



Newsletter

Term 4, Week 6

Thursday November 11th, 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

NOVEMBER Tuesday, 9th - Thursday, 18th	Book Fair	Thursday, 2nd	Picnic and Movie Night on the Oval
Friday, 12th	SCHOOL CLOSURE - Staff PD	Friday, 3rd	SCHOOL CLOSURE - Staff PD
Sunday, 14th	Confirmation Mass - 10:30am	Tuesday, 7th	Going Up Day - Gr's Prep - 5 Including Foundation 2022 Transition Day - Sacred Heart
Wednesday, 17th	Gr. 1/2 Mass - 9:15am Parents & Friends Meeting - 9:30-10:30am	Wednesday, 8th	School Sports Carnival
Friday, 19th	Gr. 5/6 Mass - 9:15am (TBC)	Monday, 13th	Reports Released EOY/Graduation Mass - 6:00pm
Sunday, 21st	First Communion Mass & Feast of Christ the King - 10:30-11:30am	Tuesday, 14th	Sausage Sizzle Lunch Last Day of Term 4
Wednesday, 24th	Foundation 2022 Transition Morning - 9:00am - 10:30am	Wednesday, 15th Thursday, 16th	Numeracy Testing Bookings via PAM
Friday, 26th	Filming of School Concert	Monday, 31st JAN Tuesday, 1st FEB	Literacy Testing Bookings via PAM
DECEMBER Wednesday, 1st	Foundation 2022 Transition Morning - 9 - 10:30am	Wednesday, 2nd	Students commence for 2022

Remembrance Day

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.
Lest we forget.



We acknowledge the First Nations peoples of this land, seas and waterways on which we gather. The First Nations peoples of these places were the first to dance stories and remember times of healing and hurt. We acknowledge the elders past and present, and future and know that these lands, seas and waterways, always were, are and will always be, the land of the First Nations peoples.

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month each year we remember the moment in 1918 when World War I came to an end. On Remembrance Day, we remember Australian men and women who have served in war and peacekeeping activities.

This Remembrance Day, RSL is asking all Australians to Remember to Remember – to commit to pausing for just one minute to remember those who gave their lives in service to their country, those who returned home injured or ill, and those who bravely serve our country today.

Dear families,

It's hard to believe that it is already week 6! Where has this term gone. It's been great to see parents coming in and checking out the classrooms, talking to staff and re-engaging face-to-face with St Mary's in general. As the restrictions continue to ease, we have some exciting plans in store to have some fun with the end of the school year approaching rapidly.

Professional Development Day

A friendly reminder that tomorrow is a closure day for St Mary's. The staff are very excited to be reconnecting with our Science of Learning/Educational Neuroscience professional development with Dr Jared Cooney-Horvath. The focus for the day will be around the learning trajectory; moving students from shallow learning, to deep learning and transferring skills and knowledge to varying contexts.

Confirmation

This Sunday we are looking forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with Cayden, Stella, Oliver, Felix, Niamh, Abbey, Madeleine, Ryan, Sebastian and Alexandra. The patience and wait will be worth it, to celebrate again together as a community. We are asking that the candidates meet at the Buckley Room at 10am on Sunday morning.

A warm welcome to Chris and Jayde!

It's always great to have some fresh faces around. We would love to formally welcome Chris Szabo-Bencze to our St Mary's staff. He has taken on the maintenance position and started at a blistering pace – the grounds are looking sensational! We look forward to a long term partnership with Chris.

We would also like to welcome Jayde Turner to St Mary's. As the Gr 1/2 parents already know, Jayde is joining us as a student teacher from Australian Catholic University. She has fitted in seamlessly and made fantastic connections with the students!

Book Week

How nice it is to finally have some events taking place again! This week we have celebrated Book Week. The dress up day on Wednesday is the best supported and most energised celebration of literacy I have seen in many many years. I know this can be stressful for parents with arranging costumes etc. but it is definitely worth it. So many smiles and so much joy!

School events

Please note some of the dates for end of the year events at the beginning newsletter. As we continue to navigate the community and school guidelines for gatherings, please understand that we may need/be able to make adjustments to the nature of these events to enable more community participation. This will be communicated with you as quickly as possible.

Semester 2 Student Reports

Staff are beginning their preparation of student reports for Semester 2. Again this year, as a result of the significant period of remote learning, there are changes to the requirements of schools in the way these reports are provided.

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) has worked with the other sectors in Victoria to develop a consistent approach to the reporting of student achievement and progress. The reporting requirements reflect the approved reporting exemptions provided by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority.

This Semester, teachers will be providing an overview of what has been achieved in the areas of English, Mathematics and Religious Education. They will also provide an indication of the progress made by each student in these areas, accompanied by a general comment reflecting each the learning journey through semester 2.

Reports will be available to parents and carers via PAM on Monday 13th December.

Condolences

On behalf of the St Mary's community, I would like to send our condolences to Allison Freeman and her family on the recent passing of her father. May we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Wishing you all a happy and safe week ahead.

