

# St Mary's School Newsletter

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20 March 2018

*St Mary's Catholic School is a community that walks in the footsteps of Jesus and works in partnership with families in the Josephite tradition, to develop and educate the whole child.*

## St Mary's School Board Members

Fr. Joseph Thippabathini, PA  
Kathy Barlow 5856 7335  
Amy Francis 0429 186 273

Catherine Fraser, Principal  
Renea Cruz 0424 245 442 Chairperson  
Stephen Francis 0418 178 630

Katie Rasmussen, Deputy Principal  
Rob Donovan 0418 576 306  
Lisa Hitchcock

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**



St Mary's acknowledges the Taungurung people, the traditional custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We commit to working in partnership with Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.

### **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

"May God bless you and keep strong"

28.9.1875

### **VALUES OF THE WEEK**

Reverence and Awe

#### **Palm Sunday**

This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday commemorates the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-9), when the crowds placed palm branches in his path. It was before his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion on Good Friday. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent. In major cities and regional towns Palm Sunday Walks are organized in support of refugees.

As Jesus paused on the Mount of Olives before coming down into the city of Jerusalem, he was staring into the face of his own suffering and death. This was the city where, within the week, he would be betrayed and deserted by those he loved, where he would be beaten and handed over by his own people to the authorities of an occupying force, where he would be tried, further beaten and condemned to death. In all this, he could see the front side of his own passion. In spite of what he saw, his Palm Sunday march went on. Here was Jesus facing up to the realities of his own destiny. Because of our human nature, we each have our private Palm Sunday march where we might be exposed to personal pain or illness, family problems, lack of financial ability, loss of employment,

difficulties with our children or perhaps a growing sense of emptiness.

Padavavo in his book "Belief in Human Life" offers us a combination of Jesus' and our own Palm Sunday marches when he writes: "There is a time for tears; a time when people have no one to turn to, a time when they do all the right things yet come to grief. There is a time when life seems God-forsaken and when we feel more acutely the dust of the earth than the breath of God. There is a time when the heavens are dark and the disciples are gone, a time when a few nails and almost unbearable pain are the only remains of a kingdom. There is a time when we are baffled and bewildered and when all we can say is 'Father, into your hands. Father, into your hands'. There is a time when such a time comes. Taken from Prin Print.

The 2018 Palm Sunday Marches to recognize the plight of refugees "Walk for Justice for Refugees; End the cruelty" take place in Melbourne from the State Library at 2:00pm, in Bendigo from Rosalind Park Plaza at 12:20pm and in Echuca from the Echuca Library at 2:00pm.

Perhaps this Palm Sunday we might take time to overview the journey of our own life, to draw strength from the courage Jesus showed in accepting the realities of his life.

Regards,  
Catherine Fraser  
PRINCIPAL





**Mondays** Breakfast Club

**Thursdays** Bluearth  
(Runners to be worn)

**20 Mar** Harmony walk  
(Tue) All students

**22 Mar** Scholastic BookClub orders due  
(Thu)

**23 Mar** Ride to School Day  
(Fri) Breakfast to be provided  
Year 6 Retreat  
(More info to follow)  
Sandhurst Switches Off

**29-Mar** Holy Thursday  
(Thu) School finishes @ 2:20pm

**31 Mar** Easter Heritage Festival (Fundraiser)  
(Sat) School stall

**20 Apr** School photos  
(Fri)

**22 Apr** Confirmation & First Eucharist  
(Sun) Sacred Heart Church, Cornella @ 10:00am

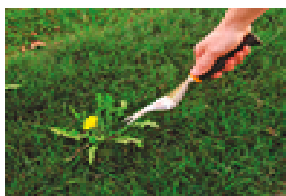
**23 Apr** P & F Meeting  
(Mon) 9am in staff room

**4 May** Mother's Day stall for Yr 5/6  
(Fri)

**8 May** Mother's Day stall for Yr F/1/2/3/4  
(Tue)

**7 -11 May** Year 5/6 School Camp  
Details to follow

## GARDENING



### March Families

G & S Francis  
K & B Ogden  
L & C Robertson  
J Young

### April Families

A & P Francis  
T McIlroy & A Wilkinson  
C & T Olney  
C Johnstone

The March and April gardening groups are asked to please weed, sweep and dust cobwebs around the school gardens/grounds. Thank you for your assistance.

