

NEWSLETTER

8 SEPTEMBER 2023
 TERM 3, WEEK 7
 ISSUE 15

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

*God of grace and wisdom, You continually raise up good people who show with their lives that they follow Your inspiration. Let our lives be true to all that our faith teaches, to respond to others' needs with an open and compassionate heart, so that we will grow more and more in Your son's likeness.
 R U OK Day – Thursday 14 September*

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

I would like to begin this week's newsletter with a message of sincere gratitude to you all, our parents, caregivers, families, and students for your ongoing support to myself and all our staff here at St Mary's Memorial School. Without this important partnership of trust our work would be so much more complex in providing the ongoing safety, care, support, love, and high-quality teaching and learning experiences for all students in our school community. This includes giving us time today as a staff to come together for our Staff Formation Day where we reflected on our Dominican Pillars; Community, Prayer, Service and Study through examining who we are as individuals and who we are together.

Springtime is the Season of Creation and last weekend as I spent time in the garden, I was amazed at the colours that were everywhere. Beautiful, happy yellows from the wattle trees, the deep red that is appearing on the banksias, the bright vivid colours of the pigface, the subtle pink hues of blossoms on my fruit trees and the colours of the leaves as they begin to appear on the roses and the trees.

The colours reminded me that we have left behind the bareness of winter and are now in the season of Spring, the season of creation. It is a time to clear the clutter, a time for planting and reflecting on how we are caring for our environment – our small part of God's creation in the universe. This was evident this week with students in 2W and 3S planting sunflower seeds in our garden beds near the playground and creatively marking these with decorated rocks. I look forward to seeing these grow just as I see everyday the hearts and minds of our students grow and harvested by our wonderful educators.

As adults, we serve as role models to our young people, and it is important that we understand, encourage, and are well equipped to provide guidance, support, and effective positive communication methods. I would like to remind parents, caregivers, and families that this also extends to face-to-face conversations, emails, phone calls, and any use of social media platforms. Communication should always be respectful, purposeful, collegial and maintain the dignity of all parties. I kindly request that members of our community refrain from the use of inappropriate language and airing problems or concerns through social media.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 12 September
 Year 3 Mass - 10am

Wednesday, 13 September
 Cyber Safety Parent Information Session

Thursday, 14 September
 RU OK? Day
 Community Prayer
 Year 4A Excursion to SHC

18-22 September - BOOK FAIR WEEK

Tuesday, 19 September
 R-Yr 2 Liturgy

Thursday, 21 September
GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY
 Year 4A Excursion to SHC

Friday, 22 September
 Year 3 Assembly
 Year 4 Parents Social Night - Broadway Hotel

Tuesday, 26 September
 Catholic Schools Music Festival Performance
 "Seasons of Creation" Mass @ 10am

Wednesday, 27 September
 R-Yr 2 Festival Theatre Excursion

Friday, 29 September
FINAL DAY OF TERM 3

You are an integral part of our school, and we are here to address any concerns or issues that may arise. We encourage you to make an appointment with your child's teacher with the aim of resolving any challenges as quickly as possible, ensuring the well-being of all involved, including the children and adults.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in maintaining a respectful and supportive environment for all members of our St Mary's Memorial School community.

CYBER SAFE FAMILIES PARENT INFORMATION SESSION – Wednesday 13 September, 6:30pm

A reminder that all parents and caregivers have an excellent opportunity to join us on Wednesday night for an Adult Only Cyber Safety session. Students in Years 4-6 will be engaged with age-appropriate sessions about staying safe online during the school day.

During Week 8 our Year 4 students will be participating in the. Good luck Year 4's!

RETURNING IN 2024?

In the coming weeks an online Forms survey will be emailed to all families to indicate your intentions for students returning in 2024. The aim of this will be to provide us with important information for next term, as we begin to consider class structures and placements for 2024.

ENGAGED LEARNERS

It is always great to see the various ways our students are provided with rich learning opportunities from beach walks to the Zoo Snooze camp.

It was a privilege to join the 3L class at the Adelaide Zoo for their night walk, supper, and movie time! Thank you to our fabulous volunteers for supporting the teachers and children.



LOST PROPERTY

As we near the end of another school term and the weather changes, our lost property is filling fast with jumpers and jackets. Please help us return uniform items by naming all clothing and checking the large amount of lost property near my office and OSHC.



2024 CLASS STRUCTURES

In line with the commitment from Executive Director, Dr Neil McGoran via Finance Director, Nigel McFee, I am glad to be able to confirm with the school community the following 2024 class structure of three Reception and Year 1 classes into two classes from Year 2-6. This is in response to the School Board consultation with CESA, enrolment demands, and the mid-year Reception intake.

In addition to this, two 'bubble years' will remain as three classes until these students conclude their primary education in Year 6.

As educators we know the importance of managing class sizes to ensure high quality learning and teaching. As such, the enrolment processes and structures in place will see two classes from Year 2 onwards while maintaining benchmark student numbers and if required ensure additional support is in place. In essence this means any current conversations about being a 'R-Year 6 three streamed school' are not accurate.

| 2024 Class Structure | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Year Level & more information | Classes |
| Reception | 3 |
| Year 1 – bubble year | 3 |
| Year 2 – bubble year | 3 |
| Year 3 | 2 |
| Year 4 | 2 |
| Year 5 | 2 |
| Year 6 | 2 |

If you would like any additional information, please contact me directly.

LEARNER AGENCY - TASTY TREAT TUESDAY

In my first newsletter this term, I wrote about one of our Year 4 students, Parker, who following in the footsteps of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, saw a need and did something about it. Parker and some of his peers passionately collaborated on an initiative to provide a range of homemade baked goods during the term on three Tuesdays. The final Tasty Treat Tuesday will be next week on 12 September when students can purchase a chocolate chip cookie, muffin, or cupcake at a cost of 50c - \$1.00 during lunchtime. The funds raised from this student led initiative will be donated to the Hutt Street Centre. 'This is a place of connection and support, where people facing homelessness are empowered to rebuild their lives, rediscover their identities and reconnect with those who love them.'

As you all know, schools are very busy with our day-to-day activities and special events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for all that they do for our students and school community.

It has been a very busy term to date, and our staff have gone above and beyond to ensure our students have had many wonderful opportunities. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff here at St Mary's Memorial School.



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the beginning of the spring weather and I look forward to meeting many of you at our Grandparents and Special Friends Day on Thursday 21 September.

kindest regards,
Mrs Sonja Smith
Acting Principal

FROM THE APRIM

On Tuesday I was privileged to take our Social Justice Class representatives into the City for a Catholic Charities thanksgiving Mass and expo. We were blessed with perfect weather and the children were excited to be travelling on the tram together into Victoria Square. St Francis Cathedral is located on the east side of this square and the beauty of this magnificent building was not lost on the children.

As we sat outside on the lawn Archbishop Patrick came over and said hello. It was so wonderful for the children to meet the man we pray for every time we have a Mass. Archbishop Patrick expressed his gratitude for our attendance at the Mass he was about to lead.

Inside the Cathedral the children were mesmerized by the stain glass windows, the high ceilings, the statues and the padded kneelers. Once Mass began they were all excited when we got to the kneeling parts of the Mass simply to kneel on these soft cushions. The pipe organ was played throughout the Mass adding another element of intrigue for our children. Isabella Jordan represented our school with pride as one of the readers during this celebration.

As Archbishop Patrick welcomed in the season for Catholic Charities and the Season of Creation he spoke to us all about what it means to have a giving heart. He spoke about when we notice the needs of others we see life with a clearer lens. We are built to love God and to love others and to make a difference to the life and dignity of those on the edges. To give is better than to receive and when this takes place it transforms us so that we have a giving heart. Archbishop Patrick invited us to live this reality – to live our lives with a giving heart.

Archbishop Patrick also invited the children present to take time in the Cathedral afterwards to look more closely at this special place and to meet Mary MacKillop through the two statues present; so we had photos with these. The second photo was outside the Cathedral where we sat and finished our lunch. It was great to have Fr John join us for this. Josh Roach engaged the children in some games and we had a lovely afternoon under Mary's happy face.

We then headed into the Cathedral Hall where different organisations shared with us the work they do to help the marginalized in our local communities. The children had paper and pencil to write down ideas we can bring back to our school community and they managed to fill their page. The presenters were very inspiring. We had to leave before the afternoon finished proper to catch our tram back to school and the children were genuinely disappointed as they were really inspired by what they were hearing.

Hopefully over the coming weeks you will start to see some of the children's inspirational ideas become actions.

Joy & blessings,
Tamara Smith



PRAYER



Season of Creation Prayer

Creator of Life, at Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers, mountains, minerals, seas and forests...And throughout time the Earth has sustained life...

In your Wisdom, you granted a Sabbath...But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits...

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the Earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation. Amen

- adapted from the Season of Creation Celebration Guide



SACRAMENT PROGRAM

Children have completed their preparation for the sacrament of First Eucharist, and the celebration of this special occasion is fast approaching.

Children will be attending Mass at Our Lady of Victories Church or Our Lady of Grace Church over the weekend of September 16 and 17 and Sunday 24th September 9am Glengowrie or 10:30am at High Street.

In Term 4 the new Sacramental Program will begin. If you have a child in Year 3 or above who would love to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist please contact Fr John.

If you have any questions about the sacramental program feel free to contact Father John. Father John would also love some parents to help out with activities—if you are willing and able please email him: jdherd@hotmail.com



Please join us for an uplifting ecumenical service on

17 September 2023

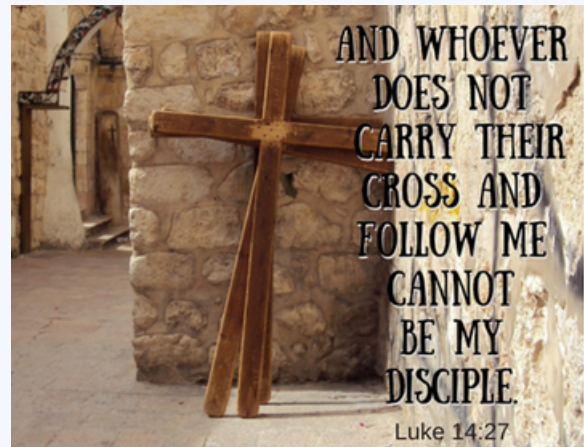
at 7 p.m. at

Our Lady of Victories Church, High Street, Glenelg.

Let us come together in faith and unity.

A light supper will be provided

SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

Here is an outline of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar for Term 3.

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|----------|
| Week 8 | Year 3 | Tue 10am |
| Week 9 | Yr 2, Yr 1 & Rec Liturgy | Tue 9am |
| Week 10 | Whole School Mass | Tue 10am |

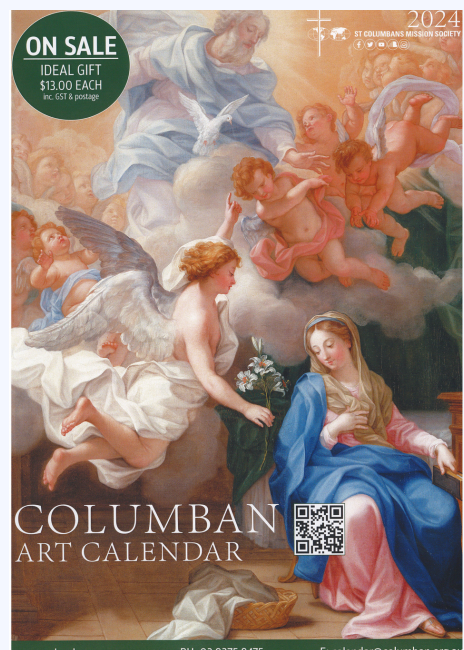
MASSES

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.



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





This year our library is hosting a BOOK FAIR. The fair will run throughout Week 9, from Mon 18th – Thurs 21st September.

It will be like having a real-life bookstore in our library, where there will be a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Students will be given time to visit and explore the books on offer and fill in a Student Wish List. This wish list should arrive home with your child/ren on the Friday prior to the book fair opening (Friday 15th Sept), which will give you the weekend to chat about the books they have seen and are interested in purchasing.

Please make plans to visit our Book Fair at the following times:

- Mon 8:30 – 10:30 and 3:15 – 4:30pm
- Tues 8:30 – 9:15 and 3:15 – 4:30pm
- Wed 8:30 – 9:15 and 3:15 – 4:30pm
- Thurs 8:30 – 12pm

Online payments can be made if you are unable to visit our Book Fair in person. This will require you to record the name of the book and the receipt number on the Wish List or print the receipt out. Your child/ren will bring their Wish List back to school with receipt details, and collect their books. Instructions for online purchases will be provided in the coming weeks.

I look forward to seeing you and your family at our school's Book Fair.

Tracey Tolley
(Teacher Librarian)



GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

We invite the Grandparents and Special Friends of our students at St Mary's Memorial School to spend the morning with us for a performance by our choir, classroom visits and light refreshments.

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2023

9:50am - 11:20am

Please RSVP before Wednesday, 13 September 2023
by [clicking on this link](#) or scan the QR code.



YEAR 1 ON THE FARM



This week the Year 1s were lucky enough to finally visit the Hahndorf Farm Barn. After learning about many different types of Animals in Science and English in Term 2, it was time to visit them in real life!

The Farm Barn was a fantastic place for the students to experience animals while learning about living things, how they change, their habitats and their needs. The students were involved in a busy schedule that included animal time, a cow milking show, a reptile show and feeding a range of big and small animals.

These were some highlights:

Ambreen and Yuvaan: *My favourite part was feeding the lambs milk.*

Ollie: *I loved feeding the ostrich.*

Addi: *My favourite part was seeing the baby cows.*

Billie and Mabel: *I loved holding the Guinea Pigs.*

Chloe and Winnie: *I loved patting the soft rabbits.*

Adele: *I loved feeding carrots to the deers.*

Indi: *My favourite part was feeding the rabbits.*



The kids had a great day and are very keen to visit again another time. Thanks to all our parent volunteers Paula, Tracy, Amanda, Liz, Nicki and Nat for all your help and assistance on the day! 😊

CHANGE OF UNIFORM - WINTER TO SUMMER

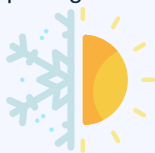
A reminder that students are to return to school after the holidays in their full summer uniform. If we still experience some cold weather in the first 2 weeks of Term 4, the full winter uniform may be worn. Please note, students must wear either the complete summer uniform or the complete winter uniform, not a combination.

It is also **compulsory** for all students to wear a school, wide brim hat during Terms 1 & 4 for all outside activities including sport lessons and break times. Given the high UV index, we encourage the wearing of hats whilst outside during Terms 2 & 3, although this is not a requirement.

The wearing of the correct uniform is a requirement of all children attending St Mary's Memorial School and we greatly appreciate your support in this matter.

The St Mary's Memorial School Uniform Shop opening hours are as follows:

Tuesdays 2:45pm - 3:30pm
Thursdays 2:45pm - 3:30pm



Should you wish to make an online order, please follow the link to the [St Mary's Memorial School Online Uniform Shop](#). AfterPay available with delivery information detailed on the online shop home page.

For any further queries, please contact Christine:



0424 776 381



ccoombe@belgraviasports.com.au

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

To volunteer in 2023 at St Mary's Memorial School you will need to complete a Volunteer Information Pack, available from the Front Office. All volunteers are to have a current Catholic Police Clearance, which can be applied for through the school or alternatively, already hold a current DHS (Department of Human Services) Working With Children's Check.

In addition to the appropriate Police Clearance, all volunteers will need to complete the RRHAN (Responding to Risk of Harm, Abuse and Neglect for Volunteers) Course. Please go to the following link, login and complete the RRHAN training by clicking on Non Department for Education Staff.

<https://www.plink.sa.edu.au>

All paperwork is to be handed to the school office to allow for processing prior to volunteering.

Should you have any queries or wish to become a Registered Volunteer at St Mary's Memorial School, please contact the School Office.

CYBER SAFETY

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

STRICTLY AN OVER 18'S INFORMATION SESSION, DUE TO THE MATURE CONTENT

Wednesday, 13 September

6:30pm

St Mary's Memorial School

Join us for a Parent Information Session presented by Cybersafe Families covering topics such as cyberbullying, offensive content, illegal content, harmful content, grooming, privacy and personal information, digital reputation and respectful online relationships.

Come along to find out how you as parents can help your children stay safe online and develop good habits when using the internet at home.

Scan the QR code to register and learn more about Cybersafe Families.

REGISTER HERE

ST MARY'S
MEMORIAL SCHOOL

16 Milton St, Glenelg
Ph: 8294 4580

In partnership with Catholic School Parents SA

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

PERFORMANCE

TUESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2023

WHERE Dreams BEGIN

Presented by the
Catholic Schools Music Festival

Come along to celebrate and support South Australia's talented youth in performances featuring a 400-voice choir, instrumental ensembles, vocal groups, and remarkable solo artists, all exhibiting an astonishing calibre of musicianship.

An event open to the whole community
Tuesday 26 to Friday 29 September 2023
Festival Theatre, Adelaide Festival Centre