



Term 1 Week 9

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



22nd March, 2021

Welcome to Week 9

Dear Parents and Families,

Lovely to see so many families at church yesterday and well done to our Year 6 students who took a very active part in the 10.30am Mass.

There was a huge roll up of families and a very relaxed and positive vibe at the Foundation and Year 1 picnic tea on Thursday evening. It was a great opportunity for families to mix informally, have a look around our school and enjoy some music by Tony Haley in the passive play area....and the kids had a ball!! Sincere thanks to Jess Merrett, Renee Hirst, Ebony and our wonderful teachers - their combined efforts made the night such a success!

Highlights can be found on <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria/videos/250607513383195>



Learning Walks : Foundation & Year 1

Tomorrow, Tuesday March 23rd, we are running the first of a series of Learning Walks at St Mary's. 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.

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria/videos/275137390786562>

P&F Meeting

A very warm welcome to any parents to come along to the first Parents and Friends Meeting at Spoons **this Thursday March 25th, at 9am**. Jess and Renee are hosting this event. It is a great way to meet new people and work together to support our school...plus the coffee is on us!!!



Harmony Day

Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for all. With our vibrant student population at St Mary's, it is a wonderful day for us to celebrate the diversity and gifts that exist within our school. This special day will be celebrated at St Mary's on **Thursday March 25th** and we have been working on providing some great events and activities to celebrate this special day.

The official colour for Harmony day is **orange** and all children are encouraged to wear something orange on the day or to dress in their national costume.

HARMONY DAY



Community Groups

At St Mary's we have many opportunities for children to mix and get to know each other and other teachers. Community Groups is one of these. We run Community Groups once a term with children being vertically grouped with family members and the same teacher for the year. This is a great way for children to meet other children and teachers and to build positive relationships with others. Our first Community Group session for the term will run on Thursday March 25th from 9.55-10.55 and focus on completing a Harmony Day activity together.

No act of
KINDNESS
no matter
how small
is ever
wasted.

-Aesop

The Kindness Blitz

The Kindness Blitz continues.... 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.

Meet some of the recipients of Kindness tickets in Week 8.....



Aarav



Holly



Leo



Zara



Lenny

Year 5-6 Cyber Safety Session March 24th

Senior Constable Andrew Downes will be here this Wednesday 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.

Finally the new gaga ball pit is due to arrive for installation on the senior oval on Thursday March 25th...exciting times indeed!

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

Kate



Wellbeing

As parents and teachers, one of our greatest hopes is that our kids will be kind and good people. When they have a choice to help others, we hope they will. We never want them to be cruel, intolerant or prejudiced.

But let's face it. It's not always easy to be kind, even for us. Even grown ups don't want to share our belongings sometimes. Helping others can seem hard when we feel like we don't have the help we need ourselves.

The good news is that kindness can be learned; just like any other behavior, it can be trained through repetition. The most dominant way children learn new behaviors is by copying those around them. Which means we adults have a powerful opportunity, and responsibility, to teach by example.

Mirror neurons are cells in the brain that wire us for imitation, and they're especially active during childhood. When kids observe an action, their brains respond as if they are performing the action themselves. Their brains form new neural pathways, and these create the basis for behaviors that stick with them throughout their lives.

Thanks to neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to adapt and change, we all have the aptitude to learn new behaviors, including becoming kinder. Kids' brains are particularly moldable, as they've had less time to solidify lifelong habits. So if you want to encourage more kindness in your kids, and in the world, here are some fun things you can do:

1. Send kind thoughts

Kindness can sometimes be as simple as a wish for the well-being of others. In mindfulness class, I ask my students to imagine someone (or a whole lot of someones) they want to send kind thoughts to and then to say out loud, "May they be happy. May they be healthy. May they be safe." This practice helps kids get into the habit of thinking kind thoughts more often.

2. Share stories of kindness

Choose books and stories with kindness themes. There are many great stories to choose from! Stories are a powerful and highly influential way for kids to learn without direct teaching. For younger children, read stories out loud that invoke their imaginations. For older children, stock their reading list with plenty of kind role models.

More kindness tips next week.....

Choose 
KINDNESS.

Key Dates

Tuesday March 23rd

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

Wednesday March 24th

Year 5 & 6 Cyber
Safety Session

Thursday March 25th

Harmony Day at St Mary's
Community Groups
Casual Dress Day
(no donation)
Wear something **Orange** or
your National costume

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
Early finish - first bell
2.15pm

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!

CHICKEN TENDERS AVAILABLE EVERYDAY - \$1.50 each

Mon March 22	Tues March 23	Wed March 24	Thur March 25	Fri March 26
Tim Dunstan	Halima Hussain	Emma Brown	Megan Bye	Belinda Free
Mon March 29	Tues March 30	Wed March 31	Thur April 1	Fri April 2
Tim Dunstan	Lisa Brady	Stacey Keefe	Amanda Atkinson	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.



