karting Club track in Maiden Gully. Each Monday from 4 p.m., students are developing greater endurance and bike skills required to equip them with the conditions they may face during the EB challenge. Over the next fortnight, participants will learn how to use the gears effectively, change tyres and make minor modifications to their vehicle.

#### **Opportunity for Holiday Camp**





TRANSPORT

Malmsbury: Doxa facilitated bus transport provided from Melbourne & Bendigo City: Doxa facilitated bus transport provided from Traralgon / Pakenham & Bendigo

COST

Our holiday camps are FREE.

Holiday camps are funded by our amazing donors and philanthropic ventures.

The Doxa Youth Foundation will be running holiday camps for children from 10 to 12 years old during the 2024 summer school holidays.

Doxa will be providing these camps free of charge for children who meet the selected criteria.

St Mary's has the opportunity to refer students to the camp. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Steve O'Shannessy or email principal@sminglewood.catholic.edu.au



## **P&F NEWS**

## **Inglewood Alive Festival**

The Inglewood Alive Festival is back! On Sunday 5 November, the Festival will again stop traffic along the Calder as visitors and locals come to town to enjoy a great day out. This is a good opportunity for local community groups and traders to participate in a community wide event and generate some fundraising dollars. St Mary's have been proud to be involved in the Festival since its inception and we're looking forward to being part of the excitement again this year.

The P&F will be operating a Baked Potato stall between 10am and 2pm in the food precinct near the Town Hall. This is a chance for parents and students to work together and be part of this great community event.

There are two ways to get involved. There will be preparation work required on Friday 3rd November. We'll also need volunteers to staff the stall on Sunday 5th November, between 9am and 2.30pm.

Please contact Steve O'Shannessy to add your name to the roster in a time slot that suits your schedule. Thank you.

## **Catering Updates**

We have a corporate catering job for the LEAD Loddon Murray Community Leadership program coming up in November. This is a great fundraiser, as it allows members of our school community to contribute by baking, without needing to attend the event. All ingredients will be provided by St Mary's in advance to assist those who are able to share their talent by cooking for this fundraiser.

Their two-day retreat will be held at the Inglewood Golf Course on 17th and 18th November. We are

seeking volunteers to assist by providing cakes, slices and

salads for this event.

If you are able to assist, please contact Suzi Birthisel.

#### Trivia 2024

After a break, we are excited to announce the long awaited Trivia Night will return in 2024! Stay tuned for details of the great night out, which will be held in Term 1.



## **COMMUNITY NEWS**



Small, friendly and FREE playgroup, where everyone is welcome and invited to play.

## CONTACTS FOR COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Email: ebonyalder@hotmail.com **Q** 0438 630 101 principal@sminglewood.catholic.edu.au



# "BLACK PEPPER" FASHION PARADE

TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM TO BE HELD AT THE

INGLEWOOD BOWLING CLUB ROOM

\$ 10.00 PER PERSON

includes High Tea

**Lucky Door Prize** 

R.S.V.P. by 15<sup>th</sup> October

Pam: 0428 333 142

Chris: 0427 383 262











# JOIN US FOR THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 10AM ST MARY'S CHURCH

