

NEWSLETTER

5 MAY 2023
 TERM 2, WEEK 1
 ISSUE 7

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

*'Holy Mary, mother fair,
 Filled with love for God,
 Pray for us in all our needs.
 Pray for us today.'*

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

Welcome to Term 2, and I trust you have all enjoyed the two-week school holiday break with family and friends. The month of May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honouring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. We honour the Blessed Virgin Mary and all mums and mother figures in May. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our mums and other important mother figures for our children a very Happy Mother's Day for Sunday 14 May.

"She is that woman who rejoiced in the presence of God, who treasured everything in her heart, and who let herself be pierced by the sword. Mary is the saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She teaches us the way of holiness and she walks ever at our side. She does not let us remain fallen and at times she takes us into her arms without judging us." —Pope Francis, Gaudete et Exsultate, no. 176

As I visited each class on Monday morning, it was evident the children had a lot of fun, participated in various activities and were happy to be back at school, sharing with their friends and staff the adventures of their school holidays. One of our students, Sienna in Year 3L even met Pope Francis in Budapest, touching his hand and exchanging a smile! Sienna shared her experiences with us on Monday with videos and a PowerPoint. Thank you, Sienna, we felt extremely blessed.

It has been great to see so many students easily transitioning into wearing their Winter School Uniform. Thank you for your support as I know sometimes finding every item of a uniform especially when your child has grown can add to the challenge of mornings at home. The children look very smart and are so proud in representing their school. Well done everyone.

PHIL CUMMINGS – AUTHOR VISIT

Thank you to Tracey Tolley for coordinating a very special incursion for our Year 5 and 6 students on Wednesday 3 May. I was thrilled to meet Phil after having read so many of his incredible stories to students over many years. An email from a grateful parent sharing with us the impression the Writing Workshop left on her son, reinforces the importance of how learning is achieved is such a variety of ways.



DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 9 May
 SAPSASA Cross Country Carnival

Wednesday, 10 May
 Mother's Day Stall

Friday, 12 May
 Sports Day

Mon 15 - Sun 21 May
 Catholic Education Week

Wednesday, 17 May
 School Board AGM
 6:30pm in St Mary's Hall

Friday, 19 May
 Whole School Assembly

Monday, 29 May
 PUPIL FREE DAY

SCHOOL BOARD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday 17 May, Week 3

You are all warmly invited to join us in St Mary's Hall for our Annual General Meeting. I have organised with a local business, Dancing Spoon, to provide some light refreshments at the conclusion of the meeting, and hope you can stay, mingle, chat and meet other school families. To assist us with our catering and planning, please email Angela Maisey at amaisey@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au with your RSVP details.

An email was sent from the school to all families on Wednesday 3 May with a Nomination Form and more information about joining a School Board. I hope you will consider nominating for the Board and look forward to seeing you on Wednesday May 17 at 6:30pm in St Mary's Hall.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

This is a very special time on our calendar each year as we celebrate the excellent teaching and learning that happens in all Catholic schools, including our wonderful school St Mary's Memorial. In Week 3, Monday 15 May - Sunday 21 May, you will see a focus around #LoveMyCatholicSchool with students and staff engaging in a variety of activities, including colourful displays around the school, the whole school assembly, photos, and a video featuring students and staff which we hope can be shared with our school community.

PUPIL FREE DAY REMINDER

Please be advised that our staff will be engaged in a Professional Learning Day in Term 2 on Monday 29 May, Week 5. As this is a full day for all staff, there will not be any Out of School Hours care available at the school. I trust this advance notice will provide families time to make alternative arrangements.

ABSENTEES

A friendly reminder for all parents and caregivers that we are required to record all absentees and the reasons for student absences. If your child/ren will be absent from school, please notify the school via email info@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au before 9:00am. This will ensure our records are correct and a subsequent SMS message isn't sent to parents due to an unexplained absence.

