

NEWSLETTER

2 FEBRUARY 2022 TERM 1, WEEK 1

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Members of our St Mary's Memorial School Community,

Welcome back everyone! I stumbled across the following during the Christmas holiday, and I thought it too amusing not to share

"When Mrs Honeychurch arrived for her daughter's parent-teacher meeting, the teacher appeared to be a little flustered, especially when she started to tell Mrs Honeychurch that her little girl didn't always pay attention in class and, at times, was a little flighty. 'For example, sometimes she'll do the wrong page in her workbook,' explained the teacher, 'and I've even found her sitting at the wrong desk.' 'I don't understand any of that,' replied Mrs Honeychurch defensively. 'Where could she have got that from?' The teacher went on to assure Mrs honeychurch that her daughter was still doing fine at school and was a courteous and likeable little girl. 'By the way, Mrs

Honeychurch, our appointment was for tomorrow'."

Author unknown.

Being a parent or carer is a hard job, a complicated job and sometimes even a lonely job! In fact, it is arguably the most important job that you could ever have, because as a child's first teacher, parents and carers are guaranteed to make a difference one way or another! However, for the parents or carers of children at St Mary's Memorial, you are absolutely not alone. Upon enrolment at St Mary's Memorial, a unique opportunity unfolds, inviting families to form a special bond and union with the teachers. Together in partnership, each child can be gently guided towards a successful transition to adulthood. This combined support is essential if the transition is to be a positive developmental experience for your child. A good relationship with your child's teacher makes it easier to stay informed about your child's progress across all areas of schooling and to work together if problems arise during the year....even if it is via email and/or the phone!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Nowthis would have to be one of the most perplexing beginning of a school year that I have ever experienced! If the past two years were memorable for their uncertainty; the weeks preceding the beginning of this term were the most unpredictable!

There were just so many questions will there be school closures? What isolation rules will apply for students and teachers? Will be there be access to rapid antigen tests? How will staff shortages be dealt with?etc.

The people making the decisions included, the appropriate SA Government ministers, SA Health and the Directors from the three educational sectors (Department of Education/Public, Catholic Education SA and the Independent Schools)....their primary objective is to maximise face-to-face educational time and minimise the potential for disruption to learning.

As you would be aware, the decision they eventually reached favoured a hybrid approach, with school beginning on Wednesday 2 February for some students (Reception and Year 1: while Year 2-6 students to begin the term learning from home for at least a fortnight.

As the return to school was looming, the risks of COVID-19 for children and the rollout of vaccines has been a hot topic amongst parents. As an educator, it isn't for me to advise parents regarding whether they have their children vaccinated or not. If you choose to have or not have your children vaccinated, it is essential that you do talk your children about why you have made your decision. Often the answer lies in keeping conversations simple and being honest.

If you do choose to have your children vaccinated, laying out clear expectations avoids leaving children feeling betrayed and helps them understand the importance of getting vaccinated. However, going into too much detail may also amplify their fears. I believe it's best to stay 'economical with comments' as children are highly reliant on parents for assurance and comfort.

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

For 'needle phobia' and other unique cases, the majority of general practitioners and/or healthcare providers will be able to offer specialised services or provide referrals to other clinics that accommodate. I have been told that some clinics have even gone to great lengths to create a fun vaccination experience for children, decking out spaces in colourful decorations and offering small gifts as rewards!

In the meantime, recapping some of the information that was sent home prior to school beginning – face masks are strongly recommended for children in Years 3 to 6 when indoors. However, we acknowledge that some staff, parents and students who satisfy an exception reason are not required to provide evidence of the reason/s for masks being unable to be worn.

