

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

43 O' Donnell Ave. (P.O. Box 320) Myrtleford Victoria 3737

Phone: 03 5752 1808 Fax: 03 5752 2651 Mobile: 0487 772 234

e-mail: principal@smmyrtleford.catholic.edu.au web: www.smmyrtleford.catholic.edu.au

Date: 21st March, 2024 Newsletter No: 4 Term: 1 - Week: 8

We thank you Lord, for this term.

For our challenges, our successes, and the mistakes from which we have learnt.

Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends.

Give us strength and courage to do what is right: to be witnesses of our faith.

Dear Families.

It is hard to fathom that we have arrived at the last newsletter for Term 1! And yet, it has certainly been an eventful term:

- Settling into to school for our Foundation students
- Canberra Camp for Senior Students
- Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday
- Opening Mass and Ash Wednesday
- Embedding learning and teaching processes
- Assessment Schedules
- Assemblies and liturgies
- Inquiries and LETI
- Italian, Music, Art and Sport
- Building Project preparations
- NAPLAN testing for Grade 3 & 5 students
- School photos
- Harmony Day

...and in the coming week PSG meetings; Switch Off Sandhurst; the Easter Raffle and Hat Parade; and Holy Week. No wonder families need whiteboards to schedule activities and events!

I can only hope that each of you allow some time together as a family to just be together and block out the demands of school, work and community activities each week. Perhaps school holidays will allow such pleasure.

A reminder that we conclude our Term 1 Easter Raffle and fund-raiser. Please ensure that your contribution and raffle tickets need to be in by **Monday 25th March.** A small contribution could include ONE item from the following:

- Easter egg
- a colouring book
- pencils,
- soft toy

with an Easter theme.

School Notices Yard Supervision:

Morning: 8:30 - 8:55am Afternoon: 3:20 -3:35pm

Bell Times:

School Begins 8:55am Recess: 11:10–11:30am Lunch: 1:30 -2:20pm Finish: 3:20pm

Student Absences:

Please phone the office by 9:00am if your child will not be at school on 57 521808.

Or mark absence on PAM.



Term 1

Wednesday 31st January Thursday 28th March

Term 2

Monday 15th April Friday 28th June

Term 3

Monday 15th July Friday 20th September

Term 4

Monday 7th October Friday 20th December

MASS TIMES

Myrtleford

Saturday @ 6:00pm Sunday @ 9.00am

Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the Month @ 5:00pm



EASTER HAT PARADE AND RAFFLE DRAWN 9AM WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH

We will have the draw of several small prizes on Wednesday 27th March at 9am. There will also be an **Easter Hat Parade** in the morning. Hats are to be made at home. This is just for fun - No entry fee required. Encourage your child to be as creative as possible.

Kind Regards, Trísh

St Mary's Primary is committed to students experiencing a sense of inclusion that is respectful of their giftedness, abilities, culture and contexts. Our student's experience learning and teaching in a child safe environment that is engaging and liberating.

SIGNING YOUR CHILD IN & OUT & LATE TO SCHOOL PROCESS

All Children who arrive at school after 8:55am or leave school before 3:20pm MUST be signed in/out at the office. If for any reason, you need to take your child out of school during school hours, please come to the office to sign your child out.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school for any reason, it is vital that you notify the school prior to 9am, giving the reason for the absence (e.g. If your child is sick, attending an appointment, family holiday etc). This can be done via a few ways:

- Mark absence on PAM.
- Send a note with your child on their return to school, or beforehand if you know in advance
- School answering machine is on out of hours, so you can leave a message on 57521808



SCHOOL NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH	
Tuesday 26 th	Whole School Liturgy 9:15am
Wednesday 27 th	Easter Raffle Drawn and Easter Bonnet Parade 9:00am
Thursday 28 th	End of Term 1- Finish at 2:20pm
APRIL	
Monday 15 th	Start of Term 2
Wednesday 17 th	Go Green for Mental Health & Wellbeing (Wear something Green)
Friday 19 th	JLC LETI Expo 2:30pm
Monday 22 nd	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Tuesday 23 rd	School Advisory Council Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 24 th	Reconciliation Parent Information Night 6:30pm
Thursday 25 th	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
MAY	
Thursday 2 nd	JLC Area Mass 9:15am
Monday 6 th	Assembly EMPAC 2:30pm
Friday 17 th	MLC Area Mass 9:15am
Monday 20 th	Assembly 2:30pm EMPAC
Wednesday 24 th	Reconciliation Parent Information Night 6:30pm
Thursday 25 th	Anzac Day Public Holiday

SCHOOL APP

The school Team App allows us to inform parents about events that are happening in our school and to send reminders to families about upcoming excursions or notes required to be returned to school.