## STUDENT ABSENCES

It is a requirement of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development that accurate records of student absences are kept by the school. We appreciate parent/carer support in notifying the school of their child's absence.

### **Contacting the School to Report a Student Absence**

Rather than advising your child's classroom teacher of their absence, please phone Peta or Georgia prior to 9:00am on:

5856 1347, or e-mail them at:

[pwilliams@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pwilliams@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au) or  
[gfrancis@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gfrancis@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au)

We appreciate as much notice as possible if your child/ren will be away from school due to a family holiday.

Attendance at school is compulsory, five days a week. Apart from the legal requirements for attendance, it is important that students gain continuity in their education in order to move ahead as they should.

The school recognises that for a variety of sound reasons, such as illness, appointments, family emergencies, etc that students may not be able to attend on every day of school. In such cases, an exemption from school is granted and recorded in the roles.

## **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

19 March, Dan Petro March, Ms Nippres & Mrs Morse (Mrs Fredricksen F/1/2TN)

21 March, Source of Life Induction, Ms Nippres (Mrs Morse F/1/2TN)

22 March, Indigenous Network, Mrs Fraser

23 March, VRQA, Child Safe, Mrs Fraser

17 to 20 April, CDLP, Mrs Hitchcock (Miss Smith 5/6LH)

### **SCHOOL DROP OFF/PICK UP**

#### **Presbytery side**

**8:00am to 5:00pm (No Standing)**

#### **School Side**

**8:30 – 9:00am & 3:00 to 4:00pm (No Standing)**

It is important to note that students must be dropped off and collected from the school car park in Hume Street. There are **NO STANDING** signs in Southam St as buses pull up at the front gate of the school.

In the mornings parents/carers are asked to park in the school car park and escort your child across the road (please cross between the two suggested walkways) then to the school gate.

In the afternoons a teacher will escort all children across the road to the car park and wait by the tennis court fence. Parents/carers are asked to get out of their car and walk to the fence to collect their child/ren. **NO child is permitted to walk in the car park without adult supervision.**

I ask that all parents adhere by this school request.

### **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND MEDICAL UPDATE FORMS**

These were sent home mid February. All parents/carers who have not returned their form/s completed, please do so **URGENTLY**.

### **CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)**

This application form was attached to the Confidential Information & Medical Update document already sent home. This applies to families who hold a Centrelink concession or Health care card. Please complete, sign and return this form to the office as soon as possible.

### **SCHOOL FEES**

School fee accounts have now been sent home. School fee relief is available to assist families to pay fees. Please make an appointment to come and see Mrs Fraser to discuss this further. School fees can be paid in instalments, or via Centrepay.

### **MASTER PLAN**

Mr Peter Bryne from b3 Architects will work with staff this afternoon to gain an insight into the issues, needs and aspirations for St Mary's going forward. He will continue to work with Board and students next term to develop an overview for our Master Plan. This plan will then form part of our ongoing school improvement for the next 5 years

### **PARENTS & FRIENDS AGM**

There was a wonderful group of enthusiastic women at the meeting yesterday. Our new

Executive is as follows:

President: Katrina Ogden

Vice-President: Michele Lockwood

Secretary: Brynne Schumacher

Minutes Secretary: Sharon Gleeson

Treasurer Liaison: Mandy McLean

Board Rep: Renea Cruz

General Committee: Christie Thomas, Laura Ackroyd, Jodie Crabtree, Amanda Williams, Libbi Robertson and Trish McIlroy.

I thank these members of our P&F and welcome any other parent/carers who would like to be part of the Parents and Friends.

