



Term 1 Week 8

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



15th March, 2021

Welcome to Week 8

Dear Parents and Families,

Lovely news to start the week off as we wish Belinda Angus and her fiancée Daniel all the best as they celebrate their wedding this weekend.

We warmly invite our
Foundation & Year 1 families to our

**WELCOME
PICNIC**

Thursday March 18th
5.15pm-6.45pm

Classrooms will be open from
5.15pm-6pm

BYO Food, Drinks, Picnic Rug & Chairs
Music by Tony Haley

Family Basket tea Thursday March 18th

This Thursday March 18th is a welcome picnic and chance for families from the Foundation and Year 1 area to meet each other. Families are warmly invited to bring the picnic rug, a picnic tea and enjoy time at school from 5:15pm-6.45pm, mixing informally, having a look around our school and enjoying some music by Tony Haley in the passive play area.



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

The Kindness Blitz is gathering momentum with tickets being awarded for acts of kindness both large and small around the school. At St Mary's we believe that by helping students practice good behaviour, we will build a school community where all students have an environment where they can succeed and grow. For the remainder of the term we will continue a sustained focus on "Being Kind" with teachers giving St Mary's Way

tickets to students they see or hear being kind to others on the yard or when they are participating in one of our many lunchtime activities. Why not ask your children about the kindness blitz and how it works at school.

Meet some of the recipients of Kindness tickets last week.....



Rylan



Asha



Jack

Year 5-6 Cyber Safety Sesion March 24th

Senior Constable Andrew Downes will be here on March 24th running a session with our Year 5-6 on using social media in a responsible and appropriate manner. Andrew is known for his direct manner with the kids and his visit is a proactive one to educate students on the issues that arise from using social media inappropriately outside of school hours.

Learning Walks : Foundation and Year 1 rooms

Next Tuesday March 23rd, we are running the first of a series of Learning Walks at St Mary's. Learning Walks are a facilitated walk of the school and classrooms where parents can observe the children learning in real time. They are different to an Open Day or school tour as they are not really designed to just stop briefly in a room and say hello to children or to showcase our facilities. These walks are actually for parents to learn more about the learning that is taking place in the classroom. Many parents have expressed an interest in finding out how the learning looks in the junior rooms so we will run learning walks in Foundation from 9:30-10:30 and in Yr 1 from 11:30-12:30. For organisational purposes, please ring the office to let us know if you will be attending our Learning Walk next week.



Brekky Club

Brekky Club has been up and running thanks to the combined efforts of Jo K, Trudy and our wonderful parent volunteers. We were very appreciative to receive \$1500 from the Murray Downs Golf and Country Club to help support the cost of providing approximately 150 breakfasts to students each day.

P&F Meeting

Finally, a warm welcome to any parents to come along to the first Parents and Friends Meeting at Spoons next Thursday March 25th, at 9am. It is a great way to meet new people and work together to support our school...plus the coffee is on us!!

Have a great week and hope to see many of you here for lunch on Friday,

Kate



Wellbeing

Awesome Activities at play and lunch time:

The following is a list of wonderful activities that children can engage in at break times:
















Everyday at Recess and Lunch

- Activities in the passive play each day that include construction, dress ups , dolls and kitchen play, and toy cars just to name a few.
- Sports Equipment available each day for children who like to be more physical. Each classroom has their own set of sports equipment to use.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lego Club-Gym foyer	Lego Club-Gym foyer	Lego Club-Gym foyer	Lego Club-Gym foyer	Lego Club-Gym foyer
Yoga-Year 3/4 Gym	Meditation Year 3/4 Gym	Dance-Gym	Year 1/2 Yoga-Gym	
Colouring Club -Art Room	Colouring Club -Art Room	Colouring Club -Art Room	Colouring Club -Art Room	Colouring Club -Art Room
	Strings-Music room			

Please find attached a flyer (next page) showing the above that you could put on your fridge.

