



TERM 2 DATES

May Thursday, 16th	Assembly 2.45pm	Friday, 7th	School Closure Day Staff First Aid Training
May 15th –May 21st	Family Week	Monday, 10th	Queens Birthday Public Holiday
Friday ,17th	Walk Safely to School Day	Wednesday, 12th	PREP INFORMATION EVENING—6.00PM
Tuesday, 21st	NAPLAN Testing 9.15am Numeracy	Friday, 14th	P&F Dad’s Night Buckley Room—7.00pm
Friday, 31st	Tabloid Sports Prep-2 Didjeribone Show at Secondary College	Friday, 28th	Last day of Term 2 2.30pm finish
June Tuesday, 4th	OPEN DAY	August Monday, 26th	School Closure Day—Staff PD



Our School Vision

We are an empowered and sustainable learning community, centred in faith and united in our respect and responsibility for all of creation; we strive for excellence; actively living, learning, caring and growing together.



All creeping things, all flying things, all living things, all dying things,
The highest hills, the deepest seas,
The strongest gale, the slightest breeze,
The blossom on a cherry tree, A spinning spider’s artistry,
The smell of dry earth after rain, Each cell within a human brain,
Each fallen leaf, each towering pine,
Reveals your intricate design.

We pray:
for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth,
that we may use your gifts responsibly;
for those who work on the land and sea, and in industry,
that they may enjoy the fruits of their labours and care for creation;
for artists, scientists and visionaries,
that through their work we may see creation afresh.



Congratulations to the following students:
Respectful Award: Frieda Brinkmann, Max Lenan
Responsible Award: Spencer Grainger, Thomas Edwards
Resilient Award: Lucas Davis
Principal Award: Brydie Aldridge & Riley Boyd
Wonder Award: William McQualter & Molly Freeman, Evie Nuttall
Believe Award: Hannah Cochrane
Persevere Award: Cullen Foreman
Create Award: Akul Akul, Maddy Drohan, Madeleine Lane, Madeleine Chandler

Dear Families, Parishioners and Friends,

Our school community felt the warmth and love of family, carers and friends on Monday morning when we honoured and celebrated our mothers, grandmothers, families, carers and all those who play a mothering role in our children's lives.

We also acknowledged that Mother's day can be a difficult day for some, bringing up complex feelings and emotions.

We prayed for:

- mothers who have lost children.
- those who have lost mothers.
- those who have strained relationships.
- those who are unable to be mothers and those yearning to be mothers.



We offered gratitude and thanks for the unconditional love and care we receive from our mothers and carers. The children made flowers from recycled materials for their loved ones. It was a great opportunity for our families to catch up over a cup of tea. Special thanks to Deb Jones, Barb Burchett, the children and staff for preparing this loving celebration. Our year six leaders did a splendid job offering around the goodies and chatting with our guests.

Naplan

Our Year 3 & 5 students completed their Naplan literacy assessments this week and they will do Numeracy next Tuesday 21st May at 9.15am. This is our first year completing most of the testing online. If there are IT glitches, then we will try again on the following day or complete the paper format.

The following points may help your child get through NAPLAN testing as stress-free as possible:

1. Make sure they get enough sleep.
2. Take the pressure off.
3. Let them know it's not pass or fail rather a check in to see how they are progressing.
4. Give them a good breakfast.
5. Don't emphasise the result rather that they do the best that they can.
6. You could explain that Naplan is one way of informing teachers and yourselves on how to assist children further in their learning.

Every child needs numeracy and literacy skills to get a well-rounded education. Literacy and numeracy are the universal building blocks that provide the foundation skills children will need as they progress through school and beyond.

NAPLAN is an important tool for you and your child's teachers to see how your child, compared with the rest of Australia's children, is going in meeting important literacy and numeracy standards.

NAPLAN doesn't test everything that happens in classrooms and it isn't intended to. It does look at the critically important skills of literacy and numeracy – the skills our children will need for any career path they eventually choose to take.