In addition to mask wearing, the following COVID safe directives are implemented:

- All students and staff must stay home if unwell, even mildly:
- · Limiting non-essential visitors on-site;
- All adults being required check in via COVID-Safe QR code on arrival:
- Physical distancing where possible;
- Ventilation will be maximised by leaving doors/windows open, continual use of air conditioning (set to fresh air intake) and fans, including with doors and windows open;
- · Outdoor learning is being encouraged where appropriate;
- Currently the advice is that until Week 5 of Term 1 (including OSHC) the following activities are paused:
 - camps, excursions, and incursions;
 - interschool sport trials, practice and competitions and indoor sport training where it involves students from multiple year levels/classes;
 - choirs and ensembles;
 - large gatherings such as assemblies, Masses and Sports Days.

If I am notified of a positive case of COVID-19 in your child's class. Your child is considered a classroom contact. A classroom contact is a student or staff member who has been in a classroom, where a classroom member subsequently tests positive for COVID-19.

You will be asked to monitor your child for any COVID -19 symptoms. If any symptoms develop (even mild symptoms) children must not attend school, and must access a PCR test for COVID-19. Your child must isolate at home until you receive confirmation of a negative test and their symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer. If your child tests positive, they must remain isolated for 10 days and must follow SA Health instructions.

A child without symptoms may continue attending school. No rapid antigen testing is required for them. The Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) has also recommended that for the next 7 days, classroom contacts:

- Should avoid attendance at OSHC where possible; and
- Should avoid attending school related extra-curricularbased activities (such as camps, excursions, interschool sport, choir etc – noting most of these activities have been temporarily suspended until the end of Week 4).

The CPHO has also suggested that to minimise risk to others, for the next 14 days classroom contacts should consider -

- Avoiding high risk settings or COVID Management Plan events;
- Wearing a surgical mask around others (where age appropriate) and outside your home;
- Avoiding contact with vulnerable people outside of your workplace or family, where possible;
- Avoiding non-essential activities where possible (e.g. where there are lots of people, inside, in close contact); and
- Avoiding shared spaces and maintaining physical distance.

You will find the above directives are an expectation across all schools in South Australia.

There is a great deal of information regarding COVID-19 and some of it is conflicting. Nevertheless, at St Mary's Memorial School, the safety of the students and staff is paramount; and it is from that foundation we request that you follow the above guidelines.

WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

In a special way, I would like to welcome all those who are new to the St Mary's Memorial School community; and pray and hope that you experience the earnestness, hospitality and generosity that is characteristic of our school community. May your settling in be a gentle one!

Our new Reception and other Year level children have settled in amazingly well and some of them already look quite at home!

NEW STAFF

Each year brings positive change. This includes additions to our staff. We are pleased to welcome on the teaching staff - Ms Renee Ierace (Reception) and Ms Savannah Gargiulo (Reception)....and to the Administration School Office - Mrs Angela Maisey.

We also welcome a number of Curriculum Education Support Officers (ESO) - Ms Riley Shelden, Mr Tom Carter, Mrs Rachel Pomeroy, Ms Jenna Kelley, Ms Gabriella Madigan-Manuel, Ms Sophie Agostino, Mrs Vanessa Kay and Ms Amber-Rose Hazledine.

We welcome back Mrs Laura Watt (R-6 Visual Arts Specialist Teacher) and Ms Natassia Messent (Curriculum ESO)

Although, not quite the start we would have hoped for2022 is going to be an exciting year of learning for all our students. We will be encouraging and supporting all our students to stretch themselves and continually learn something new. We will encourage our students to be learning 'risk takers'; to embrace their mistakes and use them as learning experiences. Developing an optimistic mindset is a powerful tool and so important in promoting mental health and well-being. When we support our children to have a positive approach to learning, to be resilient and give things a go, they will thrive!

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

SCHOOL HOURS & CHILDREN PLAYING AT SCHOOL

School commences at **8:45** am and concludes at **3:10** pm. Teaching staff supervise the playground from 8:30 am in the morning and until 3:20 pm in the afternoon. Children should not be at school before or after these times as there will be no supervision. Students who arrive at school before 8:30 am must be supervised by their parents.

