



Term 4 Week 1

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: [www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au)



5th October 2020

## Welcome to Week 1



Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome back one and all to our new school term. We hope everyone had a great holiday and enjoyed the freedom to visit family and places we had available in regional Victoria over the break. All the staff at St Mary's have really missed our students so it is wonderful to have our whole school community back at last!

It was lovely to see the excitement on the yard this morning as the children saw the welcome balloons, met up with friends, caught up on each other's holiday news and checked out new fencing and the

library makeover. I'm sure there are a few parents out there too doing some silent fist pumps to think they can put home learning behind them and look forward to a more normal school term! [A back to school Guide FAQ is located overleaf.](#)

### Flying Start and 2021 Enrolments

With schools returning to normal it's exciting to recommence our Flying Start program which starts again this Friday. **If you know of anyone who is considering St Mary's next year could you please let them know that enrolments are open for Foundation and other year levels for 2021 and they are warmly welcome to make contact with the school for further information.**



### Sunsmart School

It is very important to protect our children against the harmful effects of the sun's UV rays. St Mary's is proud to be a 'Sunsmart' school. This means that **hats** are worn during Term 1 and Term 4. Please ensure that your child has a school hat for Term 4 as all students at St Mary's are required to wear their school hat during playtime breaks and outdoor school activities such as sport.

### Summer Uniform

Please note that full summer uniform is to be worn this term. If you are unsure of the uniform please refer to our school webpage

<https://smswanhill.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Parent-Information-Handbook-2020-Draft.pdf>

or check the 2020 Parent Information handbook.

### Foundation Health Assessments

Kerrie McCosh, continues her annual screening of Foundation children on **Monday 26th October** and will continue to be here regularly throughout Term 4 to conduct eyesight and hearing tests on all children in their first year of school.

### School Fee Assistance

We are very conscious and respectful of the economic times we find ourselves in. Covid 19 is having an impact on many people's livelihoods and if you are at all concerned about school fees, please contact me or Maree in the school office. We are here to listen and assist in any way possible.

Have a great week and hope you have a chance to join our remote assembly hosted by Foundation Blue on Friday.

**Kate**



## Back to School Guide

The following is a summary of key organisational information as we transition back to onsite learning:

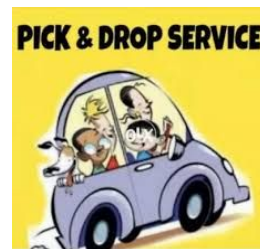
### Where do I drop my child off in the morning?

We are very aware, some children may be anxious coming back to school. To support our students transition back to school parents who are dropping by car should park in the front Car Park and then direct your child to the school crossing. At the crossing there will be members of the Leadership and Wellbeing team there to cross them over and then staff waiting to walk them to class as parents are not able to be onsite. It will be very important for you to explain to your child that you will be dropping them at the school, saying your goodbyes and will be back in the afternoon for pick up. Children riding and walking to school can also recommence doing this as normal. A reminder to families that Kate, Jason, Mardi, Lisa and Ginny are on duty at the crossings from 8.20am onwards and that all classroom teachers will be in their rooms waiting to greet your child and have activities ready to allow them to ease back into the classroom environment.

### Can you explain the school pick up times and locations?

There are additional staff on duty in the afternoons to ensure that children progressively leave the school over a 15 minute period. Our three bell system at the end of the day will remain in place

- 3.15** First bell - dismissal of town bus children and walkers/riders
- 3.20** Second bell – dismissal of country bus travellers
- 3.25** Third bell – dismissal of remaining children and After School Care bus travellers



As per our previous arrangements when we returned to school, families who are picking up their children by car have been allocated a student collection location-based on family surname.

**A to L Families** - collection from the front of the school (front car park)

**M to Z Families** collection from outside the gym (gym car park)

**Please wait in or by your car and the staff on duty will help your child find you and safely cross them over.**

### What cleaning and hygiene measures are in place?

There are sanitiser stations and tissues in all classrooms and communal areas. All students will be reminded to follow healthy hand hygiene-washing hands thoroughly, especially before eating, no sharing food and regular hand sanitising every time they enter or exit the classroom. All bathrooms and toilets continue to be cleaned three times daily and bins emptied throughout the day. The school has been thoroughly cleaned prior to the children returning and all classrooms and work space will be progressively cleaned throughout the day with a professional strength deep clean regularly through the week.

### Can adults come onsite?

Restrictions will continue on parent and visitor access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff, social distancing rules apply for all adults onsite. We would respectfully ask that wherever possible communication with the school should be conducted through phone or email and if it is necessary to come onsite eg. to pick up your child for an appointment please phone the school office ahead of time and staff will assist you.

### Do the children need all their belongings back on the first day?

No, use the first few days to bring books and belongings back to school. It won't matter if children don't bring everything they took home on the first day.

### What about iPads?

If you borrowed an ipad from the school please bring it back as soon as possible as these were loaned from banks of equipment we use regularly in class.

### Are bubblers working?

Not yet, our water bubblers remain disabled for safety reasons so all children should bring a clearly named refillable water bottle.

### What are the rules about children who are unwell?

Students should stay home if they are unwell. Families will be contacted to pick up children if they present as unwell on arrival or become unwell through the day.

### Are both bus services running?

Country buses have run throughout the remote learning period and our town buses will have commenced their normal runs again, starting today.

