



Term 1 Week 6

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



1st March, 2021

Welcome to Week 6

Dear Parents and Families,

It was amazing to see so many St Mary's students competing in the SHFNC Triathlon over the weekend at Riverside Park. The weather was perfect and a great time was had by all involved. Today our Year 6 students participated in a Student Leadership Development Day where they focused on learning more about themselves and their peers as leaders and team players. Highlights included the lego challenge, the shoe tower, team games and of course the pizza lunch! Thanks to Mrs Davies, Miss Taylor, Mr Cruickshank, Mrs Martin, Mrs Bett and Mr Anderson for organising such a fantastic experience. Tomorrow we welcome Lachlan Hansford to St Mary's. Lachlan is joining Mr Daniels and 5F and we wish him all the best as he settles into his new school. This week, we also welcome Annemaree Hazlett and Heather Sindhu who are completing a placement here as part of their studies at SuniTAFE.

Open Day Sunday February 28th

We really enjoyed the opportunity to show prospective families around at our first Open Day on Sunday and those that attended were very impressed with our teaching programs, beautiful grounds and facilities. Many will be back for a personalised tour or to join our first School in Action morning on [Thursday April 22nd](#). A special thanks to Emma, Miss Forster, Miss Pearse, Miss Clark, Mrs Bowd, Mrs Gook, Signora Kelly, Mrs Stacey and Mr Perry who assisted in showing families around the school or who ran interactive activities that highlighted the many wonderful things on offer at our school. If you haven't had the chance, check out our St Mary's Facebook page to see a Great Open Day advertisement starring some of our Yr 1 students!



<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria/videos/238238981276926>

Whole School Assembly

Due to Covid related indoor density limits, unfortunately parents are not able to attend Friday assembly at the moment. However we will video the class running the assembly prayer each week and also SOW and post these on our Facebook page until restrictions ease. The good news is that parents are very welcome to attend our outdoor assembly each Monday morning at 9am or to come onsite for lunch with their children in the Passive Play area on a Friday. Just a reminder that if you are on the school grounds for more than 15 minutes you are required to sign in at the table setup outside the office.



History Box Incursion

The students had an absolute blast with Cynda and Baz from the History Box last week. Their workshops and “hands-on” activities were really engaging and the children learned a great deal about our past as they participated in the program. These pictures say it all!



Casual Dress Day

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to wear casual for a good cause on Friday with over \$537 raised for childhood genetic conditions.

School Tutor Program

The Victorian Government has provided funding to all schools to run a school tutoring program for students that may have fallen behind in literacy and numeracy, due to the extended period of remote learning in 2020. Based on analysis of our literacy and numeracy testing conducted at the end of the year, a number of students have been placed in small group or individual sessions which run 3-4 times a week to help quickly fill in gaps in learning that might have occurred last year.

Seesaw - Important to sign up

All Foundation families and any new families have been sent an invitation to join their child's online Seesaw class. In the event of schools being required to provide an online learning platform at any stage in the future, it is very important those families that have not yet completed the login process for Seesaw do so as quickly as possible.



Have a wonderful week,

Kate





Parent Hub--The Resilience Project. We hope you are getting some time to explore the Parent Hub. of the Resilience Project. This is a great way of knowing what your children are learning at school and to be a part of such a wonderful program

The Resilience Project - Part 3: Empathy & Kindness.

This next presentation from [The Resilience Project](#) is all about Empathy and Kindness.

Empathy is the ability to understand another person's thoughts and feelings from their perspective.

Brain imaging data shows that being kind to others registers in the brain as more like eating chocolate than like fulfilling an obligation to do what's right (e.g., eating brussel sprouts)!

Research shows that practicing empathy such as performing acts of kindness, taps into our brain's 'mirror neurons', builds compassion and our behaviour becomes more social and community-based.

View Part 3: Empathy of the series here:

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/parent-and-carer-hub/>

Here's an activity to practise empathy and kindness:

- 1. Reflect on someone in your life who could benefit from an act of kindness today. It could be a friend who would love some affirmation about their work, your pet who deserves an extra treat, or a family member who would love a phone call or text message.***
- 2. Make a plan for who you are going to gift an act of kindness to, and what you are going to do.***

3. **If you want to add accountability to your plan, share it with someone else and encourage them to do the same thing.**

4. **Follow up with each other in a few days' time, to ask how it went!**

Curriculum News - Mrs Hall

Staff Professional Development:

Seven Steps to Writing Success

At St Mary's we believe there are many underlying skills our learners need to possess in order to continue to become great writers. All our literacy classes are taught using an explicit teaching approach *I Do, You Do and We Do*.

Staff this term will be participating in the **Seven Steps to**

Writing Success PD workshop over 2 sessions, the first this week in our staff meeting and our School Closure on Tuesday 2nd March.

Seven Steps to Writing Success is a writing program that empowers teachers to inspire their students to improve their writing skills, and most importantly, learn to love writing! Seven Steps is designed to create engaging classrooms where students learn to love writing and become lifelong communicators.