If your child needs to be at school outside of these times due to family or work commitments then they should be enrolled at our Outside School Hours Care Service. The service can be contacted directly on 0408 714 787 or via text messaging or email vmessent@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

The only other times that students are permitted on the school grounds outside of these times is when they are here for a school-organised activity such as music practice or sports training.

These matters are important to us and they need to be adhered to for safety and legal liability issues. All parents need to ensure that their children know where they are being collected from and that they do not stay at school to play.

AFTER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

As much as it wonderful to see students playing with each other after school (that is, after 3:10 pm) in the school playground; and for parents to catch up for a chat; it creates a problem for our school OSHC (Out of Schools Hour Care) program.

While students and parents are in the playground it means that OSHC students have to remain inside until the playground is vacant.

OSHC regulations make it quite clear regarding child supervision; and the presence of other children can make it difficult for the staff to carry out their duties when there are more students in the playground than they are responsible for.

There are certain days when we have to and can restrict OSHC students to be inside, due to sports team training. However, as the number of students now using OSHC has grown considerably, we need to use as much of the playground (which includes the asphalt playground) as possible.

Therefore, it is with regret that I ask families to clear the playground by at least 3:30 pm; unless your child is directly participating in a coaching/training session. This will assist our OSHC program and staff. Thank you.

FOOD ALLERGIES

St Mary's Memorial School tries very hard to create a 'NUT FREE' environment. There are a number of students across the various year levels in our school who will suffer an extreme adverse reaction — life threatening in most cases – if they come into contact with any food product containing the slightest trace of nut substance!

For that reason we request/encourage parents to avoid sending nut products to school. When classes have 'shared lunches' parents will need to be mindful that the plate of food that is being sent to school is 'nut free'. We appreciate this could be an inconvenience as some children love peanut paste, nutella and other nut based spreads. This inconvenience though is nothing compared to the extreme consequences that may result and we therefore ask for your understanding on this matter.

Incidentally, in a typical classroom of 25-29 students, at least one student is likely to be affected by **food allergies**, and for reasons that are not completely understood, the number of children with food allergies is increasing. About 20% of students with food allergies (1 of 5) will have a reaction while at school. A food allergy is an adverse immune system reaction that occurs soon after exposure to a certain food.

As children get older allergen avoidance becomes complex as they desire to fit in with peers and navigate social activities. Therefore, the rest of the school community needs to be vigilant, to ensure that all children still feel a social setting, but are not placed in awkward situations whereby they may experience a severe reaction. For that reason, we discourage students sharing food and touching other people's food.

SCHOOL SAFETY

As we begin this new year it's also an ideal opportunity to be reminded about the enormous importance that we must place on safety when vehicles and children are involved.

As safety is of the highest priority at St Mary's Memorial it is important that each and every one of us follows very strict, safe practices around those busy traffic times of the day to ensure the safety of all our children. Safety first is always the best option. Please do not park along the Milton Street 'kiss and drop' area with the intention of leaving your vehicle unattended — that is not how the system works!

A reminder that a teacher supervises the Milton Street area each afternoon until 3:20 pm so it is not necessary for children to be collected at exactly 3:10 pm. Instead of parents' cars queuing at 3:00 pm to collect children it would ease the traffic congestion if parents staggered their collection time with more cars arriving after 3:10 pm. This would certainly stop that mad rush when cars, students and those walking vie for space, and safety becomes a worrying issue! Please take positive steps to assist with ensuring safety around our school.

There is always a great deal to remember at the beginning of the new school year, both for students and parents. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask someone on staff. Class Teachers, School Office staff or even myself — we are more than happy to answer your questions about your child or anything that relates to school life!

Looking forward to working together! Thank you and God Bless!

Nat Izzo Principal

nizzo@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE APRIM

Welcome to the 2022 school year. And what a start! Hopefully we will get to see you sometime soon, face-to-face. I hope you had a good Christmas with an opportunity to enjoy family and friends and some time to unwind.

