



Term 3 Week 4

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



3rd August 2020

Welcome to Week 4

Dear Parents and Families,

It seems incredible how quickly things can change in our world. However, as we look to return to home learning tomorrow, we feel well prepared and organised for the changes it will bring.

The staff have worked diligently to plan the learning around student needs, being mindful of working parents and the challenges we face in this. We received feedback from students, parents and staff after our last remote experience and have used that to organise a remote learning program that we believe will best meet the needs of all the St Mary's students and family situations. We understand that there are a variety of home situations and environments and consequently, the need for flexibility.

As the Principal of St Mary's I could not be any more proud of our community at this time. The staff have responded in an incredibly professional manner to the demands of making swift changes to the way we work and to prepare the students to be ready for remote learning and tackle it with a positive mindset, even though they miss seeing their friends and teachers face to face.

We are now on Instagram!!!

Corona-19 restrictions have meant that we virtually have no way to personally meet and talk to prospective families. This means social media is more important than ever for us to connect with the wider community and showcase all St Mary's has on offer. Follow our school and encourage others too, as it's a great way to show our wonderful school in action. #stmarysswanhill



Facebook and 2021 Enrolments

With remote learning back on this week we have created a series of videos that showcase the school, and highlight our Flying Start program, Come and try Mornings and what to expect as a Foundation family at St Mary's. The latest is our curriculum and another showing Flying Start in action.....These videos have proved very popular and are available on our school Facebook page .We are always adding to our videos on Facebook, the most recent is one about our Pre School Transition program - Flying Start.

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria/videos/1187195548325376>

There are many families in the wider community still undecided on a school for 2021. I encourage everyone to spread the word about our wonderful school and why you have chosen this school for your family.

100 Days of Life in Foundation

It seems hard to believe that on Wednesday it is 100 days since our Foundation students first walked through the gates back in February. **..time certainly flies.** A big thank you to The Foundation teachers who fast-forwarded this special milestone and celebrated 100 days of school with a special day of fun and activities yesterday.



Casual Dress

It was an amazing response by the students to the COVID coin lines with thousands of coins being placed in lines by our students in aid of FOODBANK to assist in providing essential items to people in need through the COVID crisis. 3J took out the honours with a line that went for a staggering 35 metres. The coins have been counted with an amazing \$2546.00 raised. Well done everyone!

COVID-19 assessment tools

The following online assessment tool is available on the DHHS website to help people determine if they should get tested for COVID-19, along with clinic details, an FAQ which includes a definition of a close contact and isolation/quarantine as well as a range of other information:

Getting tested for Coronavirus <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19>

A final reminder is that no issue is too big or too small. Both Jason and I are onsite at St. Marys and are available each day to answer questions, clarify and help while our teaching teams are highly skilled and committed people. These teams have already demonstrated a high-level of commitment to remote learning and above all are dedicated to supporting you and your family for the remainder this term

Please continue to look out for updates from the school via your email and on our Facebook page throughout the week as these tools are our key ways to stay in touch.

Kate



Key Dates

Tuesday 4th August

Pupil free day

Wednesday 5th August

Remote learning
commences

Tuesday 11th August

School Advisory Council
Meeting @ 7pm

Administration News



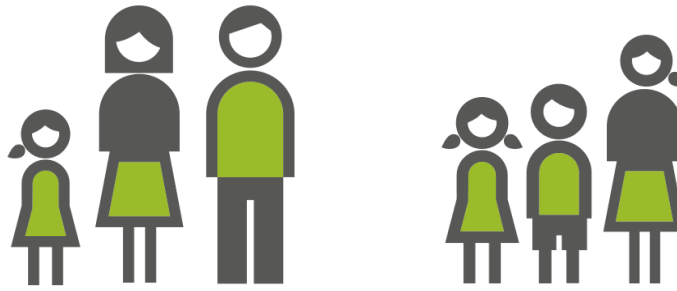
St Mary's Skoolbag App

We are aware that some families are having issues login into the Skoolbag app. Skoolbag have recently completed a security update to their app and some users were affected.

If you are unable to login to the app you will need to have your password reset. Please contact the office and we can reset your password for you.

Health reminder

A reminder that, in order to do our best to protect our community from contracting any virus, it is important to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home. If a child presents to the office expressing that they are unwell, or if their teacher feels that a child is displaying unwell symptoms, parents/carers will be called to collect them from school. It is important that in this current climate we are vigilant with the health of the community and take measures to make good decisions.



PAM – How can I notify the school of my child’s absence via PAM?

By now you will have verified your email address and set up your child’s medical profile. You can now begin to use PAM (Parent Access Module) as part of your communication with our school office. PAM is our preferred notification method for absences.