### **YEAR SIX LEADERSHIP DAY**

The Year Six students thoroughly enjoyed their leadership day at St Mary's, Mooroopna on Wednesday, 28 February. The children were among the 500 year sixes from across the GV Deanery who listened, shared, rapped, danced and sang all through the day.

The inspirational presenters, Fablice Manirakiza, Chloe McCardle, College Captains from Notre Dame, St Mary's of the Angels and St Augustine's,

Mr Paul Desmond and Fr Rob Galea, were amazing and gave great insights into what leadership has meant and means in their lives today. The students came away with a much deeper understanding of leadership and some outstanding role models.

The students were all great representatives of our school and fantastic leaders throughout the day. Great work Year Sixes!



*Year 6 leaders with Fr. Rob.*

### **HARMONY WALK TUESDAY, 20 MARCH**

Whole school Harmony Walk. Awareness Raising walk.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB**  
**ORDERS DUE: THURSDAY, 22 MARCH**  
Please return all BookClub orders by this Thursday.

**RIDE 2 SCHOOL DAY**  
**FRIDAY, 23 MARCH**

We encourage all students to use active travel to school on this day and will once again have the yummy healthy breakfast and skate/bike/scooter parade.

**BUSES (TO GET ON OR NOT)**  
**THURSDAY, 29 MARCH & MONDAY, 16 APRIL**  
Rushworth P-12 College have a pupil free day on the above dates.

Muir's bus will not run on these two days. Walter's Bus Services have advised that the Carag and Stanhope buses will not run but the Wanalta and Colbinabbin buses will be combined.

Please mark these in your diary the bus run changes which will impact on your family on the last day of Term 1 and the first day of Term 2.

**LAST DAY OF TERM 1/2018**  
**THURSDAY, 29 MARCH**  
School finishes at 2:20pm.

**EASTER LITURGY TIMES**  
25 March, Palm Sunday Mass at St Brigid's, Murchison at 11:00am OPM  
28 March, Reconciliation for whole Parish at St Mary's Church @7:30pm  
29 March, Holy Thursday Mass at St Mary's Church at 7:00pm  
30 March, Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm  
31 March, Easter Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church at 7:30pm  
1 April, Easter Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Cornella at 9:00am  
1 April, Easter Sunday Mass at St Laurence's, Stanhope at 11:00am

**EASTER HERITAGE FESTIVAL**  
**EASTER SATURDAY STALL**  
**31 MARCH**

The Easter Festival is quickly approaching. Our P&F are holding a stall where we will be selling sausages in bread from 7:00am till 10:30am. We will then sell roast pork and gravy rolls from 10:30am until they are sold out. We also have a cake stall and a Scratchie tree raffle running at the stall.

Profits from the stall will support your child/ren's educational needs during the school year. I encourage all our families to give your support and assistance at the Easter Festival which in turn benefits your child/ren.

**SCRATCHIE TREE**

At the Easter Festival we will be selling raffle tickets for our SCRATCHIE TREE.

We ask families to donate some scratchies or send in cash so that the P&F can purchase scratchies. Thanks for your support.

**CAKE STALL**

At the Easter Festival we will be selling cakes at our stall. This week you will receive a plastic plate and we ask that you make something to put on the plate and send it back to school by Thursday (29 March). If you are baking on Friday please drop your cakes to Brynne Schumacher at 15 McDonald St, Rushworth or to the stall on Easter Saturday morning.

The second fundraiser is in November. More details to follow.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**  
**FRIDAY, 20 APRIL**

Advancedlife

Photography will be at St Mary's School to take individual, class and family photos.



Photo envelopes will be sent home shortly. There is the option to pay online (please see flyer ***attached***). All photo orders/money need to be finalized ***before Thursday, 19 April***. Kindly note that all individual student photos will be taken, however family photos must be ordered.

Please have your student/s dress in full school uniform this day with hair neat and tidy.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**  
**CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST**  
**SUNDAY, 22 APRIL**

The Sacramental Program is underway. Families gathered last night to work through week one of the Steps in Faith program, 'Belonging - Being Initiated - Baptism'.