SPORTS DAY – Friday 12 MAY

Sports Day this year will be held at Athletics SA Stadium, and we are all very excited to join in the fun, community spirit and events on the day. Please refer to the emailed reminders which have been sent to all families. If you have not received the information, please contact our School Office. Thank you to Vicki Messent and Jane Hidson for their exceptional coordination, planning and preparation to ensure we all have a successful day. Let's hope the weather is also kind to us!

2023 MOTHER'S DAY STALL - PARENTS and FRIENDS

The St Mary's Memorial School Parents and Friends Community this year are excited to host a Mother's Day Stall on Wednesday 10th May 2023. The students will be able to purchase gifts ranging in price from \$3.00 - \$5.00 from parent volunteers who will be on hand to help your child choose a special Mother's Day gift. Thank you to our Parents and Friends Community for their planning, time and organisation.

ENGAGED LEARNERS

Our Year 4 students were thrilled to share with Ms Laura Watt our amazing Visual Arts teacher, their knowledge of animal features during a collaborative prior knowledge activity. The teamwork, discussion and attention to detail was outstanding, highly engaging and fun for students returning this term.

Students in Miss Ierace's Reception class have wasted no time in being highly engaged learners during morning Literacy. The children were very attentive and eager to start their rotations and the different learning activities. Thank you for sharing your learning time with me Receptions.



On Thursday 4 May, I joined our Year 5's on their excursion to explore the Glenelg Air-Raid Shelter which was built in 1942 as part of a WWII communications network. It now houses exhibitions and memorabilia which tell the stories of Holdfast Bay and its residents during the various wars including WWII. The students were very keen to learn more from the volunteers at the shelter to support their classroom learning.

This term I will be on the morning Milton Street Yard Duty, Wednesday and Thursday mornings with the intention of monitoring the opened gate for a little longer. My hope is to give our families a little more time to chat with one another when dropping your children at school, and to help you not to feel as rushed in the mornings. I'm always happy to chat too! Please remember we always welcome registered parent volunteers to join our teachers to help with reading if you are available, just chat with your child's teacher if you are interested. This is also a great way to meet other parents, grandparents and families to increase the sense of community. In the afternoon, the Milton Street gate is opened at 2:50pm, which from observation provides our families with a great opportunity to catch up with one another. Please be aware school supervision concludes at 3:25pm, unless your child is booked into OSHC.

Stay safe, healthy, and keep warm as the cooler weather sets in for our Autumn and Winter seasons.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Sonja Smith
Acting Principal

FROM THE APRIM

As a teenager I was in the Army Cadets. I loved it and my dad loved that I loved it as he was ex-army. Every week I would polish my boots and buckles with Dad looking over my shoulder pointing out a missed smudge, or offering to show me how to do it well. Back in these days, and living in the country, we had the opportunity to use real guns and we learnt to shoot targets accurately. I loved it and was a pretty good shot. We also spent time in the Warrumbungle Ranges, near where my town was, camping, learning survival techniques and getting dressed up in full camouflage. It was pretty rough and some of our marching drills were intense, but it was a great experience to have had.

As part of the Army Cadets every year we marched in the ANZAC Day parade. In NSW ANZAC Day was always during the school term and school children always took part. It was a big part of growing up for me and for my dad it held a very special place in his heart.

My dad was involved in a peace keeping mission in Malaysia. He was the radio man so was always at the back of the squad. He rarely talked of this time. I know my name comes from Malaysia and that he thought the country was beautiful. I also know that he saw some terrible things which caused him to have night terrors his entire life. ANZAC Day was important to him; he never missed a march. But for his family we knew when he returned home at the end of the day he would be struggling emotionally. It was always a very tough day.

Whenever I read about people working in conflict zones I pray for them and their families. It is rare for people to come back unchanged from such experiences. The work these people do helps to make the world a bit safer for the rest of us and we owe them our gratitude.