Kind regards,
Ben Shields.



St Mary's Book Fair

Read all about it!!!



St Mary's Book Fair sales is set to commence on Tuesday 9th November and finish on Thursday 18th November 2021. The venue for the Fair is **Dhelkunya Dja building**.

Students from each grade will have opportunities throughout the week to view the books and complete their wish list that will be provided by the classroom teacher.

Purchasing items can be achieved in one of two ways:

1. Pay by cash or Credit Card
2. Online order

Parents can make payments on our **Scholastic BOOK FAIR** (not Book Club) online site from instructions on the back of the wish list or Fair invite brochure. They insert their receipt number and the children then return the slip to Mrs Burchett in **Dhelkunya Dja** and they can pick up their chosen book.

You can make a secure credit card payment online. Please ensure your child presents this at the Fair to collect their books.

RECORD YOUR PAYMENT RECEIPT NUMBER BELOW

Please go to: www.scholastic.com.au/payment
You will receive an 8-digit receipt number with your credit card payment.
Please record this number below and provide details of the credit card holder.

RECEIPT NUMBER	AMOUNT PAID
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □	\$ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

First Name: _____
Surname: _____
School: _____
Suburb/State: _____ Daytime Tel: _____

Please fill out details clearly in either blue or black pen. Thank you for supporting our Book Fair! Every purchase benefits our school! SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

My Wish List Child's Name: _____
Teacher: _____ Class: _____
School: _____
I previewed the books at my Scholastic Book Fair. Here are some of the books that interested me:

TITLE	LOCATION	PRICE

Parents: if you are unable to attend the Book Fair, please see over for a pre-payment option. Thank you for supporting our Book Fair! Every purchase benefits our school! SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

Orders for all items will be accepted up to and including Thursday 18th November.

In the case of high demand for particular books and the stock is depleted, a re-order will be put in and the book/s will be forwarded to the student/s ASAP.

The Book Fair is a very exciting time for students to view the many different types of books on offer.

A percentage of all book sales will go towards purchasing new reading material for the school and enhance the students of St Mary's reading journey.

Parents who wish to visit the Book Fair with their child are reminded to report to office prior to visiting Book Fair. Hard copies of your Covid certificates must also be sent in to the office to meet current regulations if you wish to be onsite. Thank you for your co-operation.

Newsflash!

“St Mary’s Music Hall” School Production

*Very exciting news! The production is now going to be filmed onsite by a local filming company called “Top Hat Productions” on **Friday 26th November**. They will film, edit and put together a DVD of the production.

*Students will come to school on **Friday 26th November** dressed in their costume ready to perform and be filmed.

*Costume Reminder: For all students:

- **All costumes will be worn to school on production filming day. There will be no changing of costumes required.**
- White, navy or black short/long-sleeved buttoned shirt, blouse, or tee-shirt. (No patterns/writing)
- Black or navy long shorts, pants, skirt or dress. School/sport navy shorts and pants are fine.
- 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.
- Plain white, black or navy school socks.
- Optional top hat or old-fashioned cap.

All students will be provided with a hair band, bow tie or long tie for the production.

PREP HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Reminder that Trina Douglas, our school nurse, will be visiting this coming Monday, 15th November to carry out health assessments on our Prep children. If you have not returned your Questionnaire and wish that Trina sees your child, please contact the school office prior to Monday morning.

P & F News . . .

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the P & F will be Wednesday, 17th November - 9:30-10:30am.

Venue : School - outside under the shade sails.

You will need to check in at reception and provide the office with proof of vaccination - your certificate (this can be emailed through to Karen/Jo in the office).

Anyone wishing to join the meeting are most welcome. BYO cuppa!

Student Special Lunch Day:

Thank you to Papas Fish Shop for catering for our student special lunch order day. The students very much enjoyed their fish and chip lunch!

Papas very generously donated 20% of the total cost of the orders back to our school which will go towards the purchasing of sausages and bread for our final school day sausage sizzle lunch-thank you Papas!

Thank you also to the parents who kindly assisted with the organisation of this special lunch day for the students.

We look forward to our next student special lunch day later this term-stay tuned!

MOVIE NIGHT



The
GRINCH

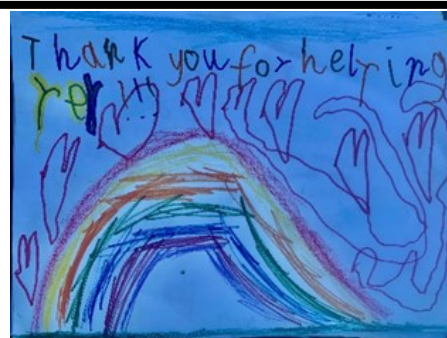
Thursday 2nd December

**BYO picnic dinner on the school oval
from 7pm**

**Movie to start approximately
8 - 8.30pm**

Please do not bring alcohol

**COVID safe measures will be in place. Visitors aged 16+ must be fully vaccinated and have provided their certificate to the office.*



