

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2023**

**Newsletter No: 1**

**Term: 1 - Week: 2**

## 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

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

#### Term 2

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

#### Term 3

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

#### Term 4

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

December



Click on the link

## BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

*Loving God thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.*

*Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.*

*Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at the new experiences and a love of learning.*

*Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace and tiredness with energy.*

*Grant teachers wisdom, patience and joy in serving their students in Jesus' name we pray.*

*Amen*



Our first Parents and Friends meeting will be on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30pm. If this time does not suit you, please let me know and we will run a second catch-up meeting. Our P & F was badly hit by COVID and we have not been able to get it up and running since. I look forward to a keen and enthusiastic group starting this important committee again.

St Mary's intends to deliver an electives program next term. If you have a particular skill or passion, you would like to share with our children please give me a call or email. We plan to hold electives every second Monday from 2:20pm until 3:20pm. Each group will have approximately 10 students, and

the ages will be from Foundation through to Year 6. Examples of possible electives could be flower arrangements, footy skills, drawing etc. We look forward to providing your children with a fun activity that will enhance their social and collaborative skills.

After the last few years, St Mary's staff are keen to get parents back into the school volunteering in the classroom. A volunteer form is attached to this newsletter, if you would like to volunteer during the year. If you have already completed this form previously you do not need to do it again. This is a Childsafe requirement that is implemented in all schools.

Our Year 3 and 4 students will have their classrooms filled with brand new furniture next week. This is the last stage of the refurbishment of the area. I thank Nicole Richardson and Kelly Martyn (both on maternity leave) for choosing and organising the new furniture.

Swimming trials were held yesterday. We missed the end of year swimming carnival and therefore we have held trials to ascertain the students that will be eligible for zone swimming. This year there are many strong swimmers, and we wish the group all the best.

Parent Teacher Interviews are next week. We apologise for the mix up in dates. Just to clarify, the dates are the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February.

We have an opening school Mass on the 14<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30am. We welcome all parents to come along.

Have a great week.

Kitty (Principal)

## Week 1



## Students of the week

*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.

- 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 57521808

## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

You can access information about the Child Safe Standards and St. Mary's commitment to the implementation of these standards, including resources, policies, procedures and links, via the school website ([www.smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)).

## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER

| FEBRUARY                   |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>    | Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm   |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>   | Parent Teacher Interviews 3:45 to 6pm  |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> | Parent Teacher Interviews 3:45 to 6pm  |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> | Foundation Rest Day  |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Parent Teacher Interviews 3:45 to 6pm  |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>    | St Mary's Parents and Friends Meeting 2:30pm (St Mary's Board Room)          |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>    | Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm   |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>   | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast 8:15am to 8:45am under the Basketball Court |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Ash Wednesday Mass   |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Foundation Rest Day  |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | O & M Division Swimming Wangaratta   |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>    | Assembly at EMPAC 2:30pm   |

## PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

St Mary's Primary School is hosting Term 1 Parent-Teacher Interviews on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Each meeting is approximately 10 minutes and will be held after school between 3:45 PM and 6:00 PM. Parents and students are encouraged to attend.

Please wait outside until your teacher calls you in for your appointment. We encourage both parents to attend if possible, but if you are unable to attend the available times, please contact your child's teacher to arrange an alternate time. No reminders will be sent, so please add the appointment to your calendar.

These interviews provide an opportunity for parents to learn about their child's academic, emotional and social progress, meet their child's teachers, raise any concerns, and work together to support their child. If you don't have any specific concerns, it's still important to attend as it shows your child that you are invested in their education and growth.

Book your appointment through the online booking portal by clicking on the link below. Please arrive on time to ensure the smooth running of the interviews. If you need more time with a teacher, please schedule a separate meeting or phone call.

Parent Teacher Interviews Booking Link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code/227an>

**If you have not already downloaded Team App follow the instructions below.**

## 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.



"LET THE WORDS YOU SPEAK ALWAYS BE FULL OF GRACE" (COLOSSIANS 4:6)



## WELCOME TO THE 2023 SCHOOL YEAR!

This year is our school's Centenary year, so it will be our '100 Years, year'.

Our school was officially opened and classes started on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1923. We will be having celebrations and events throughout the year to celebrate 100 years of education at St Mary's.

The very first events will be a whole school Mass on Friday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am and a School Community, Parish, past and present students and families Mass on Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. (The Official 100 Years Anniversary).

Please spread the news far and wide that everyone who would like to join us on the 11<sup>th</sup> March is more than welcome. More information will be shared shortly.