Lunchtime activities

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <p>Lego club - Gym foyer</p>	 <p>Lego club - Gym foyer</p>	 <p>Lego club - Gym foyer</p>	 <p>Lego club - Gym foyer</p>	 <p>Lego club - Gym foyer</p>
 <p>Year 5/6 Yoga – in the gym</p>	 <p>Year 3/4 Meditation – in the gym</p>	 <p>Dance – in the gym</p>	 <p>Year 1/2 Yoga – in the gym</p>	 <p>Colouring - in the Art room</p>
 <p>Colouring – in the Art room</p>	 <p>Colouring- in the Art room</p>	 <p>Colouring - in the Art room</p>	 <p>Colouring - in the Art room</p>	
	 <p>Singing – in the music room</p>			

Activities start after the second bell and finish at 1.30pm

Curriculum News - Mrs Hall



Seven Steps is designed to break the large task of writing a full story into small chunks and help students to master these skills before they tackle the big task of writing a whole narrative at once. We think of the Seven Steps as the building blocks to great writing. Isolating writing skills into individual steps ensures students don't get 'bogged down' with writing the whole piece. They gain confidence in each building block, and then they pull it all together to become creative and engaging writers.

Seven Steps to Writing Success

- **Step 1: Plan for Success**
- **Step 2: Sizzling Starts**
- **Step 3: Tightening Tension**
- **Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue**
- **Step 5: Show, Don't Tell**
- **Step 6: Ban the Boring**
- **Step 7: Exciting Endings/Ending with Impact**



RE News - Mrs Davies

Sunday School Masses Are Back!

We are really looking forward to the Year 6 children and their families helping in leading Mass this Sunday 21st March at the Church. It has been over 12 months since we have been able to gather for these celebrations and I know that we are excited to have these back! Notes have been sent home to all Year 6 families with further details and opportunity to volunteer for different roles in the Mass. All St Mary's families are more than welcome to attend with Mass beginning at 10.30am.



Physical Education News - Miss Clark

Tennis Tryouts for Regionals

On Thursday 11th of March, St Mary's had seven students compete in the Tennis tryouts held at the Lawn Tennis Club. Well done to Scarlet G, Ryan F, Ben N, Emily P, Zoe B, Lana B and Oliver S for their efforts. I have received fantastic feedback about these students for their good behaviour and sportsmanship on the day. These students played several challenging singles matches against other schools. A special thank you to parents who helped transport their children to and from the courts. Congratulations to Oliver S, Zoe B and Ryan F for making it through to Regionals which will be held on Monday the 22nd of March.

Regional Swimming

This Thursday, 14 St. Mary's students will represent the school at the Regional Swimming held at the Swan Hill Outdoor Pool beginning at 2pm. The students will be competing against their peers from Bendigo, Echuca and Mildura. We wish all the competitors the very best of luck!

Summer Sports

The last practice session of Year 5/6 Summer Sports is this Friday in preparation for the Division Summer Sports. Many thanks for the Year 5/6 teachers and the Mackillop College students for their work in getting the children ready for the day.

The Summer Sports will be held on Friday 26th March and is an opportunity for the Year 5/6 students to represent their school in their chosen sport. The sports will take place at the following venues with these supervising teachers;

Basketball- Swan Hill Stadium (Miss Clark, Mr Anderson and Mrs Davies)

Cricket- Swan Hill Showgrounds (Mr Daniels and Mr Cruickshank)

Tennis- Swan Hill Lawn Tennis Club (Miss Palmer and Miss Deveraux)

Softball- Ken Harrison Reserve (Mrs Dacey and Mrs Martin)

Could parents/ guardians please check PAM to ensure permission is given to your child/ren to attend the day.



Key Dates

Thursday March 18th

Foundation & Year 1
Welcome Picnic from
5.15pm

Loddon Mallee Region
Swimming Carnival
Information sent via PAM

Tuesday March 23rd

Learning Walks
Foundation 9.30am-10.30am
Year 1 11.30am-12.30pm

Thursday March 25th

P & F Meeting
9am at Spoons

Friday March 26th

Year 5 & 6 Division
Summer Sports
Information sent via PAM

Thursday April 1st

Holy Week Liturgy 9.15am
Last Day of Term 1

Monday April 19th

First Day of Term 2

Administration News

News from the canteen

NEW TO THE DAILY SPECIALS - RIVETT'S BAKERY PIE THURSDAYS ONLY!