No doubt each of you has had some experience of COVID since school ended in 2021. We have had many staff members who have had sick family and friends, and some have even been sick themselves. My son went to the Gold Coast with a group of mates where the young and fearless infected each other throughout the Christmas / New Year period of celebrations.

As we return to work and school it seems a long time ago since we were on holidays. I asked staff what they enjoyed most about their holidays:

Deb - "I listened to myself and actually relaxed."

Jenni – "Having a well deserved break; it was long enough to switch off."

Claudia Esposito – "Going to Biggera Waters in Queensland, staying in an apartment which looked over the ocean and going to the rainforest at Byron Bay."



Cathy Regester – "Having all the family together in our home was really great."

Dave Anderson - " Catching up with family and friends."

Nikki – "Going to Encounter Bay."

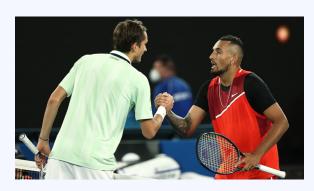
Rita O'Leary – "I achieved a job. We updated two rooms in our house; painted and got new furniture."

Ben Williams - "Spending time with my family."

Tammy Harris – "I got a kitten! Sunny."



Ben Regester – I went to the Australian Open and saw Nick Kyrgious play and lose – it was awesome."



Lily McFarlane – "I went home to Victoria for Christmas and saw my family."

Fran Long – "Spending Christmas together with all the family was so nice."

Mark Nelson – "Time at the beach."

Paul Thomas – "Spending time in the garden, filling a skip."

Luke Slattery – "A family holiday at Wallaroo; all five brothers and 3 sisters made it to Wallaroo with their family at some point. Mum and Dad loved it."



Renee lerace – "I went glamping. It was good having down time."

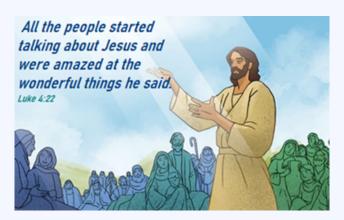
Nat Izzo – Catching up with family in Melbourne and meeting my grandson."

So as we head into another COVID challenged year, think back to your Christmas and holidays and that which made you smile or relax and draw strength and vitality from that. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Blessings,

Tamara Smith

SUNDAY GOSPEL OUOTE



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Last year a group of children celebrated their Sacrament of Reconciliation in Term 4, 2021. In term two this year the program will continue with the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation (in term 3). We will contact you as the time draws near about what will be happening.

Anyone wanting to start the Sacramental Program this year please let me know. Please note that for children new to the program this year it will not start until Term 4.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Father John at the parish:

GLENELG CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Lady of Victories, 13-15 High St, Glenelg, SA 5045 Our Lady of Grace, 36 Beadnall Tce, Glengowrie, SA 5044

Presbytery: Office hours: Phone: Email: Web:

17 High Street, Glenelg 5045 Mon, Wed-Fri 9 am - 2 pm 08 8294 1888 glenelgcp@bigpond.com www.glenelgcp.com

MASSES

Due to COVID whole school celebrations are currently not permitted. Instead class (not year level) liturgies will be celebrated either at school or in Our Lady of Victories Church at times most convenient for the class.

Unfortunately, we cannot have family or friends join our celebrations at this stage.

Changes to the calendar regarding Masses and their times will need to be made as COVID regulations and advice changes. We need to be flexible as adjustments are made to cater for these needs as well as the needs of our parish and our priests. The newsletter will publish the most current times. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Tamara Smith APRIM | tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

Term 1 is always our busiest term. Here is an outline of some of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar.

Week 1 Reception Liturgy

Week 2 Year 1 Liturgy

Week 3 Year 2 Liturgy

Week 4 Beginning of Year Liturgy

Week 5 Shrove Tuesday

Ash Wednesday

Week 6 Year 6 Liturgy

Week 7 Sabbath Week

Week 8 Year 5 Liturgy

Week 9 Year 4 Liturgy

Week 10 Year 3 Liturgy

Week 11 Holy Week Presentation

Our School Prayer

This is our school. Let peace live here. Let the rooms be filled with happiness. Let love be felt here:

love of God, love of our fellow humans, love of one another, and love of life itself. Let us remember, that as many hands build a house,

so many hearts make a school. Lord, we ask you to bless all of us involved in St Mary's Memorial School, children, parents, priests and teachers. Help us to work together to continue to

make our school

a place where everyone is welcomed and supported

in the true spirit of God's love for us.

