

St Mary's School Newsletter

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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 0488 552 518
Rob Donovan 0418 576 306
Lisa Hitchcock

Catherine Fraser, Principal
Michelle Cross 0447 460 614
Amy Francis 0429 186 273
Andrew McLean 0409 801 963

Katie Rasmussen, Deputy Principal
Renea Cruz, Chairperson 0424 245 442
Stephen Francis 0418 178 630

St Mary's School is committed to child safety and to the inclusion of all students.

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

"Do all you can to work on in unity"

6.4.1882

VALUES OF THE WEEK

Understanding & Inclusion

MOTHERS

I hope that all our mums had a happy Mother's day on Sunday.

Mothers come in all shapes and sizes, they have different roles, they have different names; mum, mummy, mother, mumma, mom, ma, mumsie, foster mum, adoptive mother, married mother, single mother, biological mother, bereaved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, grandma, nana, nanny and more.

Regardless of a mother's name or role; each woman who has birthed children, hoped for children, cared for adopted children, cared for foster children, cared for grandchildren, (the list is endless) deserves the love and respect from those whom they have cared for and nurtured during their early years.

Personally the joy of my weekend was the fact that all my children and their partners made the effort to come to visit me. One son and his partner face timed me from a Bali Resort (half his luck). We had a delicious lunch and dinner and lots of laughs and stories about growing up were shared. A bonus was having my granddaughter Hazel, running around

enjoying farm life and the horses, dogs, cats and fresh air.

Just as important to me was the fact that I got to visit my own mum, now approaching 89, to share a coffee and a quiet chat with her. This woman gave life to 9 babies, she suffered the deaths of two sons and has nurtured 7 of us through school days, uni days, courting days, marriage, our own baby days and now, she still has an avid interest in each one of her growing family.

Why wouldn't I want to visit this amazing woman on mother's day? She has made me who I am through her example and guidance. I will be eternally grateful to my mum. I hope that each one of us is able to return the love to the person who has cared for and nurtured us since birth.

A dear friend of mine sadly has not spoken to her mother for many years because of a difference of opinion and subsequent breakdown in their relationship. I pray that she is able to repair her relationship with one of the most important figures in her life. I pray that all children or adults who have lost contact with or who have a fractured relationship with the mother who raised them, is able to reconcile with their mother before her final days. Life is so precious and so short.

Regards,
Catherine Fraser
PRINCIPAL



**CARING FOR
SELF**



**CARING
FOR OUR
ENVIRONMENT**



**CARING FOR
OTHERS**



**CARING FOR
OUR LEARNING**



Mondays Breakfast Club

Thursdays Bluearth
(Runners to be worn)

23 May St Mary's School Open Day
Family & friends invited, BBQ

28 May Solidarity Walk
Whole school participation

1 Jun First Friday Mass
St Mary's Church @ 10:00am

15 Jun P&F Pie Drive
Orders & money due
Whole School Excursion
TBA

27 Jun P&F Pie Drive - Collection
Pick up orders from office. Time TBA

FOOTY TIPPING 2018



Don't forget to pick up your footy tipping sheets from the school office, Perrys Meats, Colbinabbin General Store, Stanhope Post Office or Rushworth IGA.

SCHOOL FEES & FEE RELIEF

School fee accounts (Statements) were sent home two weeks ago.

School fee relief is available to assist families to pay fees. Please make an appointment with Mrs Fraser to discuss this further. School fees can be paid in instalments or via Centrepay.

LA TROBE UNI STUDENT

This is Miss Cayla Hanna's final week at St Mary's. We thank Cayla for the manner in which she has engaged with our students and her friendliness in our staff room. We wish Hanna every success for the remainder of her Education studies.

UNIFORM

As the weather has turned cooler please ensure that your child/ren have their school windcheater or jacket with them. The winter uniform is outlined below:

Girls Winter Uniform

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| • Navy slacks (pull on pants acceptable) or checked skirt | • Light blue school polo |
| • School windcheater | • Navy tights/socks |
| • Black school shoes | • School jacket |

Boys Winter Uniform

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • Navy trousers (pull on pants acceptable) | • Light blue school polo |
| • School windcheater | • Black school shoes/boots |
| • School jacket | |

Sports Uniform

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Navy shorts (winter – track pants optional) | • Light blue school polo |
| • School windcheater | • Runners (black leather runners are acceptable) |

While the weather remains warm many students are still wearing summer uniform. As of this week all students are expected to be wearing the winter uniform.

LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure that your child's jacket and jumper is labeled. There have been several cases of lost items.

NAPLAN

Over the next 3 days our grade 3 & 5 students will be doing their NAPLAN tests. We have organized that the students do the tests in the grade 5/6 classroom so that it is less interruption.

Tuesday: Language Conventions and Writing
Wednesday: Reading
Thursday: Numeracy

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/carers support in notifying the school of their child's absence.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL TO REPORT A STUDENT ABSENCE

It has been noted that the number of students who are absent without notification has increased.

The class roll is marked at 9.00am and due to Government compliance, if your child is marked absent without notification, the admin staff are obliged to contact you and ask for a reason.

Please contact the school office on 5856 1347 or email admin@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au if your child is absent on any day of the week.

Please refrain from contacting the classroom teacher as they could be absent from the school. 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 class rolls.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 19 TO 25 MAY

This is a time to celebrate our Catholic Identity and the role we play in our community. We will have an Open Day on Wednesday, 23 May and we invite all our families, especially grandparents, to come along to help us celebrate.

The theme for Catholic Education Week is, "Jesus calls you with JOY, come, see, respond."

Our school was established by Fr Bowman and the parishioners in 1954. Fr Bowman asked the Josephite sisters responded to the call to come and teach at the school, and like St Mary of the Cross who put the needs of the children first, they said yes. This is a very proud tradition for our school and we all try daily to live out the wonderful Josephite charism.

We have a vibrant school community that is passionate about the students, their wellbeing and academic outcomes, 'The Whole Child.' The faith, energy, dedication and care that is demonstrated by students, school staff and

families in all that they do is what sets our Catholic school apart and makes it so special. Our school community is a great example of responding to the call of Jesus through joyfully caring for others, self, environment and learning. Pope Francis reminds us, 'A joy ever new, a joy which is shared: The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus... if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?'

VRQA - CHILD SAFE STANDARDS TUESDAY, 22 MAY

Ms Jan Hayes, an independent assessor, will be checking our progress with our Child Safe policies, procedures and practices.

Our Child Safe policy and policies pertaining to Mandatory reporting, grooming, failure to disclose, failure to protect and working with children are available to read on our website. Our Code of Conduct, which our staff and school board are required to read and sign is also available to read on our web site.

OPEN DAY & BBQ WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY

St Mary's will be holding an Open Day. Classrooms will be open from 11:35am until 1:35pm where parents/carers and visitors can visit each classroom while our students are working, ask questions of the teachers, educational support officers, admin officers or principal. Our student leaders will give school tours for our visitors. If you know of any families who are making decisions regarding their child's education, please encourage them to have a look through St Mary's School. Following the Open morning we will have a sausage sizzle at 1:30pm.

NATIONAL SORRY DAY & NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 MAY to 3 JUNE

The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2018 is, "Don't Keep History A Mystery: Learn. Share. Grow."

This year during National Reconciliation Week, Reconciliation Australia invites all Australians to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that knowledge and help us grow as a nation.

The FIRE Carriers will share some of what they have learned, as the school's FIRE Carriers, with the school community to help everyone grow their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories. National Sorry Day is held on 26 May. The first National Sorry Day was held on 26 May 1998 – one year after the tabling of the report, Bringing them Home. This report was the result of an inquiry by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission into the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families.

St Mary's school community will participate in a solidarity walk on Monday, 28 May in support of reconciliation and to say sorry to the Stolen Generations.

National Reconciliation Week is held annually from 27 May – 3 June. These dates mark two milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey: The 1967 referendum on 27 May and the historic Mabo decision on 3 June. As we commemorate these significant events, all Australians are asked to be a part of the next big steps in our nation's reconciliation journey.