Please pray for Charlie McLean, Emily McLean, Stephan Sutton, Jackson Morgan, Abigail Ryan and their families as they prepare for Confirmation and First Eucharist. The Celebration of Confirmation & First Eucharist will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Cornella.



**YEAR 5 & 6 DOXA SCHOOL CAMP  
MONDAY to FRIDAY, 7 to 11 MAY**

The year five and six school camp is at DOXA Melbourne, city camp. Permission forms and information will be sent home this week. An information session for families will be held early in term two. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hitchcock.

**REC & CATHOLIC IDENTITY  
LENT**

We are now in the season of Lent. A time to deepen our relationship with God and with one another. The entire period of Lent is a time of personal and spiritual preparation for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. We observe Lent as a time of prayer, penance, alms giving, conversion and fasting. Here are some great tips from Pope Francis on fasting during Lent.

**DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?**

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Wednesday, 21 March is Harmony Day and on this day we will be having a Harmony Walk as awareness raising event linked with Project Compassion. This day will focus on inclusion, celebrating our diversity, the importance of welcoming everyone and identifying how together we are a stronger community. All are welcome to join us on the walk.

**CARITAS  
PROJECT COMPASSION**

Ditosa, a young girl from Mozambique, went to live with her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion during 2013, Ditosa faced a challenging future with food scarcity, little education and few job prospects. Ditosa and her

grandmother found support through the Caritas Australia supported Matuba Children's Centre. Ditosa has now graduated from school and hopes to go to university and secure an even brighter future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help young women like Ditosa have a just future. Family Project Compassions boxes that were sent home at the beginning of Lent can these please be returned by **Tuesday, 27 March**. Thank you to those families that have returned their donation boxes.



*Millie, Lailah & Lucas.*

**THANK YOU**

Thanks to the 3/4 and F/1/2 classes for their great fundraisers. The Movie day and Obstacle Course were great fun and helped support all of Caritas's programs in Australia and around the world.



*Students enjoyed the Movie Day and popcorn.*



*Students enjoying part of the obstacle course.*

A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Project Compassion boxes/envelopes, visit [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phone 1800 024 413.

### MINI VINNIES

The Mini Vinnies visited the Hostel today they wished the residents a Happy Easter, shared some time doing a range of activities and performed our Harmony Day song. The term has been a busy one for the Mini Vinnies doing the Marble Run at break, selling icy poles, preparing the Awareness Raising Event - Harmony Walk, helping out at school events and the Hostel Visit.

Well done to the Mini Vinnies for generously giving their time and their work for our community this term.

The students are continuing to sell Zooper Doopers on Tuesday and Friday at second break. 50c per icy pole and a limit of 2 per student. All proceeds go to our local St Vincent de Paul conference. Thanks to everyone for their support.



Imogen & Tom.



Ryley Crabtree  
Thomas Ralph  
Cooper Gleeson

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating their birthday in the coming weeks and months.

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### TERM 1/WEEK 6 STUDENTS



Year F/1/2 Kaley Knight Lucas Jones & Hailey Newman

Year 3/4 Emma Francis

Year 5/6 Harper Francis

Principal's Award Evie Jones & Jylah-Rose Thomas

### TERM 1/WEEK 7 STUDENTS



Year F/1/2 Amber Coates & JJ Robertson

Year 3/4 Makayla Lockwood

Year 5/6 Patrick Donovan

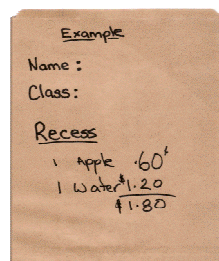




## **MONDAY LUNCH ORDERS** **LUNCH PRICE LIST**

	\$
Meat pie	3.50
Pastie	3.50
Party pie	1.20
Mini pizza (Supreme or /Ham & Pineapple)	3.00
Sausage roll (large)	3.00
Sausage roll (small)	.80
Cheese & bacon roll	1.20
3 filling sandwich	3.50
3 filling roll	4.00
4 filling sandwich	4.00
4 filling roll	4.50
Sandwich with the lot	5.00
Roll with the lot	6.00
Sml Big M	2.50
Sml Nippys	2.50
Primas - Orange or Apple	1.50
<b>Sauce extra</b>	<b>.20c</b>

**Remember:** Children will need to hand in their orders, in a paper bag, early on Monday morning as a staff member from the Rushworth Bakery will arrive to collect the orders at 9.30am.