A MESSAGE FROM CATHOLIC EDUCATION SA

As the 2022 school year begins this week, Dr Neil McGoran, Director of Catholic Education SA offers this message of support to all staff, families and students. "Whether going back to school or starting online, we're ready to go and we're going to make sure the 2022 school year is the best year that we can have"

Play full video here

WELCOME TO THE 2022 SCHOOL YEAR

from Dr Neil McGoran
Director of Catholic Education SA



UNIFORM SHOP - OPENING TIMES

TUESDAY 2:45 - 3:30pm THURSDAY 2:45 - 3:30pm

Please contact Christine on:- 0424 776 381 Email: ccoombe@belgraviasports.com.au

or

Or visit the St Mary's Memorial School Online Uniform Shop:-

- Open 24/7
- AfterPay available
- · Delivery information is on your online shop home page

How to Order

- 1. Create an Account (optional)
- 2. Add products to your cart
- Fill in Special Instructions for seller field with your child's name
- 4. Check out by following the prompts.
- 5. You can log back in at any time and view your past orders.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- RCH 2/2 Ava Odgers
- 2W 4/2 William Jacobs
- 4A 3/2 Poppy Hateley 8/2 Ash Sandercock
- 5M 8/2 Alexandra Mayer
- 6N 4/2 Emily Starkey 2/2 Scarlett Mickan

DIARY DATES

Monday, 14/2
All Students Resume Face-to-Face Learning

Tuesday, 15/2
Author Presentation Adrian Beck

Wednesday, 16/2 School Board Meeting - 6:30pm Venue TBA

MEDICATIONS

ALL MEDICATIONS **MUST** COME TO THE OFFICE.

Please bring your child's medication to the Front Office in the original container/ packaging that has been prescribed by the Doctor. The medication needs to be clearly labeled and we ask that you check it is within the expiry date.

All medications require an updated and current Action Plan and/or Asthma Medical Form from your Doctor, or a Medication Request Form, which can be collected from Front Office.

MEDICATIONS MUST NOT BE LEFT IN SCHOOL BAGS, AS IT POSES A DANGER TO OTHER CHILDREN

PLEASE BRING ALL MEDICATIONS
TO THE FRONT OFFICE

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE

Due to the attendance app no longer working, we are asking parents to cc info@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au when emailing teachers about attendance. This email goes to the whole admin team (including Deb).

Sharon, Angela and Deb (Admin Staff) are responsible for changing the attendance codes on the data system. Therefore, the school requires attendance information as soon as possible in the mornings, before the absentee texts go out.

Teachers often do not have time, before school starts, to email the front office regarding absentee emails they have received, so it is important that the front office team receives this information also.

Thank you for supporting us in our endeavour to keep track of all student's attendance.

FINANCE NEWS

2022 school fee statements will be sent home on Monday, 14th February. Please let our Business Manager, Jennifer Ashfield know if you do not receive yours.

The first school fee instalment is due by **Friday 04/03/2022**. The amount due is 1/3 of the total amount that has been charged to your account. The school has multiple payment options, please refer to your statement for further information.

Are you eligible for a School Card in 2022?

School Card is a South Australian Government initiative to assist low to middle income earners with education costs.

Please see the table below to see if you may be eligible. Income limits based on 2020/21 financial year unless a change in circumstances has occurred.

