



Term 4 Week 10

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



7th December 2020

JOY ADVENT WEEK 3



Welcome to Week 10

Dear School Families and Friends

Our Christmas Carols Day on Friday was a lovely way for our school community to really get into the Christmas spirit. Thanks again to our wonderful music teachers for their work behind the scenes, our Foundation team for preparing such a beautiful Advent liturgy for us and to our P & F for organising the Christmas hampers. Your support of the P & F raffle resulted in having 20 hampers as prizes and \$1302 being raised with this money will go towards the purchase of new

clarinets, flutes, saxophones and bongos as part of the expansion of our 2021 instrumental program.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER WINNERS

Nhan Pham	Rylan Gombar	Noa Bella Wong	Martin Nguyen	Seth Herath
Ava Crow	Dustyn Holmes	Aarav Brar	Malakai Middleton	Maree McLean
Korben Bird	Jed Young	Emma Saunders	Jagger Fitzgerald	Tara Free
Claudia Blair	Margie Tuohey	Zoe Domaille	Harper Free	Reese Parsons

2021 Planning Day -Thursday December 10th

Just a reminder to all families that **Thursday, 10th of December** is our final **school closure day**. This time is used by staff to work with their new team and begin preparation of curriculum to be taught in the 2021 year and attend some Staff PD that was rescheduled due to remote learning.

St Mary's Orientation Day 2020 & Year 6 Transition Day

On Friday December 11th we will hold our Orientation Day when our new Foundation children come to our school and all our existing students move up into their new classroom, meet their new teacher and begin to form relationships with their 2021 classmates. This day runs until 12:30 and provides a great opportunity for your child to familiarise themselves with their new classmates and teachers. At 12:15 our preschoolers go home and at 12:30 all other children return to their 2020 classrooms for the remainder of the day. Year 6 students transitioning into Year 7 are also spending time at their respective new schools in the latter part of the week.

Children will be informed of their class and teacher on **Tuesday afternoon** and will take home a letter for families showing how to login for Literacy interviews. It is really important you book your child in for their literacy interview which will be held Wednesday December 16th - Friday December 18th.

Please note information below regarding the start of the 2021 school year.

Dates for 2021

Wednesday 27th January	Staff day- staff professional learning and team planning
Thursday 28th January	Staff professional learning - Teacher Wellbeing and Resilience
Friday 29th January	All students begin
Tuesday 2nd February	School photos - information will be emailed to families via PAM

Year 6 Graduation Evening

On Tuesday evening, we are farewelling our Year 6 students at school with a family gathering and awards ceremony. The Year 6 Graduation Night commences with an award ceremony that will begin at 6:30 pm. Our Year 6 students have been another terrific group within the school and have been recognised by the other students as responsible leaders. We wish them a future filled with happiness, success and most of all, strong, supportive family and friends. A special thanks to Mrs Dacey, Mr Daniels and Mr Anderson for their work in organising this event.

St Mary's Got Talent

The ever popular St Mary's Got Talent is back with students and staff alike enjoying the singing and dancing routines being performed by many of our students this week. Set up many years ago by Mrs Gook, it has become an integral part of December lunchtimes at St Mary's. With three days of fabulous acts lined up we are in for a treat this week!

Bluerth Workshops

As part of our association with The Bluearth Foundation we will have Gavin Rancello here on Wednesday working alongside staff showing some of the many ways mindfulness, movement and mediation can be incorporated into the school day. Gavin will work with some classes this year and will be back in February to continue to upskill staff.

St Mary's End of Year Mass

On Monday 14th December, we will celebrate our school year with our end of year Mass. This Mass is our way to formally reflect upon and celebrate all we have achieved this year and to say farewell to our Year 6 students and any departing staff. As we are not yet able to gather as a school community due to COVID restrictions, a link to attend virtually will be sent to all families. We hope many families can attend as it is such a special occasion for our school community.

I hope you all enjoy the week ahead

Kate

Orientation Day Tips

The end of the year can be an exciting time as children prepare to move up to a new year level. However we understand that both parents and children may have some anxieties about the changes ahead. Change often brings a mixture of emotions in kids such as excitement, apprehension and sadness about leaving their current teacher behind. Parents often go through the same range of emotions as children at this time so we need to acknowledge those feelings in ourselves, just as we should in our children.

On Orientation Day teachers conduct fun activities to help build new relationships with the children and their peers and spend lots of time getting to know their new class.

Parents have an enormous role in how their child views the changes for 2021. A positive parent will reassure that any new change will be a blessing – an opportunity for new friendships to be fostered and a chance to learn from a teacher who will support and care for them. These parents will find that their child develops resilience – an essential commodity necessary for adult life.