### Will we have a canteen and breakfast club?

With no parent volunteers allowed on site, the canteen will continue to operate with a modified menu. Recess and lunch orders can be ordered using CDF Pay. If you haven't set up CDF Pay just give the office a call and they will assist you. We will let families know if/when we commence over the counter sales or Brekky Club.

### Will there be excursions and incursions?

We hope so before the end of the term. There has been no advice provided yet about performances coming to school or the ability to run excursions.



A very warm welcome back to our children and families for Term 4. So nice to have the buzz and excitement of children catching up with their friends and teachers.

We understand that children may have mixed feelings about returning to school but we are making sure that school is as normal as possible and one of our main focuses will be on student wellbeing. Our wellbeing team have been working hard to set up extra time to help all children and will be providing support in classrooms as well as working with children who need individual support.

Teachers will also be focused on student wellbeing in their classrooms with mini brain breaks throughout the day to keep children motivated and focused on their learning.

We have also extended our lunch time activities with the following being put in place:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lego Club	Lego Club	Lego Club	Lego Club	Lego Club
Yoga - Year 5/6 - Gym	Yoga - Year 3/4 - Gym		Yoga-Year 5/6 - Gym	Yoga-Year 3/4 - Gym
		Dance in Gym		
	Strings - Music Rm			
	Colouring - Art Rm	Colouring - Art Rm	Colouring - Art Rm	

We also have extra staff allocated to the ovals to help with umpiring and supporting all the games that are more physical in nature.

If you are concerned about your child and their wellbeing please contact their teacher, Mrs Quin or Mrs Gook.

Have a great term everyone.

## KEY DATES

### **Monday October 5th**

Term 4 Commences

### **Friday October 9th**

Flying Start Session 1

### **Friday October 16th**

Flying Start Session 2

### **Thursday October 22nd**

Book Week Parade

### **Thursday October 22nd**

Flying Start Session 3

### **Friday October 23rd**

AFL Grand Final Public  
Holiday

## **Administration News**

### **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.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 50332541 IF YOU REQUIRE ASSISTANCE WITH PAM**



# Happy Birthday

**October 5th - Hamish L, Larni O, Jake S,  
Lilly W**

**October 6th - Blake M**

**October 7th - Serat E,  
Patrick K, Thomas K**

**October 8th - Domi C,  
Ryan F**

**October 9th -  
Saxcen C**

**October 10th -  
Rydar M**

**Student of the Week - Term 3 Week 10**

<b>6O</b>	Bonnie White	Holly Thomson
<b>6P</b>	All of 6P	
<b>6Q</b>	Grace Gibson	Darcy Uebergang
<b>5R</b>	All of 5R	
<b>5S</b>	All of 5S	
<b>5T</b>	All of 5T	
<b>5U</b>	All of 5U	
<b>4A</b>	All of 4A	
<b>4B</b>	All of 4B	
<b>4W</b>	All of 4 W	
<b>4Y</b>	All of 4 Y	
<b>3G</b>	Charlize Baumgurtel	Elli Steicke
<b>3H</b>	All of 3H	
<b>3I</b>	All of 3I	
<b>3J</b>	Lola Russo	All of 3J
<b>2K</b>	All of 2K	
<b>2L</b>	all of 2L	
<b>2M</b>	All of 2M	
<b>2N</b>	Ryder Wilkins	Sher Banu Erfani
<b>1C</b>	All of 1C	
<b>1D</b>	All of 1D	
<b>1E</b>	All of 1E	
<b>1F</b>	Will O'Bryan	Esha Kumar
<b>F Blue</b>	All of FB	
<b>F Green</b>	Alisha Khosa	Sophie Key
<b>F Yellow</b>	All of FY	
<b>F Purple</b>	All of FP	

## 2M's NEWSLETTER

We are all refreshed after remote learning and our holiday break and ready to launch into Term 4.

It's hard to believe it but after this term we will move into Year 3 with different classrooms, new students and a change of teacher.

Each student in 2M was asked about what they are looking forward to the most as we start the final term and somewhere they enjoyed on the holidays.

On the holidays I loved... riding on the motorbike– Sienna

On the holidays I loved... going shopping in Bendigo– Joseph

On the holidays I loved... going to the farm and camping for 2 nights– Indi L

On the holidays I loved... going to Callum's house– Tarkin

On the holidays I loved... going camping– Jesse

On the holidays I loved... going to Dean to see my Grandparents– Scarlett

On the holidays I loved... getting my new dog Arly– Ella

On the holidays I loved... when Emma came for a sleep over– Peyton

On the holidays I loved... seeing my Dad's friend and his 2 girls– Rylan

On the holidays I loved... staying at home and playing my phone- Draylan

On the holidays I loved... going horse back riding– Harlow

On the holidays I loved... having my friend Hayden over– Myles

On the holidays I loved... playing PS4 at my friends house– Sony

On the holidays I loved... going to Pental Island for 4 nights– Milly

On the holidays I loved... going camping– Aidee

On the holidays I loved... going to my friend Isla's birthday Party– Indi M

On the holidays I loved... having a sleep over at Nan and Pop's– Evie

On the holidays I loved... going to Ballarat and seeing my family– Bella

On the holidays I loved... going camping at Monk's– Charlotte

On the holidays I loved... going to Bendigo– Emma

On the holidays I loved... going to Ararat to seeing Nan and Pop– Braxton

On the holidays I loved... going to see my Uncles- Nhan

**In Term 4 we cant wait for...**

Having fun with our friends

Orientation Day

Rewards

**Kris Kindle**

New classes

Christmas Things