Medication at school - update

Non-Prescribed Medication

We are no longer able to store or administer non-prescribed medication, like panadol. This is because analgesics and other non-prescribed medications can mask signs and symptoms of a serious illness or injury. This may affect those students with an injury (like a broken bone, dental work etc) that in order to get through the school day need panadol.

Prescribed medications

If a student is required to take prescription medication then if possible it would be taken outside of school hours. If medication is required 3 times a day, they could be taken before school, after school and after tea. However if this is not possible (for example during a school camp) then the school will support the student to take the medication safely.

A Medical Authorisation form would need to be completed and signed by the parent/guardian giving the school permission to administer the medication. The medication needs to be provided in its original packaging with a pharmacy label on it matching the information on the form.

Also for new medication, students are not permitted to take their first dose at school.

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.

School Sores

We have had reported cases of school sores (Impetigo). This is highly infectious and causes sores on the skin. School sores should clear up a few days after starting medical treatment. Children are to remain at home until appropriate treatment has commenced, they are no longer infectious and the sores are covered with a watertight dressing.

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.



YOU'RE INVITED!
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

LEARNING WALKS

Interested in seeing what the learning looks
like in your child's classroom?

Why not come along and join a guided Learning Walk.

TUESDAY MARCH 23RD
Foundation Rooms 9.30-10.30
Year 1 Rooms 11.30-12.30

More information on our Facebook page

CALL THE OFFICE ON 50332541
TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



From Diagnosis to OAM

A Personal Autism Journey

Swan Hill

Wed 24 Mar 2021, choice of 1 pm or 7 pm session
(2 hour seminar, doors open at 12:30 pm and 6:30 pm)

Daniel and Daryl will discuss Daniel's journey from diagnosis to present day giving an insight from Daniel's personal perspective of living life as an Autistic individual.

Topics include diagnosis, school journey, independent living, employment and strategies used to achieve best outcomes. **There will also be an opportunity for questions.**

Exhibitor: Kaiko Fidgets
www.kaikofidgets.com



Presented by

Daniel Giles OAM

Order of Australia Medal
Recipient and Autistic Self-Advocate

Daryl Giles

Parent Perspective



ABN: 11 945 440 100

Venue

Swan Hill Club: 5-17 McCallum St, Swan Hill

Tickets (*Includes \$0.50 booking fee for online bookings)

Individuals on Autism Spectrum, family & carers **\$30.50***

Professionals **\$60.50***
Teachers/Caseworkers/Therapists – incl. CPD cert.

www.trybooking.com/BOMRK

Contact

e: admin@speakinginsights.com.au

w: www.speakinginsights.com.au



Find 'Speaking Insights' on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

VIT MAINTENANCE - Victorian Teachers can claim 2 hours of Professional Development. Australian Professional Standard for Teachers at the level of Proficient Teacher **6.4.2**

NESA MAINTENANCE - NSW Teachers can claim 2 hours of Elective Professional Development. Australian Professional Standard for Teachers at the level of Proficient Teacher **6.4.2**

Student of the Week - Term 1 Week 8

6O	Willow A	Ben R
6P	Ellah R-B	Angus T
6Q	Olly A	Charlize C
6R	Blake M	Marion D
5S	Zyma A	Ramel A
5T	Emmy B	Arna C
5U	Thomas R	Blake D
5F	Arou M Rory D	Rayne E
4G	Ayden A Sammie H	Oscar E
4H	Aiden K	Lola P
4I	All of 4I	
4J	Sonic H	Reve O'T
3A	Harvey H	Samantha P
3B	Daisy M	Archie O'B
3W	Ruby E	Max M
3Y	Sacha L	April T
2K	Levi C	Chloe J J-L
2L	Tilly S	Haydon M
2M	Charlotte M	Austin F
2N	Emme B	Braith C
1C	Thea T	Alisha K
1D	Jagger F Arlee P	Max L
1E	Raf F Matilda R	Ruby McD
F Blue	Harrison G	Aaliyah McC
F Green	Joseph K	Ivy Q
F Yellow	Maverick C	Abigail P
F Orange	Millie S	Lenny H
Art	Jameson B, Abigail P, Mitch B, Belle L	
Music	Souhayla J, Zac D, Lenny C, Jemma T	
Italian	Alira C, Sienna C, Maeve Mcl, Natalia B	



Happy Birthday

MARCH 24 - Charlie F

MARCH 25 - Billie G, Saly N, Monique P

MARCH 26 - Pearl D, Nylah K

MARCH 27 - Hamy H

We hope you have a lovely day!!!!

BEING IN 1D IS SO MUCH FUN

Check out our highlights of the term



Colouring in



Playing with my friends



Making things with playdough



P.E



Playing with my friends



Being back at school



Sport



Mental Maths



My first day at St. Mary's



P.E



Colouring in



Colouring in



Stepping Stones



Independent Activities



Morning Circle



Picking up rubbish



Playing with my friends



Picking up rubbish



Playing with my friends



Playing with my friends



Lego Club



Colouring in



Mental Maths



P.E