

29 NOVEMBER 2024
 TERM 4, WEEK 7

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

God, Thank You for Your infinite patience. Please calm my mind and help me to trust Your timing. I don't want to let impatience cause me to act in a way that doesn't honour You.

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

As we approach the end of another busy and productive school year, it's the perfect time to reflect on the many highlights that have shaped 2024 at St Mary's Memorial School. During the end-of-year busyness, the excitement of holiday festivities, and the changes ahead, it can be easy to focus on concerns and anxieties. However, this is a time to celebrate new learning, successful school events, excursions and incursions, camps, visitors, and the many friendships formed throughout the year.

These special memories are beautifully captured in our 2024 School Magazine, which has arrived and ready to be sent home in time for Christmas. A huge thank you to Angela Maisey, our Marketing Communications Officer, for her exceptional work with Design Notion in bringing this publication to life, and to all staff and students for their wonderful contributions.

Exciting New 3-Year Strategic Plan Unveiled

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our **2025-2027 School Strategic Plan**, a blueprint for the exciting future of St Mary's Memorial School. This vision for the next three years is included in the 2024 School Magazine, will soon be available on the school website and displayed in visual form around the school.



This transformative work began back in Week 0 of January 2024, when Leanne Muffet from Strategic Matters joined all staff for a full-day workshop. Together, we explored our school's rich story—its past, present, and the incredible possibilities for the future. This session set the tone for a year-long process of thoughtful collaboration, where purposeful provocations guided staff through deeper discussions and reflection.

A dedicated Strategic Working Group was formed, including members from school leadership, teaching staff, classroom support, administration, OSHC staff, students, and a School Board representative. This group worked closely with Strategic Matters to review, refine, and shape the draft plans. Our School Board also provided valuable insights, spending time with Leanne Muffet to share their vision for the school's future.

The voices of our students played a vital role in shaping this plan. Through an age-appropriate online survey, they shared their thoughts, ideas, and dreams, ensuring that the perspectives of our youngest community members were heard and valued.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone in our school community—staff, families, students, the School Board, and our Strategic Working Group—for their invaluable contributions. Your input has helped shape a roadmap that will guide us to new heights while continuing to prioritise the best outcomes for our children and our community.

We look forward to sharing the final infographic, beautifully designed by Design Notion, which encapsulates this exciting plan. Together, let's embrace the bright future ahead for St Mary's Memorial School.

Looking Ahead to 2025

Class placements for 2025 will be shared in your child's Academic Report, sent home on Monday, 9 December, following the school's student transition morning. This is an exciting opportunity for students to meet their new teachers and classmates for the year ahead.

We are committed to providing a smooth and stable transition for our students and families. Every child's needs have been thoughtfully considered in the careful balancing of factors involved in class construction, including the allocation of teaching and support staff. While all teacher placements are currently finalised, some adjustments may still arise due to new employment opportunities. Any changes will be communicated directly with families over the summer break, and we anticipate publishing the confirmed class details in the final school newsletter in Week 9.

As we close out this remarkable year, let's embrace the joy, growth, and resilience that have defined 2024 and look forward to 2025 with excitement and confidence.

Christmas Festivities & End-of-Term Celebrations at St Mary's

What a fantastic start to the festive season we had last Sunday! Our amazing students, along with dedicated staff and parent volunteers, brought the Christmas spirit to life as we joined the Glenelg Christmas Pageant. The weather was perfect, and the smiles, waves, high-fives, and festive cheer made it an unforgettable day. Our stunning angels, stars, and shepherds truly stole the show! A huge thank you to everyone who participated and to our supportive families for helping make this cherished annual event such a success.



Now, the excitement continues! This Friday, 6 December, we invite all families to join us for St Mary's Carols by Candlelight, beginning at 7:30pm. Our children and staff have been hard at work preparing for what promises to be a magical evening filled with beautiful music, festive joy, and the warmth of community spirit. Bring your picnic rugs, battery operated candles, and holiday cheer as we come together to celebrate this special time of year.

We can't wait to see you there! 🎄 ✨

Year 4 Fitness Club - Living the Spirit of Mary MacKillop

With immense pride, we celebrate the inspiring initiative shown by Molly, Amelia, and Edi from Year 4, who have truly embodied the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop: "See a need and do something about it." Recognising an opportunity to enhance student well-being, these remarkable young leaders approached me with their idea to create a Fitness Club during recess—a space for students to enjoy fun and engaging exercises.