Mon March 15	Tues March 16	Wed March 17	Thur March 18	Fri March 19
Tim Dunstan	Heather Evans	Need someone	Halima Hussain	Emma Bolger
Mon March 22	Tues March 23	Wed March 24	Thur March 25	Fri March 26
Tim Dunstan	Need someone	Emma Brown	Halima Hussain	Belinda Free
Mon March 29	Tues March 30	Wed March 31	Thur April 1	Fri April 2
Tim Dunstan	Lisa Brady	Need someone	Halima Hussain	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

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.



Leave Early Passes

If you wish to pick your child up early from school, please come to the office to obtain a "Leave Early" pass, you can then collect your child from their classroom. Just a reminder to make appointments outside of school hours where possible.

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.

Bus changes now available on PAM

You are now able to make bus changes via your PAM account. This includes bus passes, not on bus, change of bus etc. **SkoolBag is no longer to be used for Bus Changes.**

- Log in to your PAM account.
- From the hamburger menu in the top right hand corner, select "Transport Passes".
- Ensure the date is correct, displayed above the student schedule table.
- Click on the "Edit" button of the child you wish to add/remove from a bus.
- "Select New Route" will allow you to add your child to a bus, add your child to a different bus or select "No transport needed" if your child is not to travel on the bus on that particular day.

Scheduled Transport - this is for children who are on a regular bus schedule. It is the bus that your child would usually catch on that day.

Actual Transport - the bus that your child is catching on that particular day eg. if a change has been made.

Bus changes via PAM must be made by 2.30pm. For last minute changes, contact the office on 50332541. You can action bus changes up to 7 days in advance. If your child requires a permanent schedule change, please contact the office. Need assistance? Please contact the office 50332541.

COME AND JOIN

ST MARY'S PARENTS + FRIENDS

Parents and Friends are a very important part of our school community. They provide an opportunity to take an active part in social and fundraising school activities.

FIRST MEETING FOR 2021
THURSDAY 25TH MARCH
9AM - SPOONS RIVERSIDE

The money raised by Parents and Friends enables the school to purchase equipment that makes our school a better place for learning and play.

Parents and Friends meet regularly, with dates advertised in the school newsletter.

Please contact Renee 0439322862 or Jess 0419436049 from the Parents and Friends committee if you would like to join or have any questions.

GET ACTIVE KIDS

VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program helps eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and recreation activities by reimbursing the cost of membership and registration fees, along with uniforms and equipment essential for participation. Eligible children may be able to receive up to \$200 each.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for a voucher your child/dependant must be:

- aged 4 to 18 years
- a resident in Victoria
- named on a current (at the time of your application) Australian Government Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, and
- named on a valid Australian Government Medicare card

You can apply for more than one voucher if you have more than one eligible child/dependant.

FUNDING DETAILS

You can be reimbursed up to \$200 for costs related to:

- membership, registration or general fees to participate at an affiliated sport or active recreation club, association or program
- equipment (new or second hand) required to participate in the nominated activity
- uniforms and clothing (new or second hand) required to participate in the nominated activity

You will then be reimbursed for part or all of the cost up to the value of \$200.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- the activity or program must be affiliated to a Victorian Government recognised Victorian State Sporting Association or Victorian State Sport and Recreation Body
- activities or programs should be a minimum of four sessions
- organised sport or outdoor recreation programs or camps involving multiple sessions of activities that may be conducted over one or more days will be eligible

WHEN CAN YOU APPLY?

There are specific dates (claim periods) when you can apply. You must have incurred your expenses within specific dates too. Please refer to the table below:

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE DATES	CLAIM PERIODS (applications open)
1 January 2021 – 11 April 2021	1 March 2021 – 11 April 2021
11 April 2021 – 11 July 2021	31 May 2021 – 11 July 2021
11 July 2021 – 14 Nov 2021	4 Oct 2021 – 14 Nov 2021
14 Nov 2021 – 17 April 2022	7 March 2022 – 17 April 2022



MORE INFORMATION

w. www.getactive.vic.gov.au
p. (03) 1800 325 206
e. getactivekids@sport.vic.gov.au



SWAN HILL FILM FESTIVAL



TICKETS
\$15
per film

Funds raised for the Fight Cancer Foundation Swan Hill Branch

Friday 26th March

7pm: High Ground

Saturday 27th March

10.30am: Summerland

2.45pm: Corpus Christi (Subtitled)

7pm: The Bee Gees: How Do you Mend a Broken Heart

Tickets available at www.showbizcinemas.com.au or at the customer service counter during cinema operating hours.