### **Children's Chatter Matters!**

Language Learning activities to have a go at home.



9. Objective - The child will be able to join (blend) sounds to make words.

Activity Instructions - Adult to say the instruction e.g. "Let's join the sounds to make a word?" and the child says the correct word. For example; sh-ir-t = shirt. Remember, to say the sounds correctly and clearly so your child can blend them together to make a word. When giving instructions to your child ask them to guess the word by blending the sounds together. For example; put your s-o-ck-s in the b-l-ue drawer.

Other examples include: /h/ /o/ /t/ (hot), /w/ /e/ /t/ (wet), /p/ /a/ /t/ (pat), /m/ /a/ /p/ (map), /c/ /o/ /l/ /d/ (cold), /c/ /a/ /m/ /p/ (camp), /b/ /o/ /l/ /t/ (bolt), /b/ /r/ /u/ /sh/ (brush) etc.

10. Objective - The child will be able to make a different word by deleting sounds to words.

Activity Instructions Play a game called sound thief, whereby your child makes different words by changing or deleting sounds in a word e.g. if you are changing all words to begin with /t/ sound then 'chair' would become 'tair' and 'lot' would become 'tot.' For something a bit harder: Try changing the final sound e.g. 'pack' would become 'pat' and 'flag' would become 'flat'.

Ask your child to steal a sound at the start or end of a word and tell you what's left.

For example use names; Say James but steal the j sound = ames. Say James but steal the z sound = Jame. Use words from their readers. b/room, broo/m etc.

## 2018 Photo Day Envelope and Order Instructions

Dear Parents and Students,

### St Mary's Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 20-04-2018

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

**\*\* IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE – ONLINE ORDERING FOR SIBLING PHOTOS WILL CUT OFF ON 19-04-2018 \*\***

**ONLINE ORDERING** Your child's school photos are now available for secure online purchase, please note if you are ordering online, you do not need to return an envelope to the school

#### 4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

- Step 1: [Easy Access Link: Click Here](#) - Click on this link if you are using a supported device
- OR - Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) before photo day and enter your school code [9CJ W9K AH1]
- Step 2: Enter your student's details
- Step 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection)
- Step 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

**\*\* Online Orders will attract a \$1 service fee**

Please Note: Late fees will apply once orders are closed (5 days after photo day)

#### FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS No envelope required if ordering online

##### 4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

- Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) before photo day and enter your school code [9CJ W9K AH1]
- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on 19-04-2018
- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with cash or cheque enclosed

#### ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE

##### ENVELOPES WILL BE HANDED TO EACH CHILD, PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE

**Step 1: Student Details:** Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope.

Please use black or blue pen.

**Step 2: Purchase Details:** Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.

**Step 3: Payment Method:** Select your payment method.

Credit Card – Online Only at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)

Cash – Please enclose correct money – no change is given under any circumstances.

Cheque – Make payable to Advancedlife Photography with your name & address on the back of cheque

Please allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised - a \$25 fee will apply to any dishonored cheque payments

Please Note: A portrait and a class group photograph will be taken of every student at the school, regardless of purchase. Photographs of your children taken as part of a class group are only permitted to be distributed within their own class. Your child's name will appear on the class group photo. If you Do Not wish your child to be photographed, please contact your school office with your instructions prior to Photo Day.

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries in regards to your child's school photo order.

[info@advancedlifevic.com.au](mailto:info@advancedlifevic.com.au) or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team