



Newsletter

Term 3, Week 4

Thursday August 5th, 2021



We acknowledge and respect the past and present Elders, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and custodians of this land the Dja Dja Wurrung people.

Thank you for protecting and preserving our land Australia in the past, for sharing it now and educating us for the future.

We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future and acknowledge their spiritual connection to Country.

Wonder • Persevere • Believe • Create
Respect • Responsibility • Resilience

TERM DATES

AUGUST Wednesday, 11th	Gr. 3/4 & Gr. 5/6 Mass - 9:15am	Sunday, 29th	1st Holy Communion - 10:30am
Sunday, 15th	Feast of the Assumption Mass - 10:30am	SEPTEMBER Friday, 3rd	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY - Staff Professional Development
	Mt. Alexander Bushwalk following Mass - pls see P & F		
Friday, 20th	Kryal Castle Chess Tournament - TBC	Tuesday, 14th	Sporting Colour Dress Up & Special Lunch
Monday, 23rd to Friday, 27th	Book Week & Book Fair Dress Up Day - Monday, 23rd	Thursday, 16th	School Production (proposed date - TBC)
Wednesday, 25th	First Communion Preparation Evening - with Denise Arnel - 7:00pm	Friday, 17th	Whole School Mass - 9:15am
			Last day of Term 3 - 2:30pm finish

Mary MacKillop Prayer

Create in us, O God, a new heart and renew a fresh spirit within us. Through the life and example of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop stir into flame the gifts you have given to each of us and the faith to use them without reserve.

Mary, a woman of faith,

Mary, a woman with foresight,

Mary, your life made a difference,

Mary, you were prepared to live among those whom you served.

Let love guide us all our lives.

Amen



Dear families,

Next Sunday is the feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross – Mary MacKillop, Australia’s first saint. Mary MacKillop is not only the first Australian to be recognised by the Church as a Saint, she is truly a very Australian saint. She characterises the spirit of the Australian mythology. She was a prodigious hard worker who put the needs of others before herself. She exhibited something of the larrikin spirit: constantly in dispute with authority but pressing on, regardless. She used the strengths of others but also didn’t tolerate those who were not genuine. Her commitment to the schooling of children from poor and rural communities established a model of Catholic education that continues to today. We continue today to honour her legacy as a Catholic school in making sure the children in our care are afforded the best possible learning opportunities.

School Review

This week St. Mary’s is undertaking a whole school review, conducted by ourselves and facilitated by Michael Rowland (an external reviewer). These reviews run in 5 year cycles. Since the term 3 last year, staff have been engaged in marking a self-reflection rubric based on our current reality, to inform our future directions. There has been extensive work in this process which gives us the opportunity to explore our preferred way forward and the strategies to support this. A report will be generated which encapsulates all this information and will be presented during the dialogue and engagement phase towards the end of the term. Michael will meet with various panels over the next fortnight to hear the stories behind the evidence we’ve presented and gain a greater understanding of operations and proposed future endeavours. He will then affirm the great work happening and make recommendations based on all he has heard, seen and read. It is a great opportunity for us, which we embrace, as we strive for continuous improvement as a school. The initial compliance phase has been completed over the past two days with an exceedingly positive outcome – we are compliant!

Thank you to the staff for their ongoing support in reaching this milestone.

2022 Prep enrolments

We are currently in the process of accepting enrolments for Foundation for 2022. If there are any siblings (of current students) who have not yet enrolled, could parents please do so by filling out an enrolment form, to allow us to continue our planning for next year. Enrolment forms are available at the office, or on our website.

We are hoping to finalise our enrolment numbers by the end of this term.

Book week 2021 - 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'

Book Week this year runs from Aug 21st-27th and the theme is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. We are planning many activities to celebrate the wonderful world of literature!

To kick off Book Week, Dress up day will be Monday 23rd August:

On this day, we are asking all students to come to school dressed up as a character from their favourite book or to reflect the theme. We will have some fun activities exploring the shortlisted picture story books in our class groups on that day, along with rotations throughout the week.

Reading is such a fundamental skill to succeed in life and we want to celebrate that, as well as the immense joy it brings us as well.

Start thinking about your costumes now, we will have a prize for the best dressed boy and girl from each learning team at our whole school dress up day on Monday 23rd August. If the restrictions permit, we will organise some guest judges!



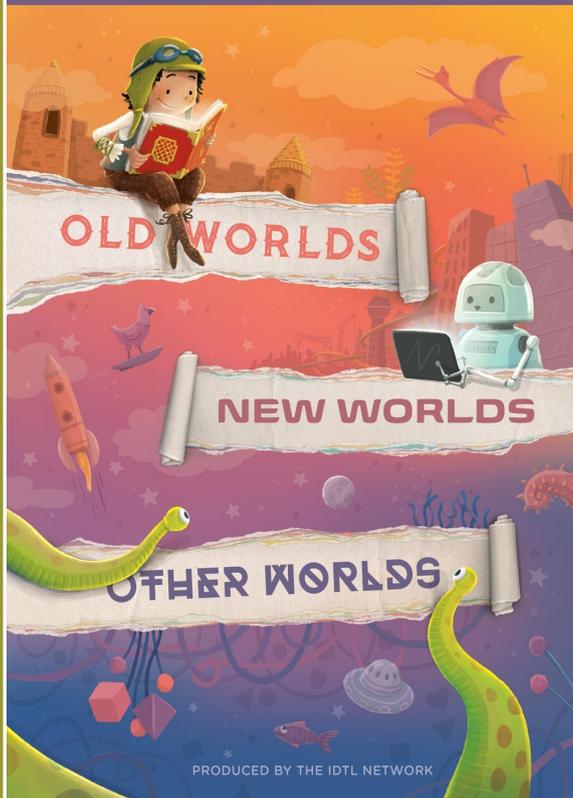
School closure - Friday 3rd September

A reminder that we have an upcoming school closure day here at St. Mary's. **Students do not attend school.** The staff will be engaged in professional development, focusing on the science of learning and the function of the brain. It will be facilitated by Dr Jared Cooney Horvath from the University of Melbourne. The insights and learning we will get from these sessions will continue to enhance the learning environment and learning culture we both advocate and aspire to.

