



Term 4 Week 4

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

website: [www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smswanhill.catholic.edu.au)



28th October, 2021

## Welcome to Week 4

Dear Families,

It certainly has been a challenging time at St Mary's and our thoughts are foremost with all students, families and staff isolating at the moment. It's been heartening to receive such wonderful feedback about the pastoral care shown by our staff as they check in on children in isolation, take time out to connect with families in remote learning and do their utmost to make this week as engaging as it can be for the kids.

The amount of communication sent out through various school channels last week was extensive, in an endeavour to keep everyone up to date. We will continue to keep you well informed and I ask you to keep checking letters and our social media channels regularly this week.

We are very excited to have the majority of the school return on Monday November 1st and look forward to our students who are currently isolating, returning soon after.

### KEY INFORMATION:

**Friday October 29th** - School Closure Day. There will be no remote learning that day.

**Monday November 1st** - Back to school.

**Tuesday November 2nd** - Public Holiday Melbourne Cup Day.

**Town buses will run on Monday 1st November but there are no country buses that day.**

### New Junior Hub Building Project

Expressions of interest to tender for the new building will begin to appear in regional newspapers, The Age and The Herald Sun this week. It was also exciting to learn we have been allocated an additional portable for 2022 to assist with accommodating classes while the build is happening.

### Shade Sail Grant

We received notification that our application for \$25,000 for the construction of a shade structure to facilitate an outdoor learning area was successful. We hope to have this installed by the start of the 2022 year. The new structure will be installed on the senior oval.

I'm very proud to be principal of this wonderful school community and thank everyone for your positive support, resilience shown and the way people have looked after each other during this challenging time.

**Kate**



## Curriculum News - Mrs Hall

### Young Writers Awards

Firstly, thank you and congratulations again to all our shortlisted nominees: **Lola V, Eva R, Tilly S, Isabel F, Jasnoor K, Kathleen K, Belle L and Ella W.**

It was fantastic to see all our beautiful 8 shortlisted finalists join with their families for the Library Zoom presentation yesterday.

We received some lovely feedback about our students stories and can announce the following exciting results:



### Winners

**Foundation - Eva R**  
**Year 3/4 - Belle L**

### Highly Commended

**Year 1/2 - Tilly S**  
**Year 3/4 - Jasnoor K**

### People's Choice Award

**Belle L**

We congratulate all our shortlisted and category winners, who will receive their prizes upon our return to school.



### Children's feelings about the return to school

Children might have mixed feelings about returning to school. For example, they might be excited and eager to get back to face-to-face learning and seeing their teachers and friends. They might also feel uncertain, worried or anxious about catching up on learning, fitting back into friendship groups and coping with a school routine.

If your child has strong emotions about returning to school, give your child plenty of love and support at home. These ideas might also help:

- Be confident and enthusiastic about your child going back to school. This sends your child the positive message that they'll cope and have fun when they get back into the school routine.
- Talk and listen to your child's feelings about returning to school, and let them know that their feelings are OK. For example, 'Yes, it will be great to see Hartley again', 'You can see how much the vegie patch has grown' or 'It's OK that your brother is excited and you're nervous'.
- Let your child know it's OK to feel nervous or uncertain about returning to school, but reassure them that they'll get through it. For example, 'It's OK to feel unsettled – it's another big change', 'A lot of kids will be feeling the same as you' or 'The teachers will tell you what to do'.
- Give your child some control. For example, ask what they want for school lunch or what they want to do after school.

## RE News - Mrs Davies



As we journey through uncertain times at the present moment, we are very fortunate and grateful for the love and support shown by all of our staff and families at this time. We are so lucky to have such a caring and compassionate school community.

Father, I am so grateful that I can put my trust in you. When I am afraid, and when anxiety is great within me, your consolation brings me joy. You sustain me, you give me a peace unlike the world. You relieve all my fears. You know my name, and the beating of my heart. Your eye is upon me, and you smile upon me. Lord, I admit that I have dwelled often too long on the fears of the future. I don't know what is going to happen and I am nervous about the unknown. Help me to see you and to focus on you alone. Thank you, Lord, for your peace, grace, love, and faithfulness as I navigate each day seeking Your will. In Jesus' name, Amen



## eSafety's Parent Guide to Digital Technologies and Mental Health

This Term 4 webinar will provide parents and carers with strategies to help young people and their mental health when they are online. It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 10–18.