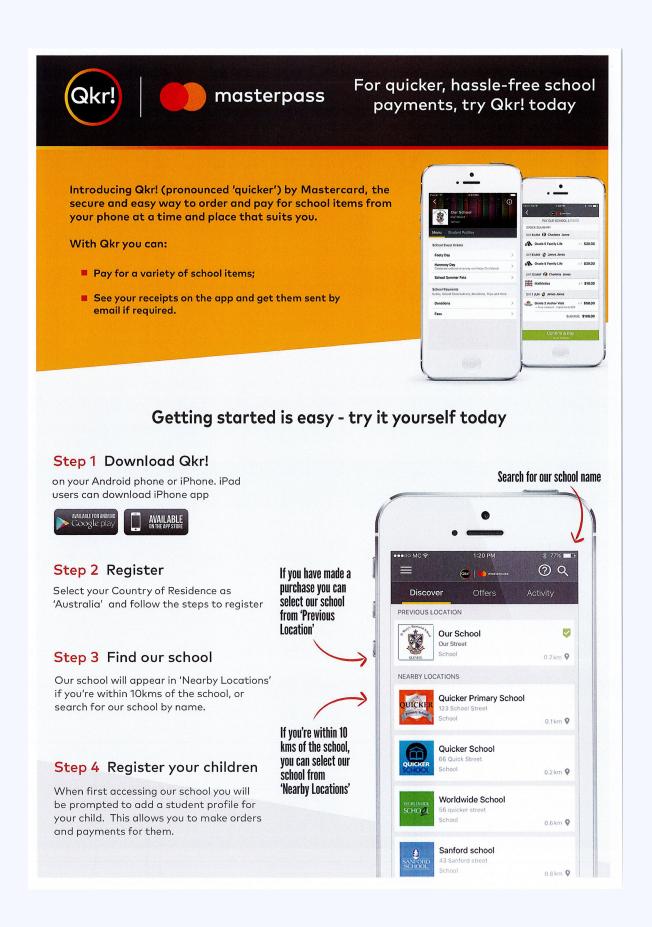
NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN	GROSS ANNUAL SCHOOL CARD INCOME LIMIT	GROSS WEEKLY SCHOOL CARD INCOME LIMIT	
1	\$62,440	\$1,201	
2	\$63,555	\$1,223	
3	\$64,670	\$1,245	
4	\$65,785	\$1,267	
5	\$66,900	\$1,289	
Each additional dependent child	Add \$1,115 to gross annual income	Add \$22 for each dependent child	

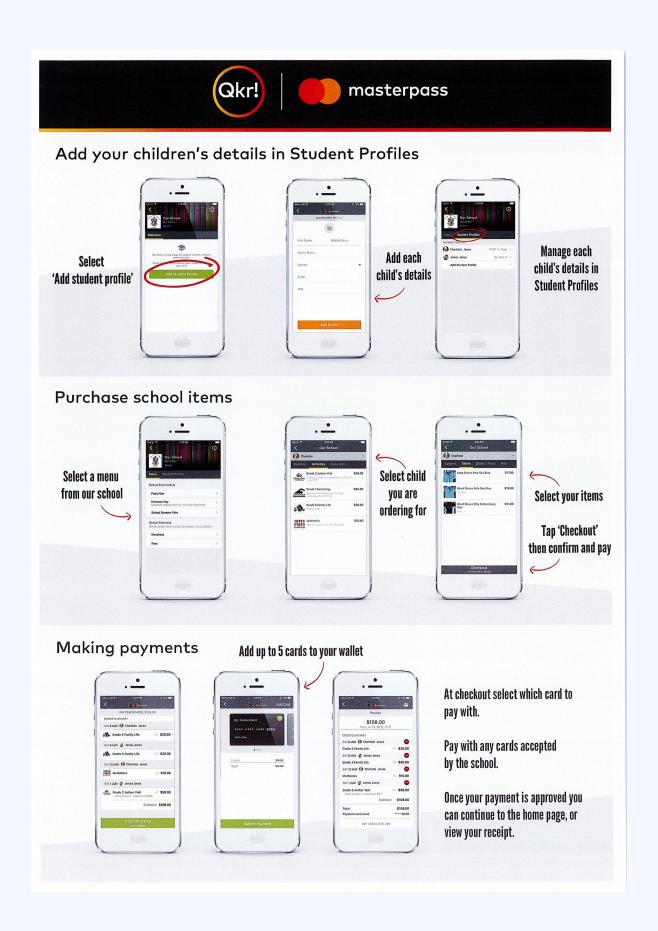
If you think that you may be eligible, please complete your application for School Card on line by following the link below