1. Be positive and supportive about meeting a new teacher and other children
1. Try not to overtalk it with your child as this can add to their apprehension. See it as a normal part of school life
2. Encourage your children to be open and friendly at this time of the year. They will be with some of their friends but it is also a great opportunity to extend their friendship group.

Curriculum News - Mrs Hall

Literacy Interviews December 2020

A reminder that bookings open on Tuesday 8th December at 3.30pm for the End of Year Literacy Interviews. Further information will be sent home with your child's class lists tomorrow.

St. Mary's End of Year Literacy Interviews will be held:

- 8.00am – 3.30pm on Wednesday 16th December 2020
- 8.00am – 3.30pm on Thursday 17th December 2020
- 8.00am – 10.30am on Friday 18th December 2020

WEB ADDRESS <http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au>

LOG IN CODE 66p54

RE News - Mrs Davies

Christmas Eve Mass - Nativity Play

We are very excited and looking forward to our parish Christmas Eve Mass this year. Due to number restrictions indoors we are holding our special Mass here at St Mary's in our lovely school grounds. It will begin at 7pm on Thursday 24th December. We are looking for any children interested in being involved in the Nativity Play on this night. **If your child would like to take part in this could you please let Mrs Davies know this week.**

Sacramental Dates for 2021

As you are all probably aware, sacramental dates for children participating in their Confirmation, First Eucharist or Reconciliation this year have all had to be postponed until 2021. We are in the process of finalising dates for next year and how this is going to look going forward. We will keep you informed of how this will be structured for children and their families.



KEY DATES

December 8th

Year 6 Graduation
6.30pm Assembly Area
BYO Chairs

Thursday December 10th

Pupil Free Day
2021 Planning Day

Friday December 11th

Orientation Day

Monday 14th December

School End of Year Mass
(virtual)

Tuesday 15th December

Break Up Day
Last day for students
Normal finishing time

Wednesday 16th - Friday 18th December

Literacy Testing &
Staff First Aid Training

Friday January 29th 2021

Start of Term 1 for all
Students

Tuesday February 2nd 2021

School Photo Day -
information will be sent to
families via PAM

Administration News

COVID Guidelines Update

The following provides an overview of the key changes;

- Drinking fountains and taps should be reopened for normal use
- Schools can conduct onsite tours for prospective students and their families
- Schools are no longer required to reduce mixing amongst staff or different year levels
- Public events on school premises are now permitted-still has limits and many restrictions
- Liturgies are permitted subject to public gathering limits
- Kinder to School and Year 7 Transitions - can now have groups of up to 20 indoors
- Orientation events can go ahead subject to adaptation
- Indoor contact and non-contact sport can resume
- Interschool activities can now resume

PAM - Parent Access Module

<http://pam.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au>

PAM is St Mary's main communication platform. All school related information is sent through PAM, so it is important to check your emails regularly. All communication via PAM will be sent to the email address linked to your PAM account. This includes the weekly newsletter, whole school information, letters/information directly related to your child and excursion/school activity permissions.

We kindly ask that all Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 parents log in to their PAM account to give permission for your child to attend their break up day activity. Without consent via PAM, unfortunately your child will be unable to attend.

Could all families please check their PAM accounts for any unread notifications.

Please contact the office on 50332541 or via email office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au if you require assistance with PAM.



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.



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.**

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 9

6O	Ava C	Vaughan O
6P	Sam R	Avneet B
6Q	Grace G	Cody Mc
5R	Sam Scott	Ryder C
5S	Emily P	Charlie G Charli C
5T	Novak D	Sabrina V Archie O
5U	Annabelle F	Elektra H
4A	Lana B	Noah F
4B	Bodhi S	Lenny R Sam B
4W	Luca Z	Carisa D
4Y	Emmy B	Anmol K
3G	Kelland P	Elli S Kayla Mc
3H	Finn H	Morrissey M
3I	Natalia B	Archer J
3J	Maddyn F	Seth H
2K	Harvey H	Ella S
2L	Kathleen K	Grace L Ayva W
2M	Scarlett F	Rylan G Indi M
2N	Zavier F	Banu E
1C	Max P	Cleo M
1D	Brady C	Memphis T
1E	Isabel F	Julian P
1F	Rory P	Jack L
F Blue	Ellery M Zed H	Amelie R
F Green	Georgie M	Alisha K
F Yellow	Kenzie C	Ben C
F Purple	Violet G	Marcus Mc
Art	Max C, Wajiha E, Jett G D, All of 2N	
Music	all of 5S, all of FP, all of 3I, Jack K	
Italian	Jack B, Violet G, Jack K, Flynn O	
PE	all of 2N, Scarlet G, Eliza L, Charlotte T, Arna C	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DEC 7 - SAMPSON B, ABHIJEET B,
TYLER M