It will cover:

What do to about accidental exposure to content about suicide, self-harm or eating disorders using games, apps and social media to support mental wellbeing the pros and cons of digital mental health platforms strategies for young people to support friends online.

Register now at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8245460212320493072>

**Dates:** Thursday 21 October 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Tuesday 26 October 7.30 to 8.30 pm

Tuesday 9 November 7.30 to 8.30 pm, Thursday 18 November 12.30 to 1.30 pm

### eSafety's Parent Guide to Online Gaming

This Term 4 webinar will provide parents and carers with an understanding of the benefits and risks of online gaming.

It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 8–13. It will cover:

eSafety's State of play research the games young people are using and how they are engaging with them the benefits of gaming and how to mitigate risks practical strategies to use at home and where to find help and support if things go wrong.

Register now at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/224257905834791949>

**Dates :** 15 November 12.30 to 1.30 pm & 24 November 7.30 to 8.30 pm



## Key Dates

### **Friday October 29th**

*\*Please note change of date*

Pupil Free Day  
Staff Assessment &  
Report Writing

### **Monday November 1st**

Onsite learning  
recommences

### **Tuesday November 2nd**

Melbourne Cup  
Public Holiday

# News from the Office.....

## **OSHC @ 2 Murlong**

The Out of School Hours Care program, @ 2 Murlong, is operating out of the gym hub and provides before and after school care for school age children in the Swan Hill area. Please express your interest via the following link;

<https://prodadmin.myxplor.com/enrollment/index/dHdBOThsSW9JeHUxYTEwaHNxZIMrdz0>



## **Bus Schedules**

With so many changes to after school activities this year, please take the time to confirm your child's/children's bus schedule with the office. A reminder that day to day bus changes can be done on PAM, however if you require a permanent change, you will need to contact the office.



## **How to add your child's absence on PAM**

PAM is our preferred notification method for absences. Absences must be entered prior to 9.25am on the day your child will be absent. Absences can also be entered in advance.

### **On PAM, you can add an absence if:**

- Your child is going to be absent for the day (All Day)
- Your child is going to be late to school (Arriving Late)
- Your child is going to be leaving early from school (Leaving Early)
- Your child will be leaving school and returning eg. for an appointment (Partial)
- Your child is going to be absent for more than one day (Multi-day max of 7 days)

### **To add an absence:**

- Log in to your PAM account
- Select "Parent Notified Absences" listed under "Students". This can also be accessed by selecting the 3 line menu bar on the top right hand corner of the screen and selecting "Parent Notified Absence".
- Select "Add Absence"
- Select the child who will be absent
- Select the reason for your child's absence
- Select the appropriate absence period
- Select the absence date
- Notes can be added if required
- You can edit or delete current and future absences, by clicking on your child and amending it if required





# Happy Birthday

**October 25 - Avya W**

**October 26 - Rory M, Indi M, Inayat S**

**October 27 - Lochlan C, Brock J**

**October 28 - Shelby O'S**

**October 29 - Navika S, Emme B,**

**Lenny R, Maya S**

**October 30 - Kayla S, Xavier L**

**October 31 - Hugo B, Charlie G, Emily L,**

**Ellainie L, Arie W, Max L**

**We hope you have a lovely day!!!!**

# Laugh out Loud with 5T



- Jasmine



Q. Why didn't the toilet paper cross the road?

A. Because they got stuck in the crack.

- Harrison

Q. What kind of tea is hard to swallow?  
A. Reality

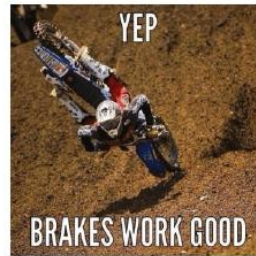
Q. Which is faster, Hot or Cold?  
A. Hot, because you catch a cold  
- Emmy

"I only know 25 letters of the alphabet. I don't know y."  
- Mrs Nalder

Q. Why do bicycles always fall over?

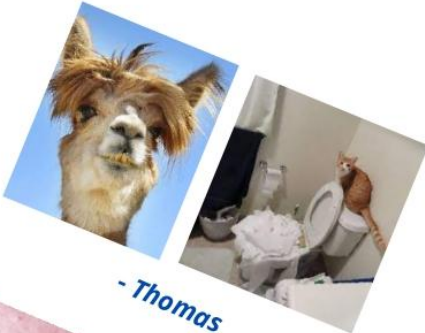
A. Because they are two-tiered.