https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme

Once your application is complete, send a copy of the form to the email address below. If you require a paper form to complete your application, please contact the Front Office for assistance.

If you have any queries in relation to school fee accounts, direct debit arrangements or 2022 School Card, please contact Jennifer Ashfield via email finance@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au by phone, 8294 4580 or in person Monday – Friday.





TERM PLANNER

St Mary's Memorial School

Term 1 – 2022

16 Milton Street, Glenelg, S.A. 5054. Phone: 8294 4580, Fax: 8294 1967
Postal Address P.O Box 812 Glenelg, 5045
info@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

	Manday	Tuesday	Madaaadaa	Thurs day	Fulder :	0-1/0
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Week 1 Jan / Feb	31 Pupil-Free Day	1 Pupil-Free Day	2 Students Resume R-1 Face-to-Face Year 2-6 Remote Learning Staff Meeting	3	4 No Assembly Reception Class Liturgy - TBA	5/6
Week 2 February	7	8 Year 1 Class Liturgy - TBA	9 Staff Meeting	10	11 No Assembly	12/13
Week 3 February	14 (Valentine's Day) All Students Resume Face-to Face Learning	15 Author Presentation Adrian Beck Year 2 Class Liturgy - TBA	Staff Meeting School Board Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18 No Assembly	19/20
Week 4 February	21	22	23 Staff Meeting	24	25 9:00 am R-6 Beginning of Year SCHOOL MASS SACPSSA Swimming Trials Year 3-6 Marion Outdoor	26/27
Week 5 Feb / March	28 R-4 SWIMMING WEEK	1 Shrove Tuesday 8:45 Morning Prayer	2 9:00 am R-6 ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY Staff Meeting P&F Meeting 7:00	3	Clean Up Australia School Assembly 9:00 am - Principal	5/6 First Sunday of Lent
Week 6 March	7 ROAD SAFETY WEEK	8 8:45 Morning Prayer R-6 Road Safety Incursion Year 6 Class Liturgy - TBA	9 R-6 Road Safety Incursion Staff Meeting	10 R-6 Road Safety Incursion	11 R-6 Assembly 9.00 am –	12/13 Second Sunday of Lent
Week 7 March	Public Holiday (Adelaide Cup)	15 8:45 Morning Prayer	No Staff Meeting School Board Meeting	17 St Patrick's Day	18 Bullying No Way Day No Assembly	19/20 St Joseph's Feast Day Third Sunday of Lent
Week 8 March	21 Harmony Day	8:45 Morning Prayer Year 5 Class Liturgy - TBA R-6 Aboriginal Performance SACPSSA Swimming Carnival Year 3-6	6:30 pm 23 Staff Meeting	24	25 Earth Hour Feast of the Annunciation No Assembly	26/27 Fourth Sunday of Lent
Week 9 March	28	29 8:45 Morning Prayer Year 4 Class Liturgy - TBA	30 Staff Meetings	31	1 R-6 Assembly 9.00 am –	2/3 Fifth Sunday of Lent
Week 10 March/April	4	5 8:45 Morning Prayer Year 3 Class Liturgy - TBA	6 Staff Meetings P&F Meeting 7:00	7	8 R-6 Assembly 9.00 am – R-6 Andrew Chinn Performance	9/10 Palm Sunday
Week 11 April	11 Holy Week	12 8:45 Morning Prayer	13 Staff Meeting	14 HOLY THURSDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS DRAMATISATION Term 1 Concludes	15 Good Friday	16/17