Follow the steps below to access St. Mary's Team App:

- 1 Download Team App (http://teamapp.com/app).
- 2 Launch Team App and search for St Mary's Primary School.
- 3 Sign-up to Team App. You'll be sent an email to confirm your registration.
- 4 Search for St Mary's Primary School and request access to group(s) that apply to you.









School Photos 2024 - St Mary's Primary School

Annual school photos have been taken by Arthur Reed Photos.

To view the images of your child and order photos, you will need to first register online.

- 1. Go to https://order.arphotos.com.au and enter the 2024 image code for your child (from their personalized flyer)
- 2. Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings
- 3. Fill in your email and mobile details and then review all details before confirming your registration

That's it! When 2024 photos are ready, you will be notified by email and SMS.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do it again each year using your child's new image code to link their photos for the current year with your contact details.

To ensure you are ordering school photos for the current year, please wait for notifications that 2024 images are online before placing orders.

In the webshop you can view photos and customize your photo package; Choose ANY layout, ANY image and purchase multiple digital image downloads.

All photo orders will be sent directly to the address you provide when ordering.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW to be notified when 2024 school photos can be viewed and ordered.



CATHOLIC IDENTITY NEWS

Lord, You create all people in your image.

We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures that enrich our country and world. Please enrich our lives by helping us to expand our friendship circles and show us your presence in those who differ most from us. Please help us to be open and to grow to learn that your love is made perfect through kindness and love for all your children. Amen







FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

(Week beginning Monday 18th March)

Partnership in action

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground, working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *for all future generations*.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND DONATIONS BY TUESDAY MARCH 26TH.



I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to Amiee Pozzan and Charlotte Dolny for being our Project Compassion ambassadors during the term. Both girls have presented at assembly and collected the donations from across the school on a regular basis. You are both amazing young people and I truly appreciate all of your hard work. Well done.

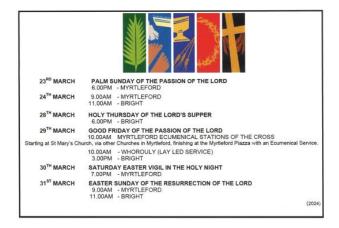
END OF TERM 1 LITURGY WHOLE SCHOOL

SLC- Tuesday March 26th at 9:15am, this is also the whole school end of term Liturgy. All families and parishioners are welcome to attend any of these asses/liturgies.

SACRAMENTAL DATES 2024

Reconciliation: Parent Information Night: 24th April at 6:30pm **Reconciliation Celebration**: 21st May at 6:30pm

Confirmation and First Eucharist Parent Information Evening: 23rd July at 6:30pm **Sacramental Masses:** Saturday 14th September 6pm and Sunday 15th September 9am







PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS



MLC and SLC students have been engaged in basketball skills and drills sessions during their PE classes recently. We have been focussing on dribbling, passing, shooting and rebounding so far. Students have also had the opportunity to play in umpired games with a rotating bench to ensure everyone gets plenty of time on the court.

HUME REGION SWIMMING

Congratulations to the students from the St Mary's swimming squad who represented our school at the Hume Region Swimming Championships in Shepparton recently. You are all to be commended for your efforts in making it this far in school competition. Our squad's results for the day were as follows:

Spence Reynolds: 5th Freestyle

Hunter Szaraszek: 5th Freestyle, 3rd Backstroke

Claye Corcoran: 6th Backstroke

Willow Szaraszek: 4th Backstroke, 5th Breaststroke

12/13yrs 4x50 Freestyle Relay: 2nd 12/13yrs Medley Relay: DQ

WANGARATTA DIVISION TENNIS **TOURNAMENT**

Yesterday, seven students from St. Mary's competed at the division level tennis tournament in Wangaratta, showcasing great skill and positive sporting attitude. Spence Reynolds and Claye Corcoran particularly excelled, qualifying for the regional competition next Wednesday.

Our students faced strong competition in pools of six, securing several victories. Their performance was commendable not only for their athletic achievements but also for how they represented our school. They showed great integrity, effort, and respect throughout the event.

Congratulations to the St Mary's Division Tennis Squad that included:

Spence Reynolds, Lila Murray, Harriet Earl, Mackenzie Reynolds, Mitch McMasters, Zakk Podubinski and Claye Corcoran.

