



Term 4 Week 2

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



12th October 2020

Welcome to Week 2

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We had a great first week back and the children quickly settled back into routine. It was also fantastic to have Flying Start recommence. With current restrictions around transition programs we have reduced the group sizes but not the fun to be had, as our 2021 Foundation students learnt more about life at St Mary's including how to play the violin with Mrs Dunstan. There was also some exciting news on the staff front with the arrival of baby Gus Ward, a precious son for Tarsha and Tom, while Miss Watts celebrated her wedding to Lach on Saturday and will return as Mrs Stewart next week.



Looking Forward to Term 4

Term 4 will be a critical time for the re-engagement of our children, the re-establishment of school routines and undertaking the steps necessary to prepare for and complete successful transitions into 2021. This term our focus is on providing continuity in learning and support for every child to the fullest extent possible and prioritising both their wellbeing and academic needs. Staff have focussed their efforts into ensuring that gaps in essential curriculum areas will be covered over the remainder of this year, while making sure their classrooms are safe, supportive and positive learning spaces for all children. This will make sure that every child in our care is supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs.



Class Structures 2021

St Mary's will run 27 straight classes in 2021. We are finalising our staffing needs and will share our classroom teacher placement for the next school year later in the term.

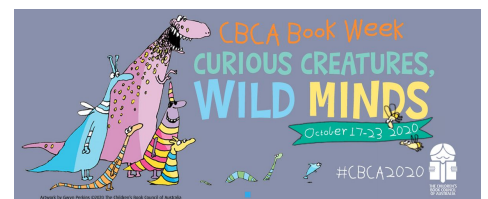
| | | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Foundation x 4 | Year 2 x 4 | Year 4 x 4 | Year 6 x 4 |
| Year 1 x 3 | Year 3 x 4 | Year 5 x 4 | |

We will commence constructing class groups for next year over the next few weeks. In doing this, academic, social and emotional considerations of all students are taken into account to inform decisions. Any parental considerations regarding your child's 2021 placement must be emailed to principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au or delivered to the office in an envelope marked **Att: Principal by Friday October 26th**. Please do not assume previous requests are ongoing as we begin each year afresh at St Mary's.

I would ask any family who believes that they will not be here at St Mary's in 2021 to let me know, as we are about to commence possible class structures for next year. Thank you for your consideration.

Book Week Oct 19-23rd

Book Week is normally celebrated each year in mid to late August. This year it was postponed and is now running next week October 19-23. We are making it a lower key event this year as we can only have class parades, not our whole school Book parade due to the COVID restrictions. The theme this year is Curious creatures, Wild Minds. To celebrate, on Thursday the 22nd of October the children can dress as any one of their favourite book characters, or simply wear dress ups you already have at home. We will film the parades and share them on our Facebook page so parents and family can share in all the fun.



Closure Dates – Term 4 2020

Friday 23rd October AFL Grand Final – Public Holiday

Monday 2nd November Pupil Free Day - Staff Professional Development

Tuesday 3rd November Melbourne Cup Day - Public Holiday

Summer Uniform

The first two weeks of Term 4 are a transition to full, correct Summer Uniform. We should see all students in full summer uniform by October 19th. Please ensure all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Shoes

Black school shoes or totally black runners can be worn with Summer Uniform. We understand that some children may have grown out of their school shoes but as it is a 10 week term it is important that suitable shoes are purchased for the term.

Sports Uniform

Just a reminder students only wear their PE uniform on their designated classroom sports day and the day they have PE specialists.

Hats, Hats, Hats

And finally, our children need to have their school hats from the beginning of Term 4 until the end of Term 1 next year!

Curriculum Newsletters

This week your child will bring home a copy of their Term 4 curriculum newsletter which outlines the key learning that will take place in their classroom and when they attend specialist classes. The curriculum newsletters are produced to assist you to know what is happening at school so you can chat more knowledgeably with your child about the many exciting things they are involved with at St Mary's.

End of year events

This term there are usually a number of key events that mark the end of the school year. Through the year we have had to adjust and consider how we can do things a little differently. With many events that are seen as highlights and essential on our calendar approaching, please know that staff are working on how we can ensure that we continue to honour what is important - in a COVID safe way. We will communicate information regarding such events as we make arrangements and decisions.

Have a great week and hope you have a chance to view our remote assembly hosted by 6Q

Kate



Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Team

We have an amazing wellbeing team at St Mary's consisting of Ginny Gook, Kate Quin, Brenda Ford, Jordan Morris and Krishell Wilson. Each week we meet and look at the needs of the children and their families and continually review the support that is being provided.

Brenda, Jordan and Krishell have a timetabled session in their respective classrooms each week and conduct a Brain Gym and mindfulness session. They also work with individuals or groups of children who may need support at different times in their lives.

Our wellbeing support people are safe people for children to connect with at school, providing a listening ear, caring presence and strategies to help children build resilience. They care for students struggling with a wide range of issues, including: family problems, friendship issues, self-esteem issues, bullying and anxiety.

The Wellbeing support people are trained in the Brain Gym and Peace Kids Programs and have a wealth of knowledge and expertise to support children. We have two Sensory rooms set up for children who need sensory input or movements to help reduce Sensory overload. These have been set up in conjunction with an Occupational Therapist.

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing, please contact either their teacher, Kate or Ginny.

RE News - Mrs Davies

Term 4 Mission Month - Operation Christmas Child Appeal

For a number of years, St Mary's have been involved in reaching out and helping others by participating in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. This is where children from each class bring in a small present to put into their shoebox. Once it is full we pack them all up and send them overseas to brighten the lives of children who are less fortunate than ourselves. A note will be sent home from each year level outlining more details and dates for this. We thank everyone for their involvement with this very special appeal.