St Mary's School community will attend a National Reconciliation Week Mass on Friday, 1 June at 10:00am. This Mass is being prepared by Miss Nippres and her F/1/2 class. All are welcome to attend.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY LEADERSHIP TEAM MINI VINNIES

Milos will begin this Friday, 18 May. Milos will be .50c each and will be served at first break on Tuesday and Friday. Mini Vinnies are hosting the Hostel on Tuesday, 22 May. The Hostel residents love to visit the classroom to spend time with the students and learn all about what they are doing at school.

PENTECOST

Pentecost brings the Easter season to an end and we enter the Liturgical Season of Ordinary Time.

The feast of Pentecost is like the Church's birthday, as it celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples; enlivening them to begin their mission of Spreading the Good News of Jesus. Following the death of Jesus, the disciples had lived in great fear and confusion, not understanding what had happened and not

really knowing what to do next. At Pentecost they realised that the Spirit Jesus had breathed upon them was actually present and urged them into action. So, they finally had the courage to begin the mission that Jesus had entrusted them to continue and so began Christianity.

P&F PIE DRIVE

Order forms were sent out to all families yesterday. All orders and money ***must*** be returned by **Friday, 15 June**. Orders will then be handed out on Friday, 27 June.

MOTHER'S DAY MASS

Miss Rasmussen and the 3 & 4 class prepared a wonderful Mother's Day Mass, which was celebrated by Fr Joseph on Friday, 4 May. Many of the students' families attended Mass and afterwards enjoyed a delicious morning tea. The students were very keen to show their appreciation for all that their mothers, grandmothers, aunts and other significant people in their lives do for them everyday!



*Mothers Day mass was well attended by Mums
Grandmas & Aunties.*



*Charlie G reading a prayer of the faithful at the Mothers
Day mass.*



Emma working on her flower pot for Mother's Day.



Grade 3/4 students working hard in Art class.

GRADE 5/6 DOXA CAMP

It was Week 4, Term 2, Monday at 6:45am when Grade 5&6, Gerry, Miss Ras and Mrs Hitchcock left the Murchison East Station on a train bound for Melbourne. We picked up Nagambie Grade 5&6 and their teachers from the Nagambie train station. We stayed at the DOXA Camp at Discovery Melbourne for the whole week.

We had a great time, some of the activities that we did included a MCG tour, the Melbourne Aquarium, the State Library, Shrine of Remembrance, Old Melbourne Gaol, Eureka Skydeck, Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, National Sports Museum, The Big Issue, Ice Skating at Docklands...and so much more. Every student missed their parents and siblings but were well taken care of by the teachers. Most students in our class would love to go back again and we're already looking forward to next year's camp.

By Zahley Francis

On May 8 Grade 5/6 went ice skating at Docklands in Melbourne. Ice skating was so fun. First, they gave us a lesson before we went on the ice so we didn't hurt ourselves, to teach us how to stop and some cool tricks. A lot of people were falling over during the lesson. One of the boys from Nagambie fell on me, ouch! After the lesson we were allowed to skate by ourselves. Someone from the public fell over...there was blood everywhere. I think he got a cut on the eyebrow. I would just like to say thank you to Mrs Hitchcock, Gerry and Miss Ras for taking us to this once in a lifetime camp...IT WAS GREAT!!!

By Millie Simpson

The Grade 5&6s went to Melbourne on the 7th of May. We met the Doxa camp guides at Southern Cross station. St Mary's School went with St Joseph's School Nagambie. The first day we went to the Big Issue they talked about homeless people and how we can help.

After dinner we went to Eureka Skydeck. It was so much fun we had a choice to go in the glass box, "The Edge" or stay down on the 88th floor. Most of chose to go on "The Edge" and it was not as scary as I thought it was going to be.

The second day we went to the aquarium. After dinner we went ice skating and it was amazing. We did so much more that it would just take too long to say. We would like to say thank you to Mrs Hitchcock, Miss Ras and Gerry. It was once and a lifetime opportunity for us all and we loved it!