After your child has taken NAPLAN, you will receive information on how he or she is progressing in literacy and numeracy, and how this compares with other students at your child's school and across Australia.

NAPLAN doesn't replace regular in-class assessments, but it is the only national assessment Australian children undertake. It allows for achievement to be celebrated, and – equally importantly – helps identify areas where more support may be needed to help individual students reach their full potential.

No extra preparation is required for NAPLAN. What children learn in the classroom through the teaching of the Australian Curriculum is what NAPLAN assesses.

As with any test in life, some students may feel anxious about NAPLAN. In these cases, it's up to the adults in students' lives to help explain what NAPLAN is all about and keep it in perspective. Remind your child that it's not a big deal, that it's a short assessment taken only four times during their schooling.

Naplan is a useful diagnostic instrument when kept in perspective, it's something people shouldn't really worry about, just treat the day as any other day.

As NAPLAN begins to move online this year it brings benefits in the form of more precise and detailed results for teachers, and a more engaging test for students. Regardless of whether your child takes NAPLAN online or on paper, the results will be comparable with those of other students and from previous years. So far our children have successfully completed their writing (year 3 on paper & year 5 online) and language conventions online.

In August you will receive your child's NAPLAN results. If you have any concerns about your child's NAPLAN results, discuss them with their teacher.

For more information about NAPLAN, including fact sheets, FAQs and examples of NAPLAN questions, visit www.nap.edu.au

Treasure Boxes

Year Prep & One are working on their history inquiry and they are going to make a family treasure box. They have started decorating shoe boxes and when they are finished they will bring them home to put some treasures in them. When their boxes are ready they will bring them back to school to share with their class and other classes as well.

Can you help find things for their boxes? Here are some ideas.

- Photographs – you can email Mrs Watts photos for printing.
- Clothes from when I was a baby or when someone in the family was younger, e.g. booties
- Baby toys.
- Books.
- Old school stuff.
- Memories from our grandparents, e.g. rosary beads, prayer books, buttons, medals, letters – send photos if these are too precious.
- Any item that will tell us about your family.



Thank you for helping us – our boxes will be coming home soon.
Prep and Year One Students.

St. Mary’s Birthday Food Policy : A Reminder

Birthdays are significant milestones in life. At St Mary’s we celebrate and acknowledge this special occasion for our students both at a whole school and class level. At assembly, students are presented with a certificate that marks this special occasion and we as a school get the opportunity to sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to them. Within the class, special mention is made of their birthday as well as being included in classroom prayer. Children also receive a pencil and birthday sticker from me.



Whilst it is not necessary to celebrate birthdays at school, we understand that parents often want to celebrate their child’s birthday with their class. We do not object to this but must consider the implications when providing treats in the form of food for students be it for birthdays or other special days. Issues regarding food allergies, special dietary requirements and parental consent regarding what food their child is to eat, highlights how careful we must be.

Last year after much discussion and consultation with parents and our PSAC, and taking the above matters into consideration, we asked that if you would like to send in something special to share with your child’s class on their birthday that it be a **raw fruit and/or vegetable platter only**. This decision supports our children eat a healthy diet and is based upon ensuring the health and safety of all our students. The children have enjoyed the platters that have been sent in. We thank you for supporting this in the interests of our children.



Huff nPuff

The children are enjoying their morning exercise sessions. You are welcome to join in these sessions if you feel inclined!



Terracycle Colgate Community Garden Challenge

Our school is contributing very well to this challenge and at present we are in the top position! We welcome your continued contributions to be dropped off into our collection bin in the front foyer. Many thanks to Kari Aldridge for her efforts in keeping this initiative moving.



We Welcome You to St. Mary's Open Day!

If you know anyone who would benefit from visiting our school encourage them to come along and learn how our beautiful school may support their child's learning and growth. Tours are available with me on any other day via an appointment. Enrolments for 2020 are now being accepted.