In South Australia I am a little disappointed that ANZAC Day falls in the holidays. I think it is important for us to mark the day as a school community, so this week for Community Prayer we focused on ANZAC Day. What follows is what was shared, with a few little tweaks.

During the First World War 416000 Australians volunteered for service. 61000 died on foreign soils with 45000 dying on the Western Front in France and Belgium and over 8000 on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey.

The conflict was brutal and ugly and so horrible that it is impossible for us to imagine it in the comfort of our lives today. The stories of war have never lost their power and out of this the ANZAC Legend was born.

The ANZAC Spirit is about trust, tradition, integrity and respect for each other, keeping your word and not letting your mates, family or others down. This is the ANZAC spirit and it is very much alive.

O God of love and freedom,

We bring our thanks this day for the peace and security we enjoy, which was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in time of war.

We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come.

That the freedom, truth and justice which they sought to preserve may be seen and known in all the nations upon earth. We pray for those nations who are experiencing war and conflict today, such as the people of Ukraine and Sudan.

May they find peace soon.

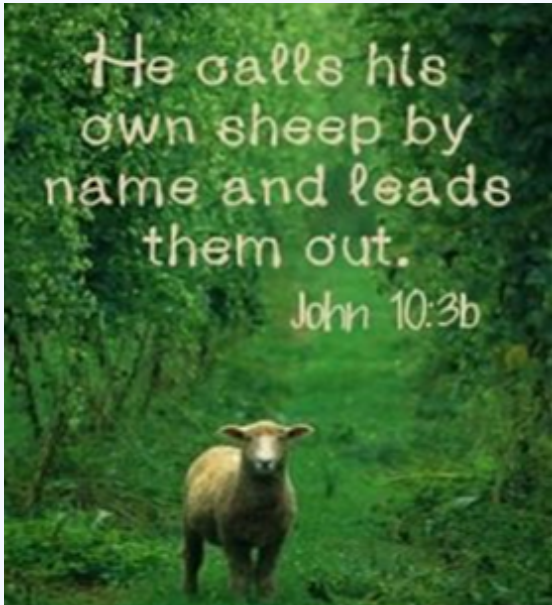
This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Joy and blessings,
Tamara Smith



SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



SACRAMENT PROGRAM

Throughout Term 2 children in the Sacramental Program will be preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation, which will take place 7pm, Tuesday June 20th.

There will be an important parent meeting about this program on 3:30pm, Sunday May 7th in the Lady of Victories Church.

Children will need to attend three preparation sessions at Our Lady of Victories Church:

- 4pm, Tuesday 16th May
- 4pm, Tuesday 23rd May
- 4pm, Tuesday 30th May

There will be a special workshop 4pm, Tuesday 6th June for children to make their special Saint poster—they will need to have chosen a Saint for this purpose by this date.

If you have any questions about the sacramental program feel free to contact Melissa Mabarrack at the parish: melissagcp@bigpond.com

Father John would also love some parents to help out with activities—if you are willing and able please email him: jdherd@hotmail.com

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: 17 High Street, Glenelg
Office Hours: Mon, Wed-Fri 9am-2pm
Phone: 08 8294 1888
Email: glenelgcp@bigpond.com
Web: www.glenelgcp.com

PRAYER

*They shall not grow old
As we who are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them
Lest we forget*



MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

Here is an outline of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar for Term 2.

Week 2	Year 6	Tue 10am
Week 3	Whole School Catholic Education Week	Tue 10am
Week 4	Year 5	Tue 10am
Week 5	Year 4	Tue 10am
Week 6	Year 3	Tue 10am
Week 7	No Mass	
Week 8	Whole School Feast of the Sacred Heart	Tue 10am
Week 9	Yr 2, Yr 1 & Rec Liturgy	Tue 9am
Week 10	No Mass	

MASSES

Masses and liturgies are celebrated regularly and we warmly invite family and friends to join our year level celebrations.

Changes to the calendar regarding Masses and their times will need to be made occasionally as the needs of our parish and our priests come up. The newsletter will publish the most current times. Apologies for any inconvenience.



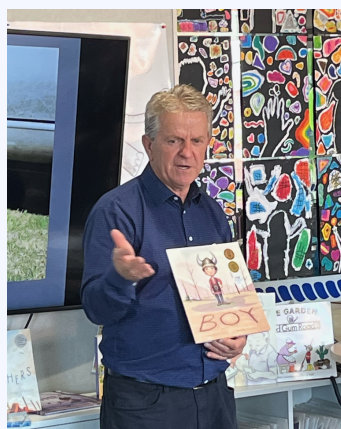
Tamara Smith
APRIM | tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

**ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY
PRAYER 8:45AM EVERY TUESDAY IN
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH**

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to Term 2 in our school library!

It's been a most exciting start to the term with our school hosting a visit by Phil Cummings, a well-known and very successful South Australian children's author. Phil conducted four highly engaging sessions with our Year 5 and Year 6 students, where he introduced the scope of his work, and captivated the students by recounting some of his life-experiences, which became the inspiration for many of his books. It was a reminder to us that much of our best writing will be about life, and living life is the best way to have things to write about!



Phil then moved to the classrooms to work more explicitly with the students, stepping them through the process he always follows to generate and develop ideas for writing. He modelled how he uses single words and descriptive phrases to brainstorm and build on story ideas; inviting the students to do the same. He very cleverly demonstrated how an initial brainstorm can also be a plan for a story; achieving two goals at the same time! Phil calls this process 'fearless writing'. He urged the students to resist those feelings of worry, anxiety and stress that can often accompany the writing process, and to just write.

The feedback from teachers and students has been very positive, with some classes planning to present their work to Phil when he returns to our school in Term 3 for Book Week.

In preparation for Phil's visit today and in Term 3, we have started and will continue to read his picture books and lead open discussions about how the messages and themes in his stories relate to the students' everyday lives and their personal experiences.

We have many titles by Phil Cummings in our library collection which have been well loved by our students. I suspect these books will be loved all over again now that we have come to know Phil on a more personal level. We will continue to grow our collection of Phil Cummings books as they become available.

Tracey Tolley
(Teacher Librarian)



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB, ISSUE 3 WAS DISTRIBUTED THIS WEEK.
THE PARENT LOOP WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY, 17TH MAY.

Year 5 News

CAMP

ADVENTURE

TRAVEL EXPO

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

CAMP

Adare camp was amazing! It had so many fun things to do. I thought the beds were comfortable and the dorms were amazing. Except from dorm 2 because the water from the shower went everywhere. The second I saw it I got so excited it was a massive block of land with lots of stuff on it. Some of the activities were the flying kiwi which is where you get slinged into the air like a kiwi bird. Another activity was the 4-way ping pong because 4 people could play at the same time and the line to play wasn't that big for 60 kids. There was an Adare house which you could stay in, or you could stay in dorms like we did. My favourite activity was the kayaking because we had a race against the people that worked there and we had to paddle against a current, it was really fun. The people that worked there made us dinner and brought us lots of food. On one of the nights we had pasta and vegetables, and on the other night we had schnitzel and more vegetables. When we all went down to the beach we had games like raft making, bodyboarding and having to dig a hole under a pool noodle to go under it without touching the pool noodle. I think the camp was a really good place to go for year 5 because lots of the stuff and games were year 5 standard. I would also recommend bringing a friend along because it will make it a lot better. It was the best camp I've ever going to go on in my life probably.