RE News - Mrs Davies

Last Tuesday our school was abuzz with the sounds of fry pans sizzling and delicious pancake smells wafting from the classrooms. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed cooking and eating pancakes as a part of our postponed Pancake Tuesday celebrations. In RE the children have been learning about the significance of Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday and how they prepare us for the Lenten journey to Easter.



Physical Education News - Miss Clark

House Captains

The 2021 House Captains were announced and presented with their badges at assembly last Monday. The sports captains are; Bunyips - Carly S, Tara F, Jules M, Nate K, Bandicoots- Scarlet G, Lily S, Ryan F, Max C, Dingoes- Harper F, Sarah V, Blake M, Nirvana J-J and Wombats- Reese P, Miley S, Ryder C, Charlie F. I am very much looking forward to working alongside these students for the year.



Division Swimming Carnival

On Monday 22nd of February, 25 St Mary's students represented the school at the Division Swimming Championships at the Swan Hill town pool. It was a great day with all students doing themselves and the school proud. A special thank you to all parents and families who attended on the day to support their child/ren and St Mary's.

From the event, 14 students qualified in individual and relay events. These students will progress and represent the school at the Regional Swimming Championships at the Swan Hill Outdoor Pool on Thursday, March 18th. We wish all of the competitors the best of luck.

To view all of the results for the day, please follow the link below;

<https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/loddon-mallee-primary/mallee-primary/Pages/MalleePrimaryDivisionResults.aspx> and go to Swimming 'results 2021'.



Swimming record broken

St Mary's have had some very exciting news with not one but two swimming records being broken at the Division Swimming. Jules M swam his individual 12/13 boys Freestyle event in an amazing time of 29.88 seconds and has broken the record which has been standing since 2007. The 12/13 boys Freestyle relay also broke a record swimming it in a time of 2.32.68. The team consisted of Jules M, Sam S, James X and Callum M. We wish all these boys all the very best at the Regionals.



Key Dates

Tuesday February 23rd -

Tuesday March 2nd

Book Fair

Monday March 8th

Labour Day
Public Holiday

Tuesday March 9th

Pupil Free day
Staff PD

Thursday April 1st

Last Day of Term 1

Monday April 19th

First Day of Term 2

Administration News

Canteen Roster

Mon March 1	Tue March 2	Wed March 3	Thur March 4	Fri March 5
Need someone	Moriah Ierace	Need someone	Anne-Maree Hazlett	Brigette Nunez
Mon March 8	Tues March 9	Wed March 10	Thur March 11	Fri March 12
Public Holiday	Pupil Free Day	Andrea O'Reilly	Need someone	Ursula Sparks
Mon March 15	Tue March 16	Wed March 17	Thur March 18	Fri March 19
Need someone	Heather Evans	Need someone	Need someone	Emma Bolger
Mon March 22	Tues March 23	Wed March 24	Thur March 25	Fri March 26
Need someone	Need someone	Need someone	Need someone	Belinda Free

Thank-you to those who have volunteered to help in our canteen this year. If you would like to be added to the roster, please contact the office on 50332541 or office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

Enrolments for Foundation 2022 are now open

Enrolments for Foundation 2022 are now open. If you require an enrolment form, please contact the office and we will send one home.



Book Fair

The Book Fair will be open from Tuesday 23rd February until Tuesday 2nd March. The school receives 30% of money raised in book stock for our library. We will have a large range of books displayed in the library, which the children will view during their library class time. The children will make a "Wish List" which will then be sent home with an order form, if you wish to order something. Parents are welcome to come and browse. The order form can be completed and sent back to the office no later than Friday 5th March.

Town Bus 8

Town Bus 8 is at capacity and we are unable to issue bus passes at this time. Our priority is for children who are catching the bus to and from their usual place of residence.



Health Reminder

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.

Out of Schools Hours April Holiday Program

Bookings are now open for the April Holiday Program. Please contact Swan Hill Rural City Council on 03 50362321 for bookings or further information.

Tennis- Junior Hot Shots Program

For Beginner Tennis Players, 4 – 7 year-olds

Friday Evening, 4 pm to 5 pm or

Saturday Morning, 9.30 am to 10.30 am

\$5.00 for the hour

Racquets supplied

Call Mick Mullen 0409 651 556 to register or
email- m.mullen@bigpond.net.au



2021 CMFNL FOOTBALL SEASON

Seeking
**JUNIOR FOOTBALL &
NETBALL PLAYERS**

in all age groups U12 to U18

Training For U12 & U14.5 Football

And All Junior Netball

begins **Wednesday 3rd March, 4.30pm**

Swan Hill Primary School Oval

Please contact Allastair 0407 308 844

(Football)

or

Nadine 0427 330 141 (Netball)

malleeeagles@outlook.com for more details.

[PAM – Why am I receiving so many emails?](#)

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. Please also check your spam/junk mail as sometimes these emails will go to this folder. Just mark the email "not spam/junk" and emails should then begin to appear in your inbox.

Here is an overview of the different types of communication you may receive through PAM;

noreply@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

General school information/announcements/updates or information we need to communicate to all families or a large percentage of families. Please note that this information may not always be relevant to your family.