By Ella Johnstone

On the second last day of camp we went to the Shrine of Remembrance. An educator from the Shrien, named Anne, taught us about the First World War. It was very interesting, she showed us some things that the soldiers wore like the Australian hat, the soldiers uniform, gas masks and the nurses uniform.

Anne also told us that the soldiers made bombs out of beef jerky cans, and put shrapnel in the can and lit it and threw it out of the trench into the enemy trench, because they were really, really close to each other.

Also at the Shrine there was an eternal flame which meant that we would remember the soldiers forever because the flame will never go out so we will never stop remembering.

There were flags in the shrine, many artworks, photos and books along some of the hallways. All the soldier's names from WWI were on a special roll. We also had a special ceremony at 11am with St Joseph's and another school to commemorate the ANZACs.

It was really, really AWESOME!!!!

By Elsie-May Ralph



Grade 5/6 students meeting Steph Ryan MP.



Miss Ras, Gerry and students at Eureka Skydeck.

On camp the 9th of May we went to Sea Life Melbourne, which is the aquarium. We found a map of the aquarium that we had to complete by stamping. My friend showed me how to complete the map. There were 9 stamp stations around the aquarium to stamp our sheet. You had to press down VERY HARD and there would be an image embossed where you stamped. There were soooo many animals like stingrays, octopi, turtles, penguins, crocodiles and fish of every colour and size plus so many more. It was so mysterious and so magnificent at the same time. In my opinion, Sea Life Melbourne was the best out of everything we did on camp!!

By Izzy Ralph



Madalen, Millie, Ryley & Gerry enjoying the Aquarium.

On May the 7th 2018 Grade 5&6 from St Mary's School Rushworth went on camp to Melbourne for 5 WHOLE days.

On the first night we went up the Eureka Skydeck, some of us went on the EDGE!

Before we went to the Eureka Skydeck we had a delicious dinner of pasta, shepherd's pie, rice and some vegies.

We went up there at 7:30pm to around 8:30pm. I thought it was going to be terrifying, but it was not so bad! When we got back to camp the time was between 9:00 - 9:30 and we went to bed at around 10:00 - 10:30.

Thank you teachers for a lovely camp :)

By Ryley Crabtree



Mrs Hitchcock & students enjoying the Edge at Eureka Skydeck.



Shantelle, Madalen, Josh & Ryley.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week 3/Term 2



F/1/2KJ: Nevaeh Shelton & Leigh Crabtree

F/1/2TN: Taron Wilkinson & Kaitlyn Garvey

3/4KR: Charlie Gleeson

5/6LH: Isobel Ralph



Millie Simpson
Heath Ogden
Mrs Jamieson

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



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
Sauce extra .20c	

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.



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Children's Chatter Matters!

Language Learning activities to have a go at home.



3. Guess what's inside the bag: Fill a range of items in a cloth or any opaque bag. The children (and adults) are required to feel one of the items and describe it (in relation to its texture, size and shape) before trying to guess what the item may be. Encourage them to use interesting and different words rather than the usual – big, hard, square (considerably large, tough, four-sided figure). This game could be played at home, in the classroom, in the car etc. as long as nobody takes a sneak peek in the bag.

4. Reading: When reading a text with your child, discuss words that have tricky meanings i.e. words you don't hear or see very often. Develop a weekly list of tricky words e.g. exhilarated, frantic, ogre, pessimistic, ambled. Encourage your child to draw a picture of each word or find a picture of the word on google images. Get them to use the word after watching a TV program each day. For example, I was so exhilarated after watching my favourite show I couldn't wipe the smile of my face.



ST AUGUSTINE'S OPEN DAY & INFORMATION NIGHT

Tuesday 29 May

**Tour times - 9.30am, 11.30am and
2.30pm**

Wednesday 30 May

**Information Evening - 7.00pm held
in the Brigidine Centre**

RUSHWORTH P-12 COLLEGE Thursday 31 May - 9am-11am

Our staff & Students would like to welcome prospective students, their parents or carers and members of the community to observe and interact with the engaging and personalised learning environment of Rushworth P-12 College.

Students will be leading tours of the College from 9am, followed by staff presentations and some light refreshments.

All are welcome on the day, though an RSVP on 5856 1230 would be appreciated.