



Term 2 Week 7

St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au



31st of May, 2021

Welcome to Week 7

Dear Parents and Families,

I'm sure there is a range of feelings amongst families about the circuit breaker and the return to remote learning. We are old hands at this now and my key advice remains the same - focus on what matters most, do your best, encourage your children to have a go at the learning tasks provided by our teachers and pick your battles at home!

Our wonderful staff worked very hard on Friday to ensure that families will feel connected and that tasks to be completed at home over the next few days will be user friendly and well supported by their presence either online or through Seesaw. On Friday you would have received a letter via email from your child's classroom teacher explaining the learning schedule for Monday - Thursday and advising families classroom teachers are working from home and available to support you throughout the lockdown period.



This letter also invited you to watch a short video from each year level located on our school website that details how the next few days will unfold.

Attendance Monday 31st May-Thursday 3rd June

This week if your child is unwell and unable to participate in remote learning or attend on-site learning as arranged, please contact the school for attendance purposes. The easiest way is to use PAM.

PAM - Log onto your PAM account, directly under your student's name is a box "Parent Notified Absence" click here to enter or alternatively use the three line (hamburger) in the top right hand corner to go to "Parent Notified Absence".

Alternatively:

Message: 0409968162 Email: office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au Phone: 50332541 from 8.30am

School Office Hours

Until Thursday, we will have reduced staff onsite in the office due to the lockdown restrictions. For this reason the school can be contacted via phone during the modified hours of **8:30 am - 3:45pm** each day. We encourage families to phone during school hours or direct emails to office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

Emails will then be directed to an appropriate staff member to respond to. If parents wish to contact me directly please email kquin@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

Onsite Information

This information is relevant for the small number of families who are both essential workers, who cannot work from home and who require onsite supervision.

Country buses will run as normal. Please be aware that with very few students using them, they may arrive at your stop earlier than normal. There will be no town buses running Monday-Thursday. We will only be using the office car park until we return from remote learning. Please note that supervision is only available from

8:30-3:15 with a staff member on duty from **8:30am**. During this lockdown period facemasks must be worn at all times when dropping off/collecting your children. Children attending onsite supervision must wear their school uniform, bring a clearly labelled refillable drink bottle and recess/lunch.



Personalised tours welcome at any time

Get off to a Flying Start

St Mary's free school familiarisation program for PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN
Our 4 week program starts on Friday July 23rd
Session times: 9am-10.30am and 11.30am-1pm
Contact our office on 5033 2541 for further information or to book a place



Let your child experience life at St Mary's enjoying our Phonics, Music, PE, Italian, Art and Technology Programs

School in Action Tour - Thursday, June 17 9.30am-11am

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
2 Murlong Street, Swan Hill

Email: office@smshill.catholic.edu.au Website: www.smshill.catholic.edu.au
Facebook: [stmarysswanhillvictoria](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysswanhillvictoria) Instagram: [stmarysswanhill](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysswanhill)

2022 Enrolments and Flying Start

You will have heard it on 3SH and seen it in the Guardian or on our Facebook page... it's that time of year when we are open for enrolments and take names for Flying Start. Our parent community is one of our best forms of advertising so please let your friends and family know about the great teaching and learning programs and wonderful pastoral support that exists at St Mary's, when they are considering 2022 school options for their children.

Places are filling fast, especially in the 9.30am session, so don't forget to contact the school to confirm a place for your preschooler. Flying Start runs in Term 3 on Friday mornings from (1) 9:00 to 10:30 and (2) 11:30 – 1:00 for all interested families. Our local preschools, including [Shamrock Park](#) are also open for 2022 enrolments for both 3 & 4 year old preschool with more information available on the Shine Bright webpage.

Casual Dress Day - Friday 4th June

A week later doesn't matter! This Friday will be our next casual dress day and our SRC are raising money for a very worthy cause - Motor Neurone Disease (MND). While everyone is home it's a chance to pull those MND beanies out of the cupboard or get your blue clothes ready to go!



Italian Day

Italian Day will be held on Wednesday, 16th June.

It only happens every two years - this highly anticipated event is back! Every second year we hold a whole school Italian Day to celebrate the Italian language and culture. **Students are invited to come to school dressed in an Italian costume or the colours of the flag.**

It's a fun filled day of Italian themed activities followed by a live performance from Melbourne. Gelato and cannoli will be available at recess and lunch and there will be Italian food available to order through CDF Pay for lunch. More details to follow in the coming weeks. You are most welcome to join us for lunch on the day and we will be sure to upload highlights of the day on our Facebook page.



Please continue to look out for updates from the school via your email and on our Facebook page throughout the week as these tools are our key ways to stay in touch. We are absolutely committed to working with our families as we move through these challenging times. Both Jason and I are onsite all week, so please don't hesitate to email or call the school if you have any concerns,

Kate



Wellbeing Videos on St Mary's Facebook page.

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

Our wellbeing team has been putting some simple videos together to use at home during remote learning. There will be a new one posted each day



An introduction video followed by:

- The "How are you feeling?" poster (this links in with the video from today)
- The Pace Brain Gym video
- The Finger Breathing video
- The spinal walking video

The Resilience Project

You may have noticed that part of the Learning Schedule includes work from The Resilience Project. As a whole school we have been working through the wonderful lessons focusing on Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy. These are very simple activities that children can do and can help children develop skills in resilience and kindness.

