

NEWSLETTER

2 MAY 2025
TERM 2, WEEK 1

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of our children and for your unwavering love and care.
We ask that you watch over them, keeping them safe from harm, danger, and temptation.
Guide their steps, protect them, and grant them wisdom to make good choices.
Surround them with your love and grace, and lead them to a life of purpose and fulfillment.
We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.*

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

There's nothing quite like the excitement of a new school term, seeing the smiles on the children's faces, hearing their laughter echo through the grounds, and listening to their holiday stories has been a fantastic start to Term 2. It sounds like we've all enjoyed a well-deserved break and have returned full of energy, enthusiasm, and ready for a term filled with learning, fun, and fresh opportunities to grow together. As we begin a new school term, we warmly welcome all our families back to St Mary's Memorial School.

Honouring ANZAC Day – Thank You to Our Year 6 Leaders

On Friday 25 April, I had the privilege of attending the ANZAC Day Dawn Service with our Year 6 leaders, Zoe, Noah, Eliana, Jaxon, Luke, Aarin and Mason. ANZAC Day is a time for all Australians to come together to remember and honour the bravery, sacrifice, and service of those who have served, and continue to serve, our country in times of war, conflict, and peacekeeping.

Our students represented St Mary's Memorial School with great respect and pride, standing alongside members of our wider community to pay tribute to the Anzacs and the values of courage, