



Term 4 Week 6

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



9th November 2020

Welcome to Week 6

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Like many significant events this year Naidoc Week has had a date change - moving from its traditional slot in July to this week. This year all awards and major ceremonies have been cancelled but the 2020 theme, *Always Was, Always Will Be*, allows us to reflect on how the First Nations people have occupied and cared for our continent for over 65,000 years, and celebrates their spiritual and cultural connection to the country.



School Captains

Last week Mr Perry and I had the pleasure of interviewing 12 Year 5 students who had been voted by their peers to possess the leadership qualities that would make a great school captain and on Friday the successful candidates were announced. They are as follows :

Captains: Scarlett Benham & Ben Nelson

Vice Captains: Ryley Fogarty & Emily Pekin
Olly Alderuccio & Sam Scott

We think they will be terrific leaders and are really looking forward to working with them in 2021.

RSL Award Winner

Congratulations to Michaela Mitchell who has been selected as the recipient of the annual Remembrance Day Awards. Each year the RSL presents this award to one of our Year 6 students, identified by their teachers as making a sincere effort with their studies and our community. This year, Michaela was nominated by our Year 6 staff and will receive a scholarship to go towards her education for secondary school.



St Mary's Family Engagement Survey

We had 62 families complete the survey which gave us a great snapshot of what families value about our current Family Engagement strategies and where they could see we could strengthen our current practices. This data will be used by the Family Engagement team to continue to build on and strengthen our partnership between school and home in 2021. Thank you so much to all those who took a few minutes to complete the survey. We really valued your feedback and suggestions. It's not too late to add your input with the survey open until the end of the week.

<https://forms.gle/7KZUX3cEvdJMNTbv5>

In a nutshell, the favourite engagement strategies selected by families to be engaged in the learning were

- Receiving seesaw posts (77%)
- Posts on facebook or Instagram (66%)
- Parent teacher Interviews (various formats) (80%)
- School and class newsletters (74%)
- Meet the teacher Chats (72%)
- Positive emails or phone calls about their child from staff (58%)



- Regular notes in the diary (59%)
- School Assemblies (56%)

The data also showed that parents would like to help more in classrooms and be asked more frequently for their ideas for the school .

<https://forms.gle/7KZUX3cEvdJMNTbv5>

Year 2 Water Safety Program

The Year 2 students and staff are quite excited to commence their swimming program this week. Conducted at the Swan Hill Leisure Centre, the Water Safety and Skills program forms part of our PE and Health curriculum. The program concentrates on building confidence in water, developing and mastering some basic strokes and teaching safety skills and knowledge around water.


Hats, sunscreen and water!

Although the weather is all over the place, we are definitely starting to have some warmer weather! This means it is becoming even more important for the children to make sure they are wearing their hat in the playground. We also strongly encourage the children to apply sunscreen before school and before heading out to play. Each classroom has sunscreen available, or the children can use their own. All students also need to bring a clearly labelled water bottle to school to keep them hydrated as bubblers are dsbaled under current Covid guidelines.


Have a great week and hope you enjoy our remote assembly led by 3J this Friday.

Kate

AT ST MARY'S "EVERY CHILD MATTERS EVERY DAY"



St Mary's is known for its strong family partnerships, commitment to the wellbeing of every child and outstanding academic record



Find us on Facebook

Check out our weekly videos, virtual tours, remote assemblies, wellbeing tips and student learning highlights

www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



Follow us on Instagram

St Mary's Swan Hill - 2021 Enrolments for all year levels now open

Our Facebook page and school website have videos and virtual tours that give new families a chance to meet teachers, explore our amazing grounds and facilities and hear what life is like for students at St Mary's.

www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria
[#stmarysswanhill](https://twitter.com/stmarysswanhill)

(03) 5033 2541 | www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au | office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

The next three confidence-building strategies every parent and teacher should know are by Michael Grose who is one of Australia's leading parenting experts.

3. Praise strategy

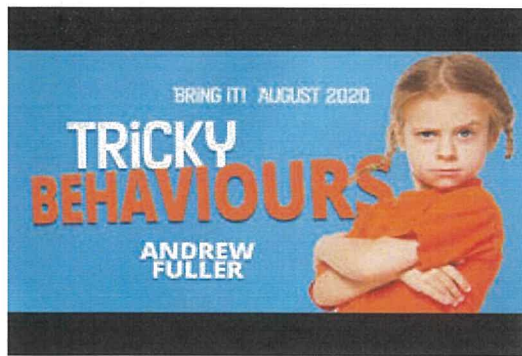
While effort is key for achievement, it's not the only thing. Kids need to try new strategies and seek input from others when they're stuck. They need this repertoire of approaches – not just sheer effort – to learn and improve. It helps too to focus language on better and smarter ways on improving. Comments such as "That was a smart idea to tackle the hardest task while you were fresh!" (strategy) and "You recognised the first few steps were the most important but then after that you were right" are descriptive statements that have significant instructional value for kids.

4. Develop self-help skills from an early age

A child's self-esteem comes as a result of his or her successes and accomplishments. The most important competencies to build confidence are basic self-help skills. These form the building blocks upon which other competencies such as organisational skills and many social skills are formed.

5. Give them real responsibility

From a young age start giving children responsibility for some aspects of their lives. By giving kids responsibility for many aspects of their lives we are sending a powerful message that we think they are capable. Also they are learning the skills necessary to care for themselves.



Andrew Fuller- A Pledge to my Child

It's only a short 2 min video but worth a watch. From Andrew Fuller's recently update Tricky Behaviours book

<https://youtu.be/ZZTWZlcMj04>

RE News - Mrs Davies

Term 4 Mission - Operation Christmas Child Appeal - A Big Thank you

For a number of years, St Mary's have been involved in reaching out and helping others coming into the festive season by being involved in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. We are very excited to let you know that our donated items were able to make up over 20 Shoeboxes. Last week we packed them all up and sent them down to Melbourne to begin the overseas journey to brighten the lives of children who are less fortunate than ourselves.