Digital Technology News - Mr Perry

Using technology safely

During remote learning the students will be making use of technology such as iPads, Chromebooks, laptops etc. It is very important that you talk as a family about how this will look in your home. Some suggestions are:

- Decide where the device will be kept when not being used for learning (it is highly recommended that devices are not kept in your child's bedroom).
- Ensure your child is responsible for charging the device each day so it is ready for use.
- Discuss the difference between using the device for learning time and for break times.
- Encourage your child to talk to an adult if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable online or notice a friend feeling unsafe or uncomfortable as a result of the online actions of others
- Students should be respectful in how they talk to, and work with others online



Troubleshooting

If your child is having trouble with a device, app or program, encourage them to try and solve the problem themselves first. The next step is to ask an adult or older sibling in the house for help. If they are still having technical issues, please contact your child's classroom teacher for further assistance.

Curriculum News - Mrs Hall

St Mary's online platforms of Google Meets and Seesaw provide our students with the ability to continue their learning journey remotely. Many of the skills we are developing while learning in an online environment are those we know will help us in the future ie: collaboration, self-regulation, adaptability along with balanced time for wellbeing. Communication continues to be a big focus for our school community and it is important our students know when and how to access support from their teachers. Please, if you or your child have any questions, concerns or need some extra support our teachers are available via email, phone calls or a zoom meeting.

RE News - Mrs Davies

Confirmation

Well... we nearly got there! With the lockdown being announced last Thursday we have had to postpone our Year 4 Confirmation weekend which was meant to be held on the 29/30th May. This Mass will be postponed until a later date. Our Year 3 Confirmation which is scheduled to be held this weekend coming 5/6th June will be confirmed once we receive advice later this week about when the lockdown will end and if some restrictions will remain in place. As soon as we know anything this week we will share this information with families - stay tuned!



Congratulations to both Hattie and Larni who completed their Sacraments of Confirmation and Baptism respectively a couple of weeks ago. It was a lovely celebration!



Physical Education News - Miss Clark

Junior Cross Country

A huge congratulations to all the children that ran in the Junior Cross Country on Thursday 20th of May. It was wonderful to see so many children try their best and encourage each other over the finish line. We are grateful for all the parents, guardians, family and friends who came to watch and support the children. Students that finished in the top 10 for each race will have certificates presented at the next available opportunity.



Regional Cross Country

Following the Division Cross Country, we have 22 students who have qualified to go on to represent the school at the Regional Cross Country at St Arnaud. Please be aware of the change of date to **Friday 18th of June and slightly changed times of running events**. Updated information will be sent out on PAM and email. We wish all competitors and families the best of luck on the day.



Change of dates

Please be aware of several sporting events that have dates changed.

Regional Cross Country (St Arnaud)- **Friday 18th of June**

Year 5/6 Division Winter Sports- **Wednesday 23rd of June**

Active After Schools Program- new start dates (**Netball 7th of June**) and (**Football 9th of June**)

Information about these new dates will be on PAM.

Girls Football

On Monday 24th of May our school had three girls teams that represented St Mary's for the 9-a-side Girls Football day. Well done to all the girls involved. It was great to see so many girls enjoy and be a part of the growing popularity of the sport. Congratulations to our 'A' team which will be going through to the Regional Winter Football Day on the 3rd of August. A big thank you to Jules M, Ryan F and Charlie F who volunteered to umpire for the day.



Key Dates

Remote Learning

**Monday May 31 -
Thursday June 3**

Saturday June 5th & Sunday June 6th

Year 3 Confirmation

Monday June 14th

Public Holiday

Wednesday June 16th

Italian Day

More information to come

Thursday June 17th

School in Action Tour

9.30am-11am

For prospective families

Friday June 18th

Regional Cross Country

St Arnaud (change of date)

Wednesday June 23rd

Year 5 and 6 Division Winter

Sports

Information will be sent
via PAM

News from the Office

Flying Start - A school familiarisation program for Preschool Children

Come and experience life at St. Mary's enjoying our Phonics, Music, Italian, Physical Education, Art and Technology Programs for children. This **FREE** program will be run in Term 3 on Friday mornings from (1) 9:00 to 10:30 and (2) 11:30 – 1:00 for all interested families.

Since opening 2022 Foundation enrolments and running our first Open Day, enrolments are steadily coming in for our Flying Start Program. For those of you with a preschooler please contact the school office to confirm a place or for further enquiries phone Kate or Ebony on 03 50332541 or email principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au.

Canteen

**WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF CANTEEN HELPERS. VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE
11.30am-1.30pm. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.**

Mon May 31	Tues June 1	Wed June 2	Thur June 3	Fri June 4
Remote learning	Remote learning	Remote learning	Remote learning	need someone
Mon June 7	Tues June 8	Wed June 9	Thur June 10	Fri June 11
Tim Dunstan	Halima Hussain	Bec Andreson	need someone	Sally Hammet

Book Club Issue 4

Scholastic Book Club Issue 4 is now available. We will not be accepting cash payments for orders. Please order online following the instructions below.

Issue 3 orders are due by Wednesday 9th of June 2021.

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. Mary's SWAN HILL)

If you have any questions or are having trouble with the LOOP ordering system, please contact the office via email - office@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard is overflowing with jumpers. Please remember to **clearly name all school items** so they can be easily returned. Second hand jumpers can be purchased for a gold coin donation.

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.

Skoolbag App

We kindly ask that all families remove the Skoolbag app from their devices as we no longer use this app as a form of communication between home and school. All absences and bus changes are to be actioned in PAM. Please contact the office if you need any assistance with PAM.



Happy Birthday

MAY 31 - Kayla Mcl

JUNE 2 - Reese P

JUNE 3 - Anmol K

JUNE 4 - Angela B

JUNE 5 - Carly S, Angus T

**JUNE 6 - Jasmine B, Archie B,
Maeve Mcl, Gemma N, Charli S,
Ekamroop K**

We hope you have a lovely day!!!!

The Flying Bookworm performed for our Foundation and Year 1 students last week.....