## OPENING SCHOOL YEAR MASS FOR 2023

On Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, we will be celebrating the start of the school year with our Opening School Year Mass. All families are welcome to attend.

## SHROVE TUESDAY/PANCAKE TUESDAY

We are having our traditional 'St Mary's Pancake Breakfast' for Shrove Tuesday on February 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:15am - 8:45am. Families are invited to join us for a lovely breakfast together. Pancakes can be purchased for a gold coin donation. This special breakfast is also the launch of Project Compassion at our school. All money raised from the gold coin donation will be collected for Project Compassion. More information about Project Compassion will be in the next newsletter.

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS - ST MARY'S, MARIAN COLLEGE AND THE PARISH COMMUNITY

We will be having our Ash Wednesday Mass on Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30am.

This is a Parish Mass and students from Year 1 to Year 6 will be joined by students from Marian College and the Parish Community. All families are welcome to attend this important Mass for the start of Lent.

## 2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

### Reconciliation (Year 3 and above)

Parent Information Evening: Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the McMahon Centre.

Reconciliation Celebration: Tuesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm St Mary's Church.

### Confirmation and Eucharist (Year 4 and above)

Parent Information Evening: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6:30pm

### Confirmation and Eucharist Masses

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in St Mary's Church

Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9am in St Mary's Church

A letter will be going home next week to students in Years 3 and 4, if you have an older child who would like to receive the Sacrament, please let me know,

Have a wonderful and joy filled year.

Jo Bennett

REC

## BIRTHDAYS







## JUNIOR NEWS

Welcome back to school to all our students and parents! To all our new families, we are very excited to have you at St Mary's and look forward to getting to know you.

Term one has started off beautifully, with our children ready and excited for school. Parents are most welcome to come into the classroom any morning. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

**Foundation:** Ashley Pasqualotto - [apasqualotto@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:apasqualotto@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)  
**Year 2:** Carolyn Deith - [cdeith@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cdeith@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)  
**Year 2:** Jo-Ann Bennett - [jbennett@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jbennett@smmyleford.catholic.edu.au)

## FOUNDATION

We love getting to know all of our new students. The first full week has been busy and we have been spending lots of time learning about the routines and rules of our classroom and school.







## YEAR 1

We have started the year off with some getting to know you activities and familiarising ourselves with our environment. Students have started literacy with a book 'Stellarphant' that was one of the shortlisted books for Book Week in 2022. We have been using the book in our Structured Literacy lessons to learn about Vocabulary, Sentences and Character Traits. We have also been doing some fine motor exercises to warm up our fingers for handwriting; throwing & catching, painting and cutting. See photos. In Maths we are practising counting by 2's and counting to 100. We have played card games and used our whiteboards to correctly form digits from 0 to 9. See photos. At recess and lunch, we have enjoyed being back in the playground with our friends.



## Counting





## YEAR 2

The Year 2 students have hit the ground running and have already achieved so much over the first week and a half of the term. I am very proud of their growth mindsets and enthusiasm for learning. We have been studying 'How to make a bird' in our structured literacy sessions and are focusing on the vocabulary in the story, comprehension, inference and sentence structure. The students have been responding to comprehension questions in a variety of ways. The students have already written and edited a Big Write for the term on 'I am me' and will be writing a 'Big Write' on the prompt 'Family' on Thursday. In Maths, we have been working on place value of numbers to 1,000 and have played a variety of Michael Minas maths games to practise our knowledge. All the JLC students thoroughly enjoyed getting back into LETI on Friday and the Year 2 students have stepped up as leaders, working with the younger students.



**JLC  
LETI  
FUN**



## MIDDLE NEWS

Welcome back to the new school year. It has been a great start to the year with our new bunch of Year 3/4 students. We are looking forward to a great year of learning in the Middle Learning Community!

It was wonderful to see lots of our children and families at Cundy Park last night to welcome in the school year.

A big welcome to our new students, Phoebe Cresswell, Kellie Preston and their families, who have joined us this year and are settling in beautifully.

Notes were sent home last week, outlining our timetable for Term One and notifying families about when Specialist programs are, when sport uniforms are to be worn and expectations of home reader folders/home reading.

Well done to our students for consistently bringing along water bottles and wearing hats.