Their enthusiasm didn't stop there. The girls carefully selected energising music, designed an eye-catching poster, and personally visited classrooms to encourage participation. Their efforts have not only fostered a positive alternative play experience but also brought students together in a joyful and active way.

Well done, Molly, Amelia, and Edi. Your initiative and leadership make our St Mary's community incredibly proud. Thank you for showing us what it means to make a difference! 🌟



Year 6 Aquatics Camp - A Celebration of Fun, Teamwork, and Talent

A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 6 students and their dedicated teachers for representing St Mary's Memorial School so brilliantly during their recent four-day Normanville Aquatics Camp. It was an absolute delight to join them for part of the camp, staying overnight and experiencing the fantastic Talent Show, which showcased the creativity, courage and confidence of our students.

We wrapped up the camp with a series of team activities on beautiful Normanville Beach—a perfect conclusion to a memorable experience. A special shout-out to Gabe for an incredible demonstration of focus and skill, solving three different Rubik's cubes in under two minutes! What an outstanding effort—well done, Gabe!

Thank you to everyone involved for making this camp such a success. Your enthusiasm, teamwork, and sense of adventure truly embody the spirit of St Mary's.



KEY DATES

- **Yard Sale** - Saturday, 30 November
- **Carols by Candlelight** - Friday, 6 December
- **End of Year Whole School Mass** - Tuesday, 10 December
- **Last Day for Year 6 Students** - Tuesday, 10 December
- **Last Day for Rec-Yr 5 Students** - Wednesday, 11 December
- **PUPIL FREE DAYS** - Thursday, 12 & Friday, 13 December
- **First Day of Term 1, 2025** - Tuesday, 28 January 2025

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year, and I look forward to finishing 2024 on a high note together.

Kindest regards
Mrs Sonja Smith
Principal



CHANGE TO LUNCH ORDER SERVICE

We were advised today that Daily Fixx has recently changed ownership and, as a result, will be unable to provide lunch orders to SMMS for the remainder of this year.

We thank you your understanding.

FROM THE APRIM

As you read this, I am probably lying on the lounge recovering from being on Camp with the Year 6s. I am writing this, however, after just packing my bag to go on this camp and reminiscing about how fantastic the Glenelg Christmas Pageant was.

We had almost 100 children walk the pageant, dressed as angels, shepherds or stars; our symbolic way of sharing the very first Christmas with those gathered by the sides of the road enjoying all the different groups moving past them down Jetty Road and Colley Terrace.

While a little muggy, the weather was kind to us and there was a lot of excitement. I am very proud of our group. Thank you to the many parents who supported us and the wonderful staff who gave up their Sunday to be there.

It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! Enjoy the photos.

Joy and blessings,
Tamara Smith

Watch the replay on Channel 44

GLENELG CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

5:30pm
Sunday 1 December



SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



PRAYER



In tough times, LORD, let me stay motivated & calm. Let me look at how far I have come rather than how far I still have to go. Let me continue counting my blessings & not what I've been missing. May everyday bring new chances to grow, new beautiful things to see, new plans to do, & new goals to pursue, as every new day is God's miracle day. Amen.

MASSES

Masses and liturgies are celebrated regularly and we warmly invite family and friends to join us.

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.



SACRAMENT PROGRAM

If your child is in Year 3 or above and has been Baptised they are invited to join the Sacramental program this year. Each Term children will learn about then celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

All but one session for the Sacrament of Reconciliation has been completed and the sacrament will soon be celebrated. If you would like for your child to join the sacramental program for 2025 please let Fr John know asap.

- The final session children will need to attend for Reconciliation is on Wednesday, November 27 at 6pm.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Friday, November 29 at 5pm.

If you would like your child to be Baptised please let us know.

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

You are all invited to a special Blessing of the Cribs Family Mass



SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2024

10.30 am

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

Our Year 1 children have been busy making Nativity scenes, and at this Sunday Mass any child who wants their Nativity scene (also known as a CRIB) blessed can bring it along.

All families are welcome to have their Nativity Scene blessed at this special family Mass, dedicated to the Blessing of the Cribs.

We would love to see you there.

MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

Here is an outline of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar for Term 4. Please note that the times for these Masses may, or may not, change.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MASS START TIME

Week 8	Year 3 & 2 Buddy classes Mass	9:30am Tues
Week 9	End of Year Whole School Mass	9:30am Tues

COMMUNITY PRAYER

ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY PRAYER 8:45AM EVERY THURSDAY

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH



Year 5 Newsletter



Written on behalf of 5P and 5L by Luke P, Ella, Parker &

NARRATIVE WRITING

Aarin

We have been drafting and writing narratives about something that we did in term 1 school holidays. We started drafting these in term 1 and have been going through a very full and lengthy editing process! We must keep checking spelling and grammar, so our story makes sense. We also have been adding metaphors and similes, hyperbole and idioms, as well as adjectives and adverbs. Some people are writing stories about a holiday that they went on and some people are writing stories about things that they did. We can't wait to publish them and read them to our buddies.



STORY OF MOSES

In Religion we have been learning about Old (First) Testament scripture and then presenting the stories to the class through prayer, puppet plays, and story telling. We also watched The Prince of Egypt. The movie is about Moses, a prophet, who he was sent as a baby in a basket down the Nile River. He was found by the princess of Egypt. He lived as an Egyptian but then realised he was a Hebrew and his people were being punished and enslaved. He bravely freed Israelites from Egypt and led them to The Promised Land. The Prince of Egypt is a must watch!



HEALTHY EATING

For homework last week we cooked a healthy dinner for our family. We needed to shop for the ingredients, prepare everything, cook and serve it to our families - and keep a photographic journal of it all! In class we researched and wrote a recipe (a procedural text) for the meal we wanted to cook. We then wrote a reflection and showed the class how and what we cooked. We had to decorate and make the recipe on Canva or PowerPoint! This task really helps our creativity skills in more ways than one!



WACKY RACERS MATHS D.I.

In the Wacky Racers you cut out cars numbered 1-12 then roll two six-sided dice 30 x and move the cars, correspondingly. It might sound a bit wacky if I may, but trust me it is a lot more fun than it looks. We each needed to predict the car we thought would win after considering all the possible outcomes. Once you finish investigating we compared the data with other groups, represented the data by creating a line graph to show the most rolled car out of all on PowerPoint, and identified the mode.

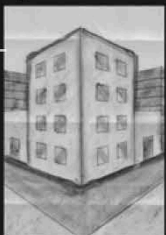


YEAR 5 UPCOMING EVENTS

YEAR 5P VISUAL ART

DEC 2

Cash only sales on the day
All proceeds from artwork sales will be donated to St. Vincent's Hospital



From 8:30am
Official Opening at 9:30am
by Artist Kirsty Shadia
Year 5 / 6 Breakout Space

Art Exhibition : ALL WELCOME Monday Week 8 from 8:30am

Carols by Candlelight : WE are super busy learning the songs that we will sing at the carols night Friday Night Week 8

BeachHouse Excursion : We are looking forward to spending some fun quality time hanging out at the BeachHouse on Monday Week 9

DONT MISS IT !





Dominican Awards

For an excellent attitude towards the
Dominican Pillar of Prayer
22-11-24



Ines Artal Sanz
Sia Cook
Scarlett Daszkowski
Evie Dickson
Ethan Swingler
Max Pope
Leni Farrier
Aira Thakur
Antonio Brown
Leo Scott
Vivie Talbot

Ivy Hewitt
Archie Smitheram
Cooper Bosley
Harriet Keely
Izabela Lovric
Addi Wickstein
Airlie Groth
Tyler Hogan
Ellie Heinrich
Hudson O'Connor
Evie Patton

Alfie Heinrich
Grace Odgers
Charlie Hillman
Chloe Sonnors
Mia Lundberg
Avy Koster
Aarin Sojitra
Amelia Martin (Millie)
Rachel Bahr
Zara Bury
Rosalie Dimasi

Jett Burns
Eva Polyichanin
Olive Dunlop
Caitlin Lyons
Jack Dollman
Poppy Meneghetti
Willa Barbato
Raphael Bennett
Arlo Brierley
Belle Walker
Maddy Donaldson

YARD SALE

**SHED CLEANOUT
MISCELLANEOUS
SCHOOL FURNITURE**

**SAT 30 NOV
9AM - 11AM**

**ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ENTER VIA SCHOOL CARPARK**

**FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO DRIVE IN,
COLLECT ANY ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE,
IN RETURN FOR A CASH DONATION**

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER 2024

CAROLS By Candlelight

7:30 – 8:45pm

@ St Mary's Memorial School

All children are performing
BYO camping chair, drinks & nibbles

~ no real flames allowed ~

We remind you that our school is part of the
Glenelg Dry Zone, and as such alcohol is strictly
prohibited.