Newsletter

Emailed via PAM weekly.

Letters

You will receive an email notification advising that you have a new letter available to view. These letters could be in regards to additional support programs, appointments, administration matters etc. There will be a link to access this through PAM.

Click on this link, this will take you to PAM, log in and in the top right hand corner on the "bell" will be a red dot with a number inside. These are your notifications. Click on this to view any letters/attachments. The red numbered dot will disappear once the letter has been opened.

You can view past letters by clicking on the student, profile menu, "Letters".

Excursions & School Activity Permissions

You will receive an email notification advising you have a new "school activity permission" available to view. There will be a link to access this through PAM.

Click on this link, this will take you to PAM, log in and in the top right hand corner on the "bell" will be a red dot with a number inside. These are your notifications. Click to view school activity permission details. Consent is given by scrolling to the bottom of the school activity details. The red numbered dot will disappear once the school activity permission has been opened. If there is not a notification within the bell, click on your child's photo and from the profile menu, select "School Activities".

Reminders will be sent until the request is actioned.

You can view past letters by clicking on the student, profile menu, "School Activities". This will show all school activities sent via PAM since the beginning of 2020.

Please phone the office on 03 50332541 if you require any assistance with PAM and our office staff will be happy to assist you.



Student of the Week - Term 1 Week 5

6O	Chloe L	Oliver C
6P	Ryley F	Matilda M
6Q	Anna F	Jasper R
6R	Reesha K	Ryder C
5S	Stella E	Jobe C
5T	Bodhi S	Anmol K
5U	Alexis L	Tyler H-K
5F	Mohi G	Maddox P
4G	Georgia M Chelsea T	Sienna C
4H	Indigo P	Kell P
4I	Seth H	Hamy H
4J	Molly D	Hugh W
3A	Will R	Milla M
3B	Braxton W	Sienna A
3W	Tarkin B	Paige L
3Y	Ana D	Gemma N
2K	Lizzie T	Hope A
2L	Lily G	Jack L
2M	Mary D	Jai P
2N	Scarlett F	Aarav B
1C	Georgie M	Aria C
1D	Frankie M	Chelsea P
1E	Kaleila O	Ellery M
F Blue	Kur M	Helen S
F Green	Florence T	Archer M
F Yellow	Eva R	Travis D
F Orange	Maya G	Lenny C
Art	Austin F, Reesha K, Jack K, Amahlia M	
Music	Jasper R, Oscar E, Charlie H, Zach R	
Italian	Jack B, Saly N, HaMy H, Oscar R	
PE	Chloe L, Jagger M, Titalia C, Knox J	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...

MARCH 2 - ARCHIE O'B, KAITLYN S
MARCH 3 - OLIVER A, CHAD O'S
OTTO P, OWEN U
MARCH 4- MARTY C, BRODY S
MARCH 5 - SCARLETT B
MARCH 6 - RYLEY F, LOGAN K
MARCH 7 - BAILEY MCF, EMILY P



ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!!!

This week, 60 share with us the best thing about being a Year 6 leader so far.....

Lily - Being the leaders of the school feels cool and it feels very lucky because you only get the opportunity to be the leaders at Primary School once, which comes with PALs and leadership roles.

Oliver - I have liked having a good PAL and that I got Office Leader and that I've got a wonderful teacher Mr Anderson.

Chloe - I have enjoyed helping my PALs out with some fun activities and reading.

Taeissa - I have enjoyed being able to be trusted with a job as a Sustainability Leader and being able to also be trusted to look after Prep kids.

Luciana - I have really enjoyed having PALs and the leadership jobs we do. I can't wait for what the rest of the year has in store.

Willow - I have enjoyed this year at school because we got to do Summer Sports because last year we didn't get to do that because of Corona.

Ruby - I have liked having a PAL and doing Sustainability.

Patrick - I have enjoyed PALs because I like the responsibility and the feeling of being a role model for someone.

Scarlet - What I have enjoyed most about being a Year 6 leader so far is being able to have a PAL and doing Summer Sports.

Alahni - I have most enjoyed about Year 6 is that I have more responsibilities. I like being an Office Leader and also having a PAL.

Angus - I have enjoyed being a helper to my PAL!

Emily - Taking on new roles and being the leaders of the school also being able to play with Eva, Rosie, Nylay and Maddy from Foundation Yellow. I am also thankful for having Mr Anderson.

Charlie - What I have enjoyed most about being a Year 6 leader so far is PALs.

Isaiah - I have enjoyed being a part of the Sustainability Leaders and taking care of the chooks.

Amaya - I have really enjoyed showing and teaching our PALs what to do in the classroom and in the school grounds.

Ben N - I am really proud and have really enjoyed the responsibility of being School Captain.

Daneaka - The best thing about being a leader is that we get to have the responsibility of PALS.

Benji - The best thing so far is that we have PALS and we get to do canteen duty as well.

Miley - The best part of year 6 is getting Shelby as my PAL and becoming House Captain.

Jack - I have really loved having a PAL and being able to teach them new things when we meet.

Ben R - I have just really enjoyed being one of the oldest of the school.