On PAM, you can add an absence if;

- Your child is going to be absent for the day (All Day)
- Your child is going to be late to school (Arriving Late)
- Your child is going to be leaving early from school (Leaving Early)
- Your child will be leaving school and returning eg. for an appointment (Partial)
- Your child is going to be absent for more than one day (Multi-day max of 7 days)

Absences must be entered prior to 9.25am on the day your child will be absent. Absences can also be entered in advance.

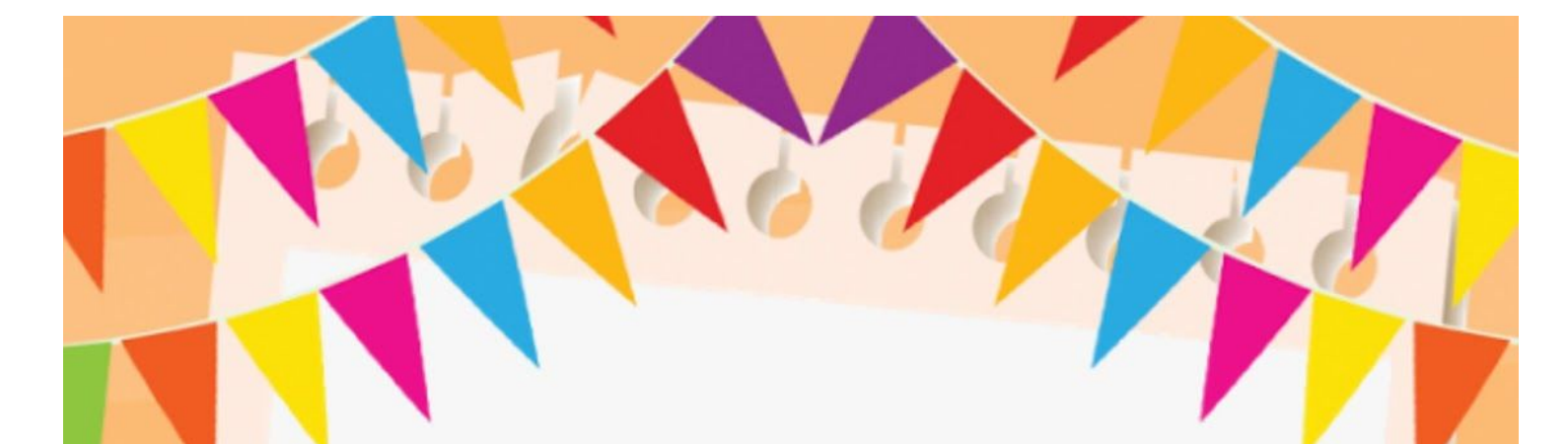
To add an absence;

- Log in to your **PAM** account <http://pam.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au>

Save this link to your home screen for quick access

- Select “Parent Notified Absences” listed under “Students”. This can also be accessed by selecting the 3 line menu bar on the top right hand corner of the screen and selecting “Parent Notified Absence”.
- Select “Add Absence”
- Select the child who will be absent
- Select the reason for your child’s absence
- Select the appropriate absence period
- Select the absence date
- Notes can be added if required
- You can edit or delete current and future absences, by clicking on your child and amending it if required.

As always, please contact the office on 03 50332541 if you need any assistance with PAM.