We ask for your cooperation in ensuring a safe and
enjoyable environment for all.



VOLUNTEERS



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

We remind you of a mandatory requirement for all volunteers at St Mary's Memorial School. All RRHAN (Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse, and Neglect) training before April 2024, will expire on December 31, 2024.

To continue volunteering in 2025, all Registered Volunteers must complete the updated RRHAN training by the end of this year and forward your certificate to the school at volunteers@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au.

Please visit the RRHAN training platform using this [PLINK LINK](#). Once there, register or log in under "Non-Department for Education Staff" to access the required modules.

We sincerely appreciate your time, commitment, and dedication to our school. Your participation in this training is vital to creating a safe and supportive environment.

If you have any queries, please contact the Front Office.



ICEBLOCK SALES



Please contact Tamara Smith if you are willing to:

-sell ice-blocks and hand out lunches on
Wednesdays (12:25-1:40pm)

-help with planning, set up, during the event and /
or pack up:

tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP

2025 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
OPENING HOURS

Friday, 17 January 2025

&

Tuesday, 21 January 2025

9:00am - 12:00pm

Please contact Christine on:- 0424 776 381

Email: ccoombe@belgraviasports.com.au

or

Or visit the St Mary's Memorial School [Online Uniform Shop](#) to make an online order.

AfterPay is available with delivery information detailed on the online shop home page.



BOOK COVERING HELP PLEASE

Please pop into the library and speak to Ruth if you able to spare some time

TERM 4, 2024 TERM PLANNER

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY SUNDAY
Week 1	October 14	October 15	October 16	October 17 Community Prayer	October 18 Newsletter Year 1 – Festival Theatre Excursion	October 19 October 20
Week 2	October 21 Yr 2 – Adelaide Oval & Botanic Gardens	October 22	October 23 SMMS Community Group Meeting – 7pm	October 24 Community Prayer	October 25 World Teacher's Day Sports Day Bowker St Oval 8:45am – 1:15pm	October 26 SMMSCG Event LAWN BOWLS NIGHT October 27
Week 3	October 28	October 29	October 30	October 31 Community Prayer	November 1 9am – Whole School Mass – All Saints Day Newsletter SACPSSA Athletics	November 2 November 3
Week 4	November 4 1W(am) & 2S(pm) – Excursion	November 5	November 6	November 7 Community Prayer	November 8 Assembly - Science Reception Transition Visit 1 New Parent Presentation	November 9 November 10
Week 5	November 11 Remembrance Day	November 12 Year 2 – Sport Excursion Buddy Mass – Yrs 6, RI & RS	November 13	November 14 Community Prayer	November 15 Reception transition Visit 2 Newsletter	November 16 November 17
Week 6	November 18	November 19 Buddy Mass – Yr 5, RC & 1W	November 20 School Board	November 21 Community Prayer	November 22 Assembly – Year 2 Reception Transition Visit 3 SHC Transition Visit - Year 6 students	November 23 November 24 GLENELG CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Week 7	November 25 Year 6 Camp	November 26 Year 6 Camp Buddy Mass – Yr 4, 1S & 1E	November 27 Year 6 Camp	November 28 Year 6 Camp Community Prayer	November 29 Reception Transition Visit 4 Newsletter	November 30 SMMS YARD SALE December 1
Week 8	December 2 * Yr 5 Art Exhibition 8:30-10am @ SMMS	December 3 Buddy Mass Yr 3 & 2	December 4	December 5 Community Prayer Year 6 Retreat Day	December 6 Assembly – Year 6 ST MARY'S CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT	December 7 December 8
Week 9	December 9 2025 Class Transitions Years 4 & 5 Beachouse Excursion *Year 6 Students Only Breakfast @ 9am *Year 6 Movie Excursion	December 10 9:30 End of Year Mass Whole School Year 6 Dinner (Parent Run Event) LAST DAY for Year 6	December 11 Newsletter LAST DAY for Rec-Yr 5 Year 6 Liturgy (evening) 5pm	December 12	December 13	

* PLEASE NOTE, EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WE REMIND YOU TO VIEW THE UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANY CHANGES IN OUR FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTERS

29 NOVEMBER 2024