Well done to everyone for embodying the spirit of St. Mary's Primary School, both on and off the court. We're very proud of you.



JUNIOR NEWS

Don't forget that students still need a hat each day for this term. 'No hat, No play.'

FOUNDATION

In foundation we have started doing news share and students have been bringing in all sorts of exciting artefacts to look at and stories to listen to. We have had homemade aged paper maps, army truck museum photos, dinosaurs and picture story books. At

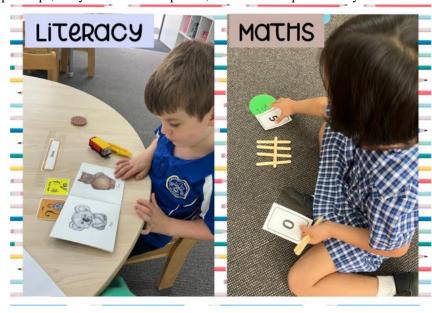
home, students have been busy working through their homework booklets and reading decodable readers. Thank you to the families at home that are supporting this.

LITERACY

Students have shown great pride in themselves as they are merging into decoding words and reading decodable readers. We have been using colorful semantics to identify the characters (nouns) in stories and the actions (verbs) of the characters.

MATHS

Our focus in maths this fortnight has been counting, tallying, data collection and creating graphs. This week we began learning about time. Students will be learning about events and the time of day that they occur and they are familiarising themselves with the daily calendar and the features on a clockface.



BLUEARTH

We have been focusing on ball handling skills and hand eye coordination in Bluearth. These skills not only help the students physically, but doing these activities also helps students build fine motor skills to aid better control of their writing. This week we played with gator skin balls and beanbags with an emphasis on throwing correctly.



INQUIRY

We are fast approaching the end of our Inquiry unit about geography and students are finishing off their projects in LETI that show their learning from the three key understandings...

- 1. We use maps.
- 2. We have special places.
- 3. We respect everyone.



YEAR 1

The Year 1 students are continuing their study of 'Continents, Countries and Maps' this week and have been investigating the Equator and the components of maps.

They have explored 'Sora' an online library and have been listening to a variety of audiobooks each Friday to expand their vocabulary and experience more complex text.

In Writing, we have continued to work on their handwriting, and are editing and publishing their favourite Big Write from the term to gift to their families.

Last week, we studied 'ang, ing, ong and ung' as in sang, sing, song, sung in spelling, this week we moved onto ank, ink, onk and unk as in sank, sink, honk, sunk.

In Maths, the students have continued to work on addition and subtraction strategies and have started to study the duration of months, weeks, days and hours.

In Religious Education, the students have completed work on the three traditions of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. On Monday, they pledged to focus on one of these for the rest of Lent. Some wrote that they were cutting back on T.V., others were donating the clothes they have grown out of or toys they don't play with anymore and some even wanted to cut back on/give up chocolate or sweets.

YEAR 2 - LITERACY

We are finishing up our work on 'Oh the Places You Go'. It's exciting to see where our students are aspiring to go on their travels. We hope that they all get there one day.

MATHEMATICS

In our Number session we have been working hard on our Addition skills. It's been fun using MAB Blocks to model the addition of larger numbers. To work with larger numbers, we have had to develop our knowledge of Place Value. We used Place Value charts to help us organise the equations we tackled.











For the Statistics and Probability area of Mathematics we have been gathering information through tallies and then turning our data into graphs. It was interesting to find what our favourite sports are in Year 2.

LETI

We are continuing to work on our presentations for the LETI Expo. Lots of great work has been produced and we can't wait to show it to you. As we have a very busy schedule for the last week of school and we are missing Good Friday, we have decided to postpone our LETI Expo to the first week back next term. So mark on your calendars Friday 19th April at 2:30pm for our LETI Expo. An invitation will be sent out as a reminder as well.

RELGION

In Religion we looked further into LENT and EASTER. We are exploring the ways we can prepare for Easter during Lent. Our focus has shifted to Almsgiving - investigating into the ways we can give to others. We shared the Faces of Project Compassion Stories on the Project Compassion site to see what our giving can do.

https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/teacher/

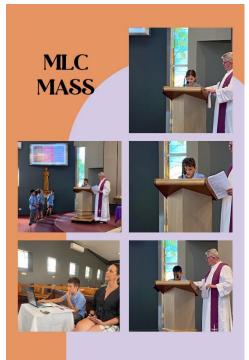
As part of our Lenten efforts, we hold daily prayer. These prayer times are set up and led by the students. We are so proud of how reverent we are!