DEC 8 - HUGH A, SIENNA S

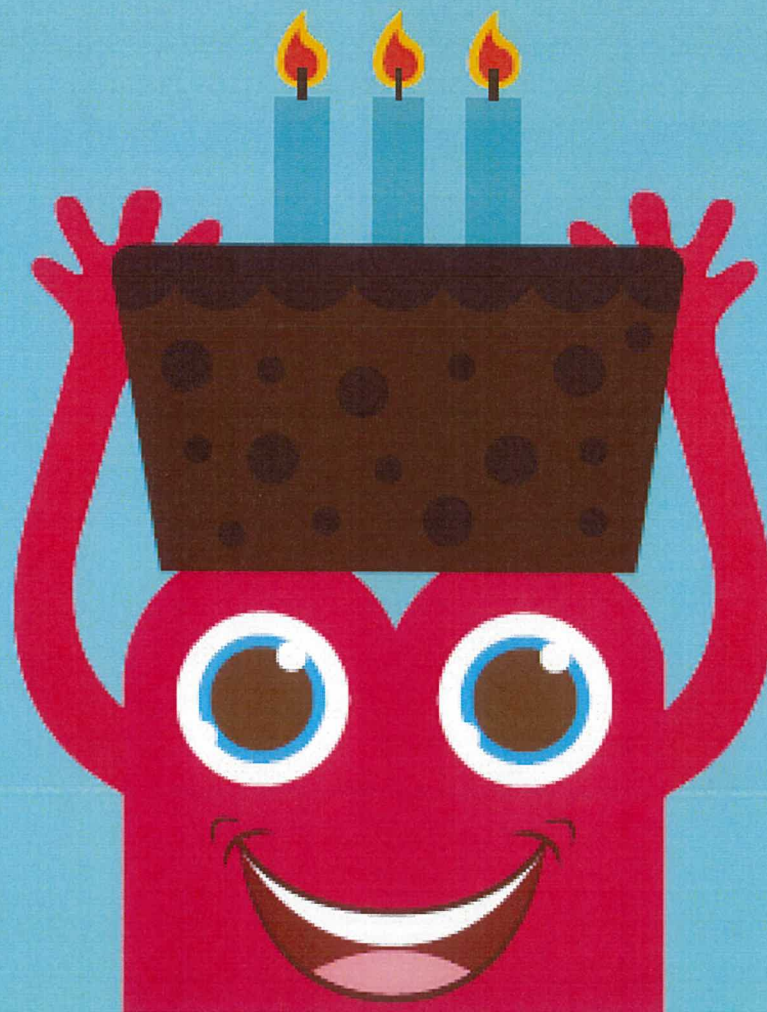
DEC 9 - LACHLAN H

DEC 10 - HANNAH D, KALENA G,
JACK W

DEC 11 - VIOLET C, MAGGIE D,
ADONIS S, NOA BELLA W

DEC 12 - EVE G

DEC 13 - CARISA D

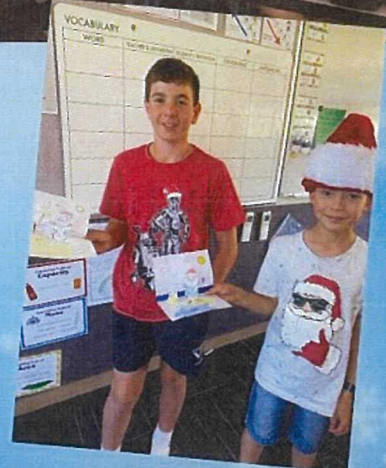
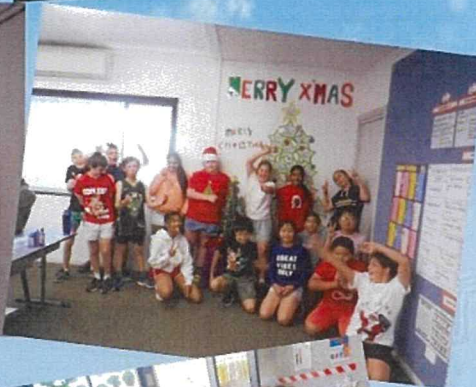


ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!!!



St Mary's Christmas Carols Day







FG 2020 - What a Year!



LOTS OF FUN WITH OUR FRIENDS



So many amazing memories :)