St Mary's Annual Footy Colours Day

Yes, it is here this Friday..... our very popular Footy Colours Day here at St Mary's! Children can come dressed in their favourite Footy/Netball Team Jumpers/Colours to help support children with cancer. Our gold coin donation money will go towards supporting children and their families who have been affected by cancer. The SRC will be holding football based activities in each year level throughout the day.



SHOW
YOUR TRUE
COLOURS!

Curriculum - Mrs Hall

The start of a new term is a great time to have a conversation with your child about setting new goals both school and home based. Aside from helping them believe in themselves and setting them up for success in school, goal setting also benefits children and students in many ways including improving self-image, increasing awareness of strengths and challenges, building up responsibility as well as allowing for feedback. Last week our students spent time with their teachers setting goals for the term ahead with many students sharing these with our families via Seesaw.

Curriculum Newsletters

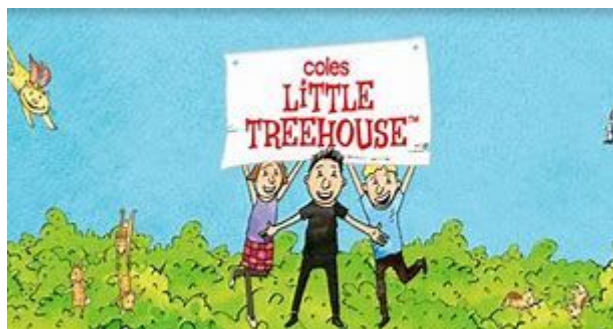
Today students will bring home a copy of their Term 4 curriculum newsletter that outlines the key learning that will take place in their classroom and when they attend specialist classes. These newsletters are designed to inform and assist families to know what your child will be learning throughout the term and ways you can be involved with their learning at home.



Coles Little Treehouse Books

For those families that have been collecting the Coles Little Treehouse Books did you know that they are all being read aloud online by well-known Australians. Coles has partnered with much loved authors Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton to bring the characters from their hugely popular the Treehouse book series to life in 24 free Little Treehouse books. The series is aimed at encouraging a lifelong love of books, taking little readers on a journey to explore an ever-expanding treehouse with new and exciting titles like Jill's Little Big Book of Animals, Madam Know-it-all's Believe-it-or-not Book, Vegetable Patty and Elephant on a Bicycle.

All 24 Coles Little Treehouse books are free to download and print! Plus, you can listen to all 24 audiobooks – some read by familiar faces including Curtis Stone and Grant Denyer. <https://www.coles.com.au/campaign/little-treehouse>



KEY DATES

Friday October 16th

Flying Start Session 2

Casual Dress: Footy
Colours Day

Thursday October 22nd

Book Week Parade

Thursday October 22nd

Flying Start Session 3

Friday October 23rd

AFL Grand Final Public
Holiday

Monday November 2nd

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday November 3rd

Public Holiday

Administration News

2021 Enrolments

With schools returning to normal we have had some prospective families call. **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.**



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

3.20 Second bell – dismissal for 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 carpark)

M to Z Families - collection from outside the gym (gym carpark)

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

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.

Book Club

Issue 7 Book Club catalogues have been sent home with the students, with online orders being **due by Tuesday 27th October, 2020**. All orders will need to be placed via LOOP as we will **NOT** be accepting cash payments this term for book orders.

This is the link for LOOP, which will allow you to make an online order and payment - <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

If you are not registered for LOOP, click on the link above and create a new account. You will need to enter your details, add children and select our school (St. Marys SWAN HILL)

If you have any questions or are having trouble with the LOOP ordering system, please contact the office.

Student of the Week - Term 4 Week 1

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------|
| 6O | Maddox H | Tess T |
| 6P | Ava O | Jonah C |
| 6Q | Mikaela M | Jack W |
| 5R | Anna F | Emily P |
| 5S | Isabella C | Miley S |
| 5T | Oliver C | Amber B |
| 5U | Ben R | Holly L |
| 4A | Maddox P | Tyler H |
| 4B | Saxcen C | Stella E |
| 4W | Lowan G | Brayden M |
| 4Y | Ryan D | Arou M |
| 3G | William M | Henry D |
| 3H | Blake S | Kayla S |
| 3I | Asha N | Archer J |
| 3J | Adison B | Sonic H |
| 2K | Dex M | Henry O |
| 2L | Jook M | Kevin V |
| 2M | Sienna A | Joseph B |
| 2N | Foley S | Isla B |
| 1C | Aarav B | Indianah P |
| 1D | All of 1D | |
| 1E | All of 1E | |
| 1F | All of 1 F | |
| F Blue | Ellery M | Ruby M |
| F Green | Lana R | Spencer S |
| F Yellow | Luca B | Titalia C |
| F Purple | Sukhleen K | Charlie R |
| Art | All of 4B, Sascha W, All of FY, All of FP | |
| Music | Sabrina V, Aidee B, all 5R, Emily L | |
| Italian | All of 6O, Archer J, Maddox W, Chloe N | |
| PE | All of 5T, Indigo P, Holly L, Chelsea T | |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Oct 13th - Eliza K

Oct 14th - Haydon M

Oct 15th - Charlie H &
Luciana S

Oct 16th - Isaiah B &
Kevin H

Oct 18th - Harlow R

Enjoy your special day!



Week 1 in 1E. We are so happy to be back at school and seeing all of our friends!