Have a fantastic week, Carolyn, Jo, Kelly, Nicole, Sandra and Sonia.



MIDDLE NEWS







Brodie - In Mass your parents and family can come. You need to be silent because it is a special place that we respect. Our Mass was about Lent.











Lachlan - TTRS is where we practise our times tables and in jamming we get to choose what times table to do, or we can do division. We love doing gigs. The 'Rest of the World Rocks' was awesome.



Times Tables Rock Stars



Finally, imagine all the marine life, octopus, sharks, fish, salmon and grouper fish you could experience and see. Salmon is an exotic fish and you can eat them, They are so good. Grouper are the size of a human, octopus can blend into the ground and they can wrap around your arm. You could learn so much about marine life. (Rylan)

Sailing around the world - what an incredible adventure! You will visit places you've only seen in your dreams, you could eat amazing foods and you could try awesome sports in other different countries. That is why you should sail around our wonderful world. (**Phoebe**)

Sailing around the world is a big downer, you can get hurt alot and get sick! You can get bad weather and you will be sad! You cannot even move the boat if lightning strikes the sail! I strongly and undoubtedly believe that we should NOT sail around this world of ours. (Skyler)







SENIOR NEWS

To say Term 1 has been busy is a bit of an understatement. We have had camp, parent teacher interviews, masses, pancake breakfast, zone swimming, tennis, NAPLAN, endless afterschool sporting competitions and school photos.

NAPLAN

Year 5 students have completed their NAPLAN assessments. All students have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner allowing them to achieve their very best.

CYBER SAFETY

On Thursday last week the SLC was lucky enough to have Hayley, a very informative Police Officer, show them a presentation relating to being safe in the online world. They learnt about keeping personal information safe, privacy settings on social media platforms, to avoid communicating with people they don't know and watching content that is age appropriate. Hayley answered lots of policing questions and the students were allowed to place handcuffs on each other, try on her ballistic vest and receive a torch keyring. It was an excellent experience and we are hoping to have Hayley back in the near future.



SLC ELECTION

As part of our Civics and Citizenship Inquiry unit we are conducting an election. Students have been placed in teams of 3 or 4 and are campaigning for the "Fast Food of Choice". Each team has a fast food option, for example McDonalds, Boost Juice, fish and chips or Burgerville, that they must create posters, flyers, a campaign speech, slogans and other convincing materials that will persuade our school community to vote for their option. The voting process will reflect preferential voting that is employed here in Australian elections. We have many passionate researchers and campaigners so when we have a voting date set we will be broadcasting this for everyone from foundation to grandparents.

Year 6 parents: We are expecting the Year 6 shirts any time now. Thank you to those who have already paid. As soon as we receive them, we will hand them out!!

Have a terrific last few days of Term 1! SLC Teachers

WELLBEING WEEK - WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL 2024

St. Mary's is very grateful to be part of the Myrtleford Football Netball Club (MFNC) 2024 Mental Wellbeing Week. The focus of the week is to promote mental wellness through a series of events, guest speakers and school activities.

In partnership with Alpine Health Myrtleford, St. Mary's, Myrtleford P-12 and Marian College, Chelea Frawley will be speaking to students from grade 5-12. Chelsea will also deliver a presentation to teachers. St. Mary's students are invited to recognise the importance of our mental health and wellbeing with a "wear green" casual day on Wednesday and will also participate in a Games Day with Myrtleford P-12 on Friday.

Chelsea lost her father Danny Frawley in 2019 and later made a career move to the St Kilda Football Club to help bring a focus on Mental health. Chelsea played a pivotal role in the development and creation of the first AFL Mental Health initiative called Spud's Game – St Kilda V Collingwood. Each year, this game raises funds for the Danny Frawley Centre at Moorabbin Oval. In addition, Chelsea heads up operations and community at the Danny Frawley Centre, an elite mental and physical fitness facility in Moorabbin.

Ashley Pasqualotto Mental Health & Well Being Leader



COMMUNITY NEWS







myrtlef@rd/netball







Have you been thinking about becoming a foster carer? Kids in your area need care! Are you able to provide Aboriginal children and young people with a positive and nurturing family life experience that will support their needs? Will you be prepared to support a child's cultural and emotional needs? Make this the year you make a At VACCA we are seeking carers who are open difference, express your interest by to a journey that is both challenging and visiting www.vacca.org or by calling rewarding; carers who believe that they can one of our offices. make a positive impact on a child's life.



EVENTBRITE LINK TO SIGN UP COMING SOON!