Terms & Conditions: Subject to seating capacity



Fight Cancer Foundation
Bridget Kelly, Sarah Dicks
SWAN HILL BRANCH

showbiz
cinemas

ITEMS FOR SALE



Various chairs \$2 each



Desks \$20 each

**CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON
50332541 FOR MORE DETAILS**

Student of the Week - Term 1 Week 7

6O	Ruby M	Jack C
6P	Tiger V	Amber B
6Q	Reese P	Dakota Z
6R	Archie O'T	Sarah V
5S	Jasmeen B	Saxcen C
5T	Mason M	Matilda T
5U	Lilian H	Isla G
5F	Pippa W	Mason F
4G	Leo K	Kayla S
4H	Charlotte O'C	Cooper G
4I	Emett W	Adi B
4J	Charlize B	William McD
3A	Lucas F	Mackenzie S
3B	Bella S	Harlow R
3W	Foley S	Emily S
3Y	All of 3Y	
2K	Madison D	Jameson B
2L	Vincent C	Eva D
2M	Indianah P	Patrick K
2N	All of 2N	
1C	Angela W	Beau F
1D	Kenzie C	Willow C Tom L
1E	Aiden C	Kalena G
F Blue	Sophie K	Flynn B
F Green	Ezra N	Leni D
F Yellow	Jasper B	Nylah K
F Orange	Sehbaz S	Angela B
Art	Henley M, All of Foundation Blue, All of Foundation Green	
Music	Farhan H, Shelby O'S	
Italian	Ruby E, All of 2K, All of 3A	
PE	Maeve Mcl, Tamika B, Archer M, Hamish L	

**We warmly invite our
Foundation & Year 1 families to our**

WELCOME PICNIC
















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5.15pm-6.45pm**

**Classrooms will be open from
5.15pm-6pm**

**BYO Food, Drinks, Picnic Rug & Chairs
Music by Tony Haley**



Year 4G The Smart Cookies 2021–What are you grateful for?

<p>Ayden</p> 	<p>I am grateful for the rain that waters the farmer's crops.</p>	<p>Max</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my friends and family and those who care for me and play with me and show kindness.</p>
<p>Ella</p> 	<p>I am grateful for the ongoing love and support from my family and for my neighbours.</p>	<p>Coco</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my artistic talents and a family who cares for me.</p>
<p>Sienna</p> 	<p>I am grateful for having my family and my friends at school who are kind and play with me.</p>	<p>Tommy</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my Mum and Dad who cook delicious meals for us and for my teachers who taught us during the pandemic.</p>
<p>Wajha</p> 	<p>I am grateful for living in Australia and for having a family who cares for me.</p>	<p>Lucas</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my parents who cook food every night and for my pets at home.</p>
<p>Oscar</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my Mum, Dad and the rest of the family. I am also grateful for my pets.</p>	<p>Dane</p> 	<p>I am grateful for a loving family and also for the time that I got to spend with my Grandma.</p>
<p>Tao</p> 	<p>I am grateful for playing with my friends and for studying in a nice school.</p>	<p>Kayla</p> 	<p>I am grateful for the water. I am also grateful for my beautiful playgrounds in school and for my friends at school.</p>
<p>Sammie</p> 	<p>I am grateful for I have a roof over my head and I get to train with my pony.</p>	<p>Zara</p> 	<p>I am grateful for living in Australia, my parents who work to pay the bills. I am also grateful for the rain that waters our plants.</p>
<p>Archer</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my parents making lunch for me every day and for my pet dogs.</p>	<p>Chelsea</p> 	<p>I am grateful for mum cooking me dinner each night and for Mum dropping me to school each morning.</p>
<p>Leo</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my supportive family, my pets and for my Mum's cooking.</p>	<p>Charlee</p> 	<p>I am grateful for spending time with my Grandma! I am also grateful for my pet dog Roxy.</p>
<p>Georgia</p> 	<p>I am grateful for the opportunity to belong to the Pony Club. I am also grateful for my school bus that gets me to school every day.</p>	<p>Noa</p> 	<p>I am grateful for the roof over my head, my family, friends and my teachers who teach me something new.</p>
<p>Kayla M</p> 	<p>I am grateful for my family and friends who are very kind.</p>	<p>4G THE SMART COOKIES!</p>	