By Indy T.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Term 1, Week 10, we celebrated Holy Week. One of our tasks was to re-enact the Stations of the Cross in groups. My station of the Cross was station 6- I was Veronica and I had to wipe the Blood off of Jesus' face. I enjoyed making a poster of our Station of the Cross and acting the Station in front of the class. Aster



TRAVEL EXPO

In week 10, Term 1, students of 5P and 5R committed to the HASS travel expo. All students had to choose three wonders from the natural, ancient, and modern eras to research. All students entered the assessment knowing that they would be graded for it, during which teachers provided them with 5 weeks to prepare with specific co-constructed criteria to follow. Students could choose any form or presentation such as PowerPoints, posters, bookmarks games - etc. They had to show independence, teamwork and other knowledge about The Wonders of the world. All the students enjoyed taking care of their presentations and looking around at others. Parents, staff and students were invited to come and view the final presentations before school. All students enjoyed the project and worked extremely hard on the task.

Lila. B & Eliana. S



ST. CATHERINE

ST. THOMAS

ST. MARY

ST. DOMINIC

SPORTS DAY 2023

Friday, 12th May

A reminder that Sports Day this year is returning to **Athletics SA Stadium, Mile End on Friday 12 May, 2023**. A Sports Day timetable and track layout was emailed to families earlier this week.

Parents/caregivers are to transport their child/ren to the stadium by **8:45am for a 9:00am start**. The day will conclude at **1:00pm** and parents/caregivers can take their child/ren home.

We advise that parents/carers are to **remain seated in the grandstand for the duration of the day**, due to the number of students participating.

We look forward to seeing you there.



STUDENT TOILETS

Please remember that the student toilets are for the sole use of our children and not to be accessed by adults at any time. Thank you for your cooperation.



We remind families to be vigilant around receiving emails. We were recently advised by a family from the school who received an email which looked like it came from a St Mary's staff member. After clicking on the email address, it was found to be a scam address.

All official emails sent from St Mary's Memorial School staff will include @stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

Catholic School Parents SA presents an inspirational evening with Dr Gill Hicks AM MBE

Resilience - a raw conversation with Gill on her personal story of strength, gratitude and how it relates to families

Tuesday May 30 2023
6.30pm to 8pm

Loreto College
Performing Arts Centre
316 Portrush Road, Marryatville

Photography: Tony Kearney

Gill Hicks is globally known as a survivor of the London terrorist bombings on July 7th 2005. She survived, but suffered severe and permanent injuries, losing both legs from just below the knee. Gill is a published author, musician, award winning artist and performer. Gill's appreciation and gratitude for life is present throughout all her creative works.

Attendees will leave the event feeling empowered, inspired and grateful to continue to their parenting and education journey.

The event will be limited to 300 in person Catholic school family attendees. There will be an online option with live streaming.



Register via the [CESA Registration Centre](#) or go to the [Events page](#) on the CSPSA website

cspsa.catholic.edu.au

Retreat In Daily Life

FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES



A PRAYER RETREAT

with Vietnamese Jesuit Fr Thang Bui SJ

Fr Thang will be guiding a retreat in Glenelg at Our Lady of Victories Church on Monday evenings, 7pm for 4 weeks, beginning on the May 22nd.

Following the Monday evening retreat participants will have a prayer guide and exercises to follow for the next 5 or 6 days. At the next retreat evening participants will talk about their experiences with the prayer exercises and then be introduced to the next week's prayer.

RSVP FR JOHN HERD - GLENELGCP@BIGPOND.COM - 82941888

WHEN SIENA (YEAR 3) MET POPE FRANCIS

The Time I Saw The Pope in Budapest

My dad had to go to Hungary for work on the weekend the Pope Francis was visiting (28th-30th April 2023).

The day before he arrived my mum found the Pope's agenda, and we went to see where he would be over the coming days.

Here are some photo's



The next day we went back

Hoping we'd get a glimpse of the Pope.

We arrived very early and grabbed a table outside a nearby café. There were barriers everywhere.

As he started speaking a security guard opened the gate to the VIP area, we jumped up and rushed through.

I couldn't believe it. We were right at the front. Will he come past us?



And WOW.....

He came in our direction, surrounded by security guards. I was so nervous.

He got closer and closer until he was right in front of us.

I reached out and actually touched his hand (you can just see it in the 1st photo).

That was a day I'll never forget!