You may have noticed our open day sign up on the corner of Templeton and Hargraves Streets. Thank you to Jellis Craig for donating the sign to us.



St. Mary’s School
- Castlemaine -

OPEN DAY
Tuesday, 4th June
from 9:00am
Enrol now for 2020



- Inspire
- Engage
- Transform

Enquiries Welcome

St. Mary’s School
84 Templeton Street, Castlemaine
Tel: 5472 2270
www.smcastlemaine.com
Facebook: St. Mary’s Primary School
Castlemaine Welcomes You





Walk to School Safely Day

On Friday we encourage you to walk part or all the way to school to support healthy living and to participate in the National Walk to School Safely Day. It is great to see numerous families riding or walking together from various points in the town. Let's make the most of these sunny mornings before the winter sets in!



Thank you from The Australia Blue School in Bangladesh

Your donations of your child's previous uniforms have assisted families in Bangladesh to clothe their children in something blue to wear as their school uniform. They say THANK YOU!



School Psychologist

Simon Harvest continues to offer his professional services to our students. Simon visits our school on Mondays and he has some places coming available. If you feel that your child would benefit from seeing Simon, you can ask for a referral package from the office. You may get 8-10 visits for free.

St Mary's Before & After School Care

Vanessa offers a nurturing and creative before and after school care program through Ignite Minds and she has spaces for more children. If you would like your child to attend this high quality on campus program you can contact Ignite Minds via the links on our school website.

St Mary's Choir

Craig Trickey is able to offer choir lessons on Tuesday afternoons at 2.45 until 3.15 if we have enough children interested. Craig is experienced and skilled in this area. The children who participated last term really enjoyed their sessions. There were others who wanted to do choir but didn't want to miss out on play time. That is why we are offering the lessons at 2.45 for this term. If you would like your child to take part in this terms lessons, you need to email me on principal@smcastlemaine.catholic.edu.au You would need to commit to the seven weeks of sessions offered this term and pay \$21.00 in advance to contribute to the cost of running the program.



Interactive Garden/Play Area

We are working towards creating an interactive/play garden and planting out our bird and butterfly sanctuary now that the rain has arrived. The children are researching and planning in their environmental lessons with Mr. O'Sullivan. It is great to see our children enjoying collecting the leaves for mulching during recess and lunch times.



Wooden desks for sale

If you would like to purchase an old wooden school desk please speak with Barb Burchett to look at the desks available and make us an offer.



Winter Uniform.

All children are now required to wear full Winter uniform as per our uniform policy. Thank you for your co operation.

Working Bee

In consultation with our P&F we have scheduled a working bee on **Sunday June 16th** following our 10.30 am Family Mass. Soup and bread will be provided and we welcome you to bring along a plate of goodies to share over morning tea after Mass. Your valued assistance with a few projects will help us greatly.

Prep Enrolments 2020

If you are a current parent who is seeking enrolment for a sibling in 2020 it would assist us if you pick up enrolment forms from our office and enrol as soon as you are ready. If you know anyone who would like to enrol for next year we are encouraging people to do so now. This will assist us with our planning for next year. Note the School Open Day and Information evening dates as detailed above.

Please contact us if you need to discuss anything regarding your child and their needs. Communication is pivotal to working optimally for the benefit of your child.

Kind Regards,
Bronwyn Phillips,
Principal



Find the P&F private group on Facebook – “Ladies of St Mary’s PS”

- Sunday 16th June – School Working bee following Mass, lunch provided
- Friday 21st June – Social Friday, Railway Hotel, 6.30pm
- Friday 28th June – Football dress up and Pie Day lunch
- Sunday 21st July – Family Day at Leangarnook, Mt Alexander, after mass
- Saturday 17th Sunday 18th August – Mens Alive weekend @ Parish
- Wednesday 18th September – Twilight Sports & Food truck
- Sunday October 27th – St Mary’s SpringFest & Long Lunch