August 3rd - Jasmine H

August 4th - Mitchell A

**August 5th - Jasmine H, George M,
Van N, Will P, Tyler P, Louis S**

August 6th - Ruby M

August 7th - Rylan G

August 8th - Connor H

**August 9th - Ryan D, Sebastian M
& Hattie M**



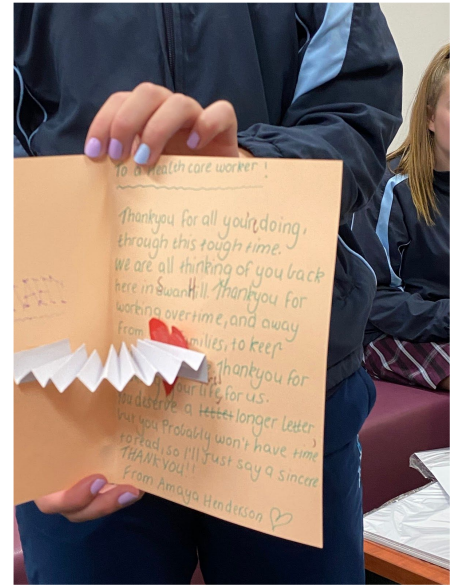
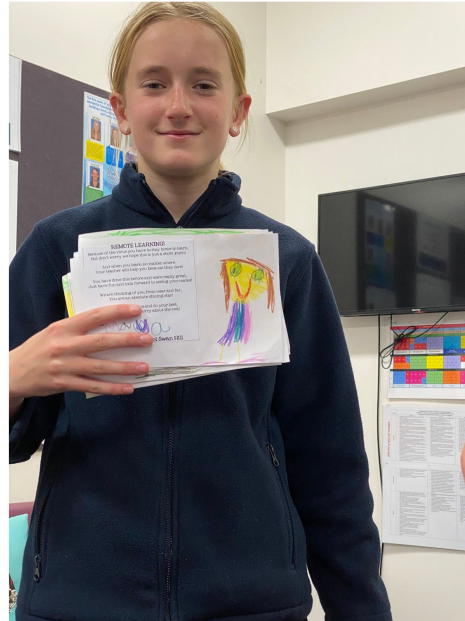
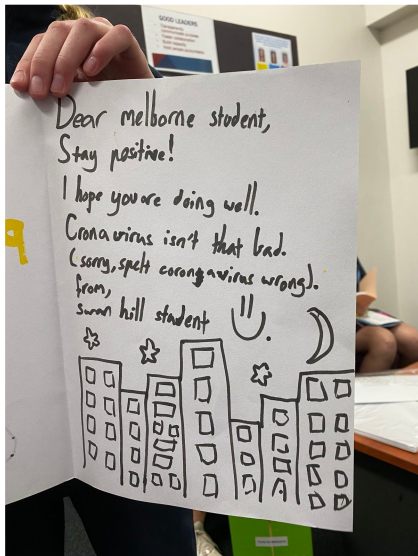
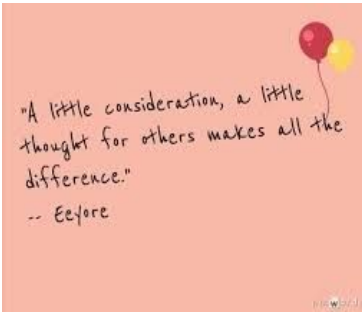
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Student of the Week - Term 3 Week 3

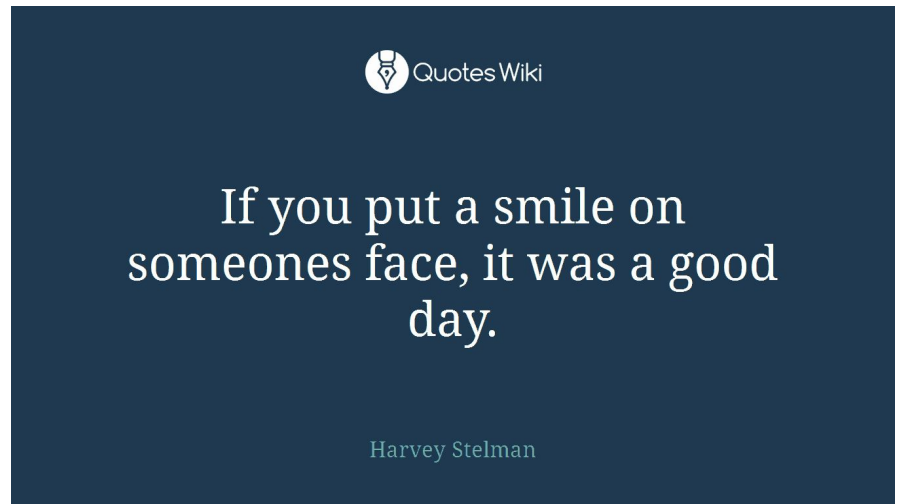
6O	Blake C	Connor F
6P	Samuel R	Sienna S
6Q	Jorja C	Jake S Cruz O
5R	Elle T	Carly S
5S	Charli C	Jasmine H
5T	Kyra C	Novak D
5U	Ryan A	Charlotte S
4A	Lana B	Blake D
4B	Saly N	Thomas R
4W	Zoe B	Matilda T
4Y	Jimmy K	Harper W
3G	Kelland P	Prue O
3H	Milla P	Cooper G
3I	Rory M	Asha N
3J	Ayden A	Charlee W
2K	Lucas F	Landon M
2L	Marley B	Hamish L
2M	Milly H	Ella F
2N	Maddie H	Ryder W
1C	Charlotte M	Sophie M
1D	Memphis T	Madison D
1E	Shiloh C	Austin F
1F	Eva D Rory P	Angela W
F Blue	Koa W	Amelie R
F Green	Adonis S	Kye T
F Yellow	Frankie M	Dustin M
F Purple	Sukhleen K-K	Dhruv D
Music	Tyler B All of 5 U	All of FY Harry H
Italian	Maggie M Max G	Anmol K
PE	All of 1C Georgia M	Hayley K Jessica L
Art	All of 5U Matilda M	All of 4A All of 2M

Random Acts of Kindness

We never know how a simple gesture can make a positive difference to others. Over the past 2 weeks our students have made hundreds of beautiful cards filled with positive messages to send to staff and students who were back in remote learning in Melbourne. These were collated by our School Captains and mailed out with a cover letter yesterday in the hope that these small gestures will brighten a



stranger's day.



"We rise
by lifting
others."
-Robert Ingersoll