- Ava



- Max

Q. Why is it annoying to eat next to a Basketball Player?  
A. They always dribble.  
- Indi



"I ATE LIKE A PIG"  
"PUMBAA, YOU ARE A PIG"



- Mason

Q. Why are Saturday and Sunday stronger than the other days?  
Because the rest are week (weak) days.  
-Anmol

Q. Why didn't the quarter roll down the hill with the nickel?  
A. Because it had more cents.  
-Miela



Q. What do you call a cow with two legs?  
A. Lean Beef.  
- Max

- Elliot



What did the chicken say when he saw the lettuce?  
Chicken Caesar salad.  
- Mrs Jobling



Q. Why do bees have sticky hair  
A. because they use honeycombs.  
-Matilda



Q. What Did The Pirate Say When He Turned 80  
A. Aigh Matey.  
- Knox



Three different doctors said that Paul is their brother yet Paul claims he has no brothers. Who is lying?  
No one is lying because the three doctors are Paul's sisters.  
- Zoe

- Luca



- Brock

Q. What do you call security guards working outside Samsung shops?  
A. Guards of the Galaxy  
- Violet

Q. What celebrity made footballs?  
A. Ed Sheeran  
-Chloe

Q. Why do we tell actors to 'break a leg'?  
A. Because every play has a cast.  
- Arna

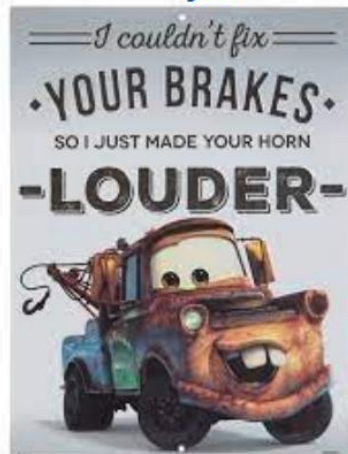
Q. What did the fish say when he ran into a wall?  
A. DAM  
-Broyden



- Harry



- Jovi



Q. Why did the cookie go to the doctors?  
A. It was feeling crumbly.

Q. Where do the cows go Fridays  
A. They go to the moovies  
- Noah

Q. Did you hear about the new restaurant called Karma?  
A. There's no menu, you just get what you deserve.  
-Bodhi







Monday, 25 October 2021

Kate Quin  
Principal  
St Mary's Primary School  
2 ~~Murlong~~ Street  
Swan Hill. VIC. 3585

Dear Kate

Thank you for providing an update on the COVID situation at St Mary's Primary School. With the number of positive COVID cases in your school community and with many test results from staff and students to be returned we understand that this is very challenging for the school community at this time.

Taking this into account and the need for you to ensure that you keep your school community safe we direct you to close St Mary's Primary School until Friday 29 October with students returning to on-site learning on Monday 1 November. During this period remote learning will be provided for all students.

This time will allow for continued contact tracing and the identification of any other positive cases ensuring that appropriate isolation and quarantining can occur.

Thank you for your outstanding leadership of St Mary's Primary School during this difficult period. Rest assured of our continued support.

Yours sincerely

Dr Andrew Watson  
Deputy Director (Interim)



# St. Mary's Primary School Swan Hill

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27th October, 2021

Dear Parents,

## **Return to School - November 1st Further Arrangements**

All year levels can return to school on Monday November 1st, with the exception of classes or students who are isolating. These students and their families have all been provided with specific return to school dates and instructions.

Monday, November 1st had been originally designated as a Staff Professional Development day. However, due to the school closure this week we have moved this pupil free day to this Friday, 29th October. This means that this Friday there will be no Remote Learning, but it also means we will be able to return to school on the 1st of November, rather than the 3rd of November.

We have been advised that **Country Buses will not be running** on Monday, November 1st as a number of local schools in the district have a Pupil Free Day on this day. However the **Town Bus service will be running as normal** on November 1st.

The classroom teachers have emailed a revised learning schedule for the remainder of the week. For families who have children isolating on Monday, your teachers will be in touch with learning arrangements for that day.

To assist the office with record keeping and rolls please notify the office if your child will be absent on Monday. This includes both online or onsite attendance.

Thank you once more, for your ongoing support and we look forward to the children returning to school next Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Quin