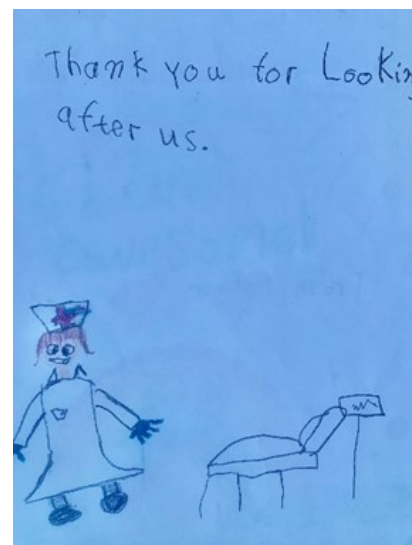
Thank you to all the students and Mrs Byrne who created the beautiful art work for our health care workers. My sisters and I are creating boxes of gifts to send to the health workers who work in the COVID wards supporting our region. So far we have sent off boxes, of gifts and artwork, to the Northern, Royal Melbourne and Sunshine hospitals and will continue to send more boxes.

If you would like to donate any items (such as pens, lollies, toiletries etc.) to send to our health care workers you can contact us at:

Email: boxes4you33@gmail.com

Facebook: Boxes 4 you from your Regional kind towns

Thank you for all your support and beautiful artwork, Alison Condliffe (Miss C)



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

Julius Carney : 18th November

Ailish Kennedy : 18th November





‘Sustainability is our SUPER POWER!’

Coffee, coffee, coffee...Left over coffee grounds have their own super powers:

Fertilize Your Garden, Compost It for Later

Repel Insects and Pests To use coffee grounds as an insect and pest repellent, simply set out bowls of grounds or sprinkle them around outdoor seating areas. You can also keep pests out of your garden by scattering coffee grounds around your plants. They help create a barrier that slugs and snails do not like to crawl over.

Remove Fleas from Your Pet Simply rub the grounds throughout your pet's fur after shampooing. Then rinse them off and allow your pet to dry as usual. Also, coffee grounds should only be used externally. They can be toxic to dogs if consumed.

Neutralize Odors You can place a bowl of coffee grounds in your fridge or freezer to neutralize odors from spoiled or fragrant foods. You can even keep coffee grounds by the sink and use them to scrub your hands after chopping garlic or onions. The grounds will help remove the smell from your hands.

Use It as a Natural Cleaning Scrub Coffee grounds can be used as an abrasive cleaner.

Exfoliate Your Skin Simply mix coffee grounds with a little bit of water or coconut oil and scrub them with your hands directly onto your face and body.

Use It as a Natural Dye By rewetting used coffee grounds, you can create an inexpensive and all-natural dye that can be used to color cotton, rayon, cellophane, linen and paper.

Clean Your Fireplace By scattering used coffee grounds over the ashes, you can weigh them down and prevent smoke clouds from forming.

Tenderize Meat Simply add used coffee grounds to your favourite dry-rub recipe and apply the rub to the meat two hours before cooking.

Stimulate Hair Growth and Strip Buildup Exfoliating your scalp with coffee grounds can help remove buildup and dead skin cells. Before you shampoo, simply grab a handful of coffee grounds and massage them into your scalp and hair for a few minutes. Then wash and rinse as you normally would.

Repair Scratched Furniture First, make a thick paste with used coffee grounds and water. Then rub the paste into the scratch using a cotton swab, allow it to sit for 5–10 minutes and then wipe with a cotton rag. This should help buff out the scratch and conceal it by dyeing the exposed wood a dark-brown color. Continue to dab coffee into the scratch using a cotton swab until the desired color is achieved, waiting a few hours between applications.

Grow Mushrooms You can use this method to grow just about any kind of mushroom, but shiitake and oyster varieties seem to be the easiest.

Treat Under-Eye Circles Simply add water or coconut oil to your coffee grounds to form a paste. Apply the mixture under your eyes and let it sit for about 10 minutes before rinsing. Repeat this process daily or as needed.

Want to help your kids?

A young person you know may be experiencing a mental health or substance abuse problem.



Come along to Youth Mental Health First Aid training where you'll learn:

- The difference between normal adolescent development and a developing mental health problem
- How to have open conversations with young people
- Signs and symptoms of possible mental health problems
- Where to seek further help.

Over two evening sessions, plus some self-directed online learning you'll learn all this, receive take home resources, meet other parents and enjoy a free meal.

WHAT:	Blended Youth Mental Health First Aid Training
WHEN:	5.00pm to 9.00pm 15 and 18 November 2021
WHERE:	Civic Centre, Corner of Lyttleton and Lloyd Streets, Castlemaine
COST:	\$70
BOOK:	www.mountalexandershireyouth.com.au/training
CONTACT:	Shannon Lacy 5471 1700 youth@mountalexander.vic.gov.au