*The students enjoyed the Skittle and Paper Plane activities this week, which included measurement and data.*

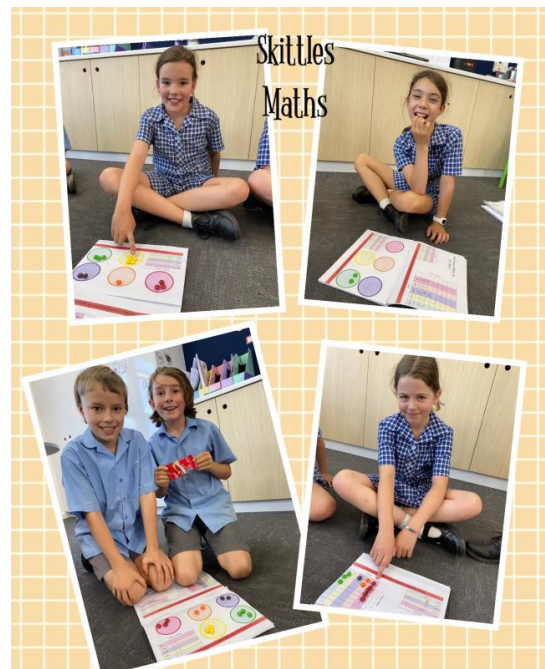
*Elle: sorting the skittles Connor and Ben: sorting the skittles*

*Lexi: eating the data*

*Lachlan: SQUIRT*

*Kellie: skittle bar graph*

*Zakk: SQUIRT*



We are looking forward to seeing you at the Parent Teacher Interviews next week.

Julie, April, Lucia and Anna

Welcome back to the New Year everyone. This year in the SLC, the homeroom teachers are Mrs Jackson, Miss Wall and Ms Lamb will be working with the students in tutoring and sometimes releasing teachers for planning. Mr Davis will have Homeroom Jackson on a Friday and Mrs Hancock will have Homeroom Wall on a Friday. The unit will, at times, work together on some subject areas such as Inquiry and Religion. The students have a diary for the year. This will be used to communicate to parents, reminders for students to bring or complete things, this is to help with organization of their time.

**The curriculum we will be covering this term we will include -**

### **INQUIRY - AUSTRALIAN HISTORY**

In relation to colonial Australia and its impact, students will explore, identify and describe change and continuity, the causes and effects of change in society, and they will compare the different experiences and perspectives of people in the past. This unit will prepare the students for their experiences at Sovereign Hill camp.

### **ENGLISH**

We will be learning and deepening our understanding of sentence structure, nouns, verbs and adjectives. The students will be working on punctuation and looking at the spelling of words through learning about the morphology of the words. Much of our Inquiry information will be used as reading material in English.

### **MATHS**

In Mathematics, the students will be working on place value; decimals through to millions, the writing and saying of large numbers, probability and interpreting graphs and data. We will have a particular focus on the students consolidating their times tables this term and encourage families to work on this together at home. The students have received a pack with Maths Mates for the term. They will be due each Thursday. Students can do these at any time however there are no excuses for not completing them. Should they misplace them, it is their responsibility to ask for a new one.

### **RELIGION**

The topic for this term in Religion is The Church in Australia. This unit ties in neatly with our Australian History topic, covering the impacts of religion, life beliefs, struggles and triumphs. We will also be covering the indigenous perspective of Dreamtime.

### **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY**

Mr Corcoran has worked through the Digital Technology Policy with the students. Although an exceptionally dry topic, it is important the students are aware of their responsibilities in regard to using technology in all its facets. The next step is for the students to work on their digital eSmart licenses. There will be no need for them to take iPads home this term as yet. Digital Technology can be one of the most challenging areas of the curriculum at times and we do not take the misuse of our digital platforms lightly, as adults we know too well the ramifications the misuse of the internet and technology can have.

### **HOMEWORK**

Students will have received a Maths Mate pack and are to complete one each week, and these are due each Thursday morning. If your child is unable to complete a question please feel free to help them, however if you could circle that question it lets us know that this may be an area we can teach that week. It is ok to leave difficult or challenging questions if your child is stressing on it. If your child is happy to work through the Maths Mates on a rainy day that is fine, as long as they are at school by the Thursday morning of that week. We ask that the children choose a times table they are unsure of and master it. This could be for example, the seven times tables or the nine times.

### **CAMP**

We will be going to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat for our camp this year, how exciting. Notes and permission forms have been uploaded to PAM, please read through these and make sure they have been signed. Naturally students are nervous about camp and we will continue to reassure them. We will have some Year 7 students chat to them about their time at Sovereign Hill. Just a note that all students will need black leather school shoes as part of their old school experience.