Kind regards,
Ben Shields.

Book Week 2021

CBCA BOOK WEEK 2021



Monday 23rd to Friday 27th August

The world of books will be celebrated once again during the annual Book Week activities.

Students will have the opportunity to enjoy a range of books that have been shortlisted for various awards by the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA). The CBCA is a not for profit organisation which aims to engage the community with literature for young Australians. The CBCA presents the annual Children's Book of the Year Awards to books of literary merit, recognising their contribution to Australian children's literature.

The school will also be holding a Book Fair in which students will be able to purchase books. Dates and times for book sales will be advised in the upcoming newsletters.

P & F News . . .

LADIES NIGHT: Friday 20th August. Venue and time TBA.

SUSHI LUNCH ORDER DAY: Orders to be in by 5:00pm on the Thursday.

BREAKFAST CLUB:

Further information to follow when this will resume.

STUDENT SPECIAL LUNCH DAY:

We have a fish and chip day coming up on Tuesday, 14th September, when students also get the opportunity to wear their favourite football colours (in readiness for the footy finals). Details of ordering TBA.

TERM 3 SOCIAL EVENT - Sunday 15th August:

Join with our school community for 10:30am mass followed by a bush walk and campfire at Leanganook, Mt Alexander. BYO picnic lunch. Marshmallows provided! (Subject to COVID restrictions).

NEXT MEETING:

Date to be advised.

Term 3:



St Mary's Music Hall

School Production

***WHEN it's on:** We are aiming to have our P – 6 school production called “St Mary's Music Hall” in the last week of term 3 at St Mary's Hall. There will be two shows on the day, a matinee and evening show.

***WHAT it's about:** The production is about the history of “Music Hall” entertainment that occurred in Australia from 1890 to 1930. The shows were based on a variety of entertainment including singing, dancing, circus acts, joke telling, poetry recitals, magic and playing musical instruments.

***COSTUMES – WHAT to wear: For all students:**

- All costumes will be worn to school on production day. There will be no changing of costumes required.
- White, navy or black short/long-sleeved buttoned shirt, blouse, or tee-shirt. (No patterns)
- Black or navy long shorts (to the knees), pants, skirt or dress. (No patterns).
- Students wearing a skirt or dress will need to wear black or navy bike shorts (monkey bar shorts) underneath.
- Black clean, polished school shoes.
- Optional black or navy jacket, blazer, vest, waistcoat.
- White, black or navy socks
- Optional top hat or old fashioned cap.
- All students will be provided with a hairband, bow tie or long tie for the shows.

We would like to wish the following student a very happy birthday for next week:

Bianca Lawrence : August 7th

Alyssa Burnett : August 12th

Synbol Lino : August 12th



★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!



'Sustainability is our SUPER POWER!'

Landcare Week, August 4 - 6

Landcare is about working together caring for the land to preserve our natural resources and biodiversity for generations to come. Landcare enables people to actively care for the natural environment in their community.

You can be part of a movement who do something every day to make a difference to caring for your local environment. We know many people are time poor but there are many ways to get involved that don't take up a huge amount of time. Every little bit helps.

At Home – how you can get involved in Landcare?

- **Help your local environment** and join your local group.
- **Save your items from landfill** by joining your local Pay It Forward Facebook group.
- **Volunteer** and get your hands dirty at the next local community event.
- **Start your own local group** in your suburb, at work, your local school or youth group.
- **Fundraise** for a local group.
- **Get social** and promote your local group's activities online.
- **Handy with your hands?** Many groups need help from people who like wood-work, and can help them make and maintain birdhouses and nesting boxes for different species.
- **Sign up to our newsletters** and keep informed.
- **You can help protect native species** in your own backyard. Bring back native bees and birds by enhancing their habitat simply by creating a bee hotel, or bird nesting boxes
- **Woof woof!** Ensure your dogs are kept on a leash in nature reserves or bush-land.
- **Plant native** shrubs, trees and flowers to bring bird life and bees into your garden
- Keep cats inside overnight.
- **Help injured or lost wildlife** by calling local authorities.

- CSEF -

If your circumstances have changed and you have recently acquired a Health Care Card, please call the office by the closing date of Thursday, 12th August to apply for CSEF funding of \$125 per child to go towards your child's excursion and camp costs.

After School Care . . .

ST. MARY'S AFTER SCHOOL HOURS CHILOCARE

- *Relaxed, inclusive and fun environment for afterschool care, in the lovely grounds of St. Mary's School*
 - *Lots of activities, sports, crafts, cooking, and bike riding*
- *Qualified care available most afternoons and some mornings*
- *Compliance, auspiced through IgniteMinds Child Care Provider*
 - *Inquiries welcome, call Vanessa Johnstone 0401 185052*
 - *Pickup and transport to venue can be arranged*

Community News . . .



Learn. Care. flourish

CLOSING DATE EXTENDED TO 9 AUGUST

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
KYNETON
SEMPER FIDELIS

Enrolments Closing Soon

Enrolments for Year 7, 2023 are closing soon.

Limited places are currently available at Years 7-12, 2021.

Opportunities for College Tours and Online Virtual Conversations can be found in the 'Enrolments' section of the College's website.

Contact the College Registrar for enrolment enquiries.

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