<p>FAMILY DAY @</p> <p>LEANGARNOOK,</p> <p>MT ALEXANDER</p> <p>SUNDAY 21ST JULY</p> <p>FOLLOWING COMMITMENT</p> <p>MASS</p> <p>Bring the family, rug up and enjoy a bush walk followed by some fresh damper by the camp fire!</p>	<p>Social Friday</p> <p>Friday 21st June</p> <p>Railway Hotel 6.30pm</p> <p>Join us for dinner and drinks at the Railway Hotel in Castlemaine.</p> <p>RSVP to Kari by Wednesday 19th June (0402-076-340)</p>	<p>Food Bank</p> <p>St Mary’s is continuing its food bank to help families in need within the school community.</p> <p>If you would like to be on the contact list to make emergency meals please pass your name and contact details onto Kari Aldridge (mob 0402076340)</p>
<p>Dads Night!</p> <p>Friday 14th June 7pm</p> <p>Essendon vs Hawthorn</p> <p>A night just for the dads to enjoy a catch up with nibbles and BYO drinks in the Buckley Room!</p>	 <p>St Vincent de Paul Coin Drive!</p> <p>A collection tin will be located in the foyer all year!</p>	<p>ST MARY’S SPRINGFEST & LONG LUNCH</p> <p>Sunday October 27th 12.30pm</p> <p>Meeting to be held in June to begin organising. If you can assist with this event & can attend a meeting please contact Kari (0402-076-340)</p> 
 <p>Sunday 16th June following Mass</p> <p>*Lunch Provided*</p> <p>✦ Finish bird sanctuary with drainage & holes ready for children to plant the last week of term</p> <p>✦ Fix mesh under turf, cut out tennis net poles</p> <p>Clear drains and general clean up</p> <p>We greatly appreciate any time you can give</p> <p><i>“many hands make light work”</i></p>	 <p>Last day of term Friday 28th June</p> <p>Football Dress up & Pie Day</p> <p>A day for the children to come dressed in their favourite football colours and enjoy a pie for lunch!</p> <p>Stay tuned for order forms to be sent home!</p>	

Parents & Friends Family Event

Date: Sunday 21st July 2019

Time: Following Commitment Mass

Location: Mt Alexander – Leanganook Campground



Join us for family bush walk, followed by toasting of marshmallows and warm damper. This will be a great little get together for the whole family. Feel free to bring a picnic and rug up!

Please note, this is a social event and children need to be supervised by their parents at all times.

Colgate Community Garden

The Committee has registered St Mary's to participate in the Terracycle Colgate Community Garden again this year. This a great initiative to recycle used toothbrushes, containers, and packaging. Any brand accepted and please leave in a collection box located at the front of the school. Spread the word, our aim is to involve the whole community with collection points at the school and Castlemaine Fitness Centre.



Community News . . .

Over the Moon

Winter School 2019

2nd-4th July

BOOK EARLY! PLACES ARE LIMITED.

AGE 3.5-5
9am-10:15am
3 days \$65

AGE 5-8
9am-11:30am
3 days \$105

AGE 9-12
11:30am-5.30pm
3 days \$170

AGE 13+
10am-5pm
3 days \$195

• jazz • musical theatre • lyrical

• contemporary • choreography

• yoga & creative • West African dance

• choreography • physical theatre

• ballet • Countertechnique • art & craft

trybooking.com (OTM Winter School 2019).

Bring a friend and receive a discount.

For further information email enquiries@overthemoonstudio.com

2019

Transition to Year 7 (2020)

Calendar of Events

May

29th

Open Morning
An opportunity open to all members of the Mount Alexander community to see CSC in action.

September

19th

Making the Leap 1
(for additional transition support)

October

31st

Making the Leap 2
(for additional transition support)

December

10th

Orientation Day
All students in Year 6 will be participating in this Victorian Department of Education event.

Castlemaine SECONDARY COLLEGE

Please ask your class teacher about the Curriculum Experiences at CSC on offer throughout the year.