PE News- Miss Clark -

It is very good to hear that normality is slowly returning with junior outdoor sport recommencing outside of school as so many children are keen to reconnect with friends, learn new skills, be active or even try something new. The weather is also improving which means it is very important for children to have a hat and a clearly labelled water bottle when they come to their PE lesson. The majority of PE classes will be outdoors due to the current COVID guidelines. Each classroom also has sunscreen in which I would encourage children to apply before their lesson.

2021 House Captains

It is that time of year where the House Captain selection process is about to begin for our House Captains next year. I strongly encourage any interested Year 5 students to write their application letters for 2021 House Captains and send them through to me. The students can ask their classroom teachers for help with this. After this, selected students will be shortlisted and will be interviewed by myself and Mrs. Quin. A timeline will also be sent to classroom teachers for when the letters are due and when interviews will commence. Each House will have 4 House Captains in 2021. Goodluck!



Curriculum - Mrs Hall

Young Writers Award

The school and the local library are excited to announce the virtual Young Writers Award presentation will be held on **Friday, 13 November at 2 pm**. Our 7 finalists will attend the virtual presentation with Mrs Quin, Mr Perry and myself in our school library on Friday. As a school community we are very proud of their stories and achievements.

Finalists:

Foundation: Kaleila Ocampo & Wilhem Foott

Year 1/2: Oliver Sparks & Ellie Woodburn

Year 3 /4: Sam Brown

Year 5/6: Maggie Meney & Ava Crow

Celebrating Italian in our Curriculum

Last term our school was fortunate enough to receive funding to celebrate the Italian language, culture and history. Next week, our classrooms will have Italy as a focus in various curriculum areas, providing a range of new and exciting learning experiences and opportunities. Specialist teachers will also be teaching their subjects with an Italian focus eg. Italian Artist in Art, Soccer and Bocce in PE. The children will also participate in a virtual Italian performance from "I Tarantati" who are based in Melbourne, which is guaranteed to be lots of fun!!



KEY DATES

SAC Meeting

November 10th - 7pm

Year 2 Swimming Program

Commences

November 10th & 11th

2021 Foundation Parent Information Evening

Tuesday November 24th

Venue TBA

Casual Dress Day

Friday November 27th

Pupil Free Day

Thursday December 10th

2021 Planning Day

2021 Orientation Day

Friday December 11th

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.

Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard is overflowing with jumpers without names. **Please ensure all school uniform items are clearly labelled so they can be returned.**

Town Bus Passes

Unfortunately we are unable to issue bus passes for Town Bus 10 as it is at capacity with regular travellers who are using the bus to travel to and from school from their place of residence.



Poppy Appeal 2020

Poppies are available to purchase from the school office. Prices range from 20 cents to \$5.

Health Reminder

COVID-19 Update

It is important that we all continue to monitor our own and the health of our children daily during this time. If you or your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath:

- Stay at home and do not attend school
- Seek medical advice
- Call the school to let us know of any important outcomes
- If you or your child has a health condition or complex health needs, please discuss this with your medical specialist.
- Information about coronavirus (COVID-19) is available on the DHHS and CEM websites.

Our school is continuing to promote and implement on a daily basis both Covid-safe behaviours and practices across our school community. Thank you for your support with the guidelines and, as always, I am proud to belong to such a caring and supportive school community. **If your child is celebrating a birthday at school and would like to bring food in to celebrate, please contact the office and we can guide you on ideas in line with current guidelines.**

Book Club

The final Book Club Catalogue for 2020 - Issue 8, has been sent home with the students, with online orders being **due by Tuesday 24th November, 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.

Canteen

Just a reminder that all canteen orders need to be placed through CDFpay, the cut off time for orders is 10am.

<https://smswanhill.cdfpay.org.au>

Please contact the office if you require assistance with CDFpay.



Student of the Week - Term 4 Week 5

6O	Milla N	Bodhi K
6P	Archie G	Tyler G
6Q	Rydar M	Cruz O'S
5R	Tyler B	Carly S
5S	Brealle L	Joel S
5T	Ryan F	Taeissa T
5U	Sarah V	Amaya H
4A	All of 4A	
4B	Levi P	Bayden B
4W	Isla G	Harrison B
4Y	David T	Chloe M
3G	Wajiha E Elli S	Brody S
3H	Lucas O'R	Milla P
3I	Ella C	Tommy N
3J	Molly D	Lola R
2K	Gemma N	Mackenzie S
2L	Belle L	Hamish L
2M	Evie S	Braxton W
2N	Pacey T	Madison McL
1C	Steele W	Sophie M Lachlan H
1D	Hadisa E	Levi C
1E	Austin F	Emme H Ivy P
1F	Mack H	Eva D Ellie W
F Blue	Mila W	Johannes O
F Green	Xavier M	Kur M
F Yellow	Raf F	Estelle H
F Purple	All of Foundation Purple	
Art	All of 1E, All of 1C	
Music	Whole school	
Italian	Thea T, Charlotte T, Harvey H, Willow C	
PE	Emma W, Ella F, Miela R, Tommy N	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOV 9 - INDI H, ZOE C, JONAH C,
BEAU F

NOV 10 - CHARUZE C

NOV 11 - MUSTAFA A, AMBER B,
MILLA P, JAKOBE T, ANGELA W

NOV 12 - AIDEN C

NOV 13 - MADDYN F, LEILA K, AVA M

NOV 14 - SKYE P, APRIL T



ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!!!

1D 2020