### **THANK YOU**

Following the passing away of my mum, I would like to thank the amazing staff, who in the first week jumped in and kept my classroom running. Thank you to the caring students of the SLC, and particularly my homeroom who went about getting on with business while I was away. Thank you for your prayers, words and kind thoughts. The students have been very understanding and supportive as I work through grief, as for some of them this is also a recent experience. There's nothing like being surrounded by laughter and kindness at these times.

Have a great week,  
Gab, Hannah, Ruth, Adam and Kitty.







## Piano lessons

### DURING SCHOOL

Peter Benson is a full-time piano teacher and has been teaching piano for 36 years, and the last 16 years teaching students from St Mary's Primary School. He has a Bachelor of Creative Arts in Composition and Jazz Piano from the University of Wollongong. He is a qualified Prep to 12 classroom music teacher. For many years he has worked as a professional musician, as a solo artist and in various band lineups. Some of his students have gone on to work as professional musicians.

Lessons are \$44 for 30 minutes,  
or \$41 for 30 minutes if the invoice is paid on time.

Please call 0411 127 335



## Myrtleford Junior Football Club Meet and Greet

Friday 17th February 2023 @ McNamara reserve  
Under 12's, Under 14's, Under 17's.  
Current, New, Old, Male and Female Players Welcome.  
4:30pm - 5:30pm light training.  
5:30pm - 6pm meet the coach's & enjoy a free sausage and soft drink  
Parents / Guardians encouraged to attend also.

Please bring along any footy boots you wish to swap or sell.

For training - Bring both footy boots (if you have them) runners and a drink bottle to each training.

For Further info, contact President Andrea on 0429101915



## Friends of Lacluta Fundraiser Evening

Saturday, March 25th 2023  
Smorgasbord Dinner

\$50 p/p  
(Buy your own drinks)

6 pm for a 6:30 pm start

Bookings essential:

Club Savoy (03) 57511296

### Club Savoy Myrtleford

Guest Speaker: Margie Beck AM.  
Former Deputy Director Marist Teachers' College, Timor Leste

Auctions: Local experiences, services, wines and accommodation  
Mega Raffle

Funds will support education and health programs in Timor Leste

## RESTORE 'n REPAIR

Annual Repair Café & Kustom Car Event

**SATURDAY FEB 18TH 2023**  
10AM - 2PM @ MYRTLEFORD SHOWGROUNDS

Featuring **Chopped and Changed Kustom Car Club**  
and their Chevy Hotrod powered by Tesla.

Launching **EV Conversions** • **Community Power**  
**Salvage Shop** • **Puzzle Swap** • **Community Garden Produce**  
BBQ, TEA / COFFEE AND CAKES AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION

#### BRING ALONG ITEMS FOR REPAIR:

CLOTHING & TEXTILES FOR MENDING • HOUSE & GARDEN TOOLS FOR SHARPENING  
ELECTRONIC ITEMS • BATTERY POWERED ITEMS • BICYCLES  
CARS / UTES / PICKUPS (Advice and Parts available) • FURNITURE • GENERAL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS



#### COMPETITIONS!

Prizes for for best repaired, repurposed & recycled items ... Enter via QR Code.

see [www.facebook.com/myrtlefordrepaircafe](https://www.facebook.com/myrtlefordrepaircafe) for further information

Myrtleford Repair Café is part of and auspiced by Myrtleford & District Landcare and Sustainability Group.  
Repair, Repurpose, Reuse, Renew.

Do you like to re-purpose? repair?  
recycle or upcycle?

## COMPETITION

@Mega Repair Café Event

in the Cattle Pavillion

Saturday 18th February, 2023

Five Categories



#### OPEN CATEGORIES:

- **A Repurposed Household Item.** Repurposed means adapt for use in a different purpose.
- **Upcycled Garden Item.** Upcycled means reuse (discarded objects or material) in such a way as to create a product of higher quality or value than the original.
- **Repaired clothing Item:** Repaired means restore something damaged or worn to a good condition.

#### PRIMARY AGED STUDENTS:

- **Recycled Art.** Recycled means making rubbish into something new.

#### SECONDARY AGED STUDENTS

- **Scrap Project** e.g. wood, fabric, paper, metal, ceramics. Scraps means any small piece or amount of something, especially one that is left over after the greater part has been used.



Please register your entry via the QR code.



Entries close and to be brought to the Cattle Pavillion  
on Friday 17th February between 5:00 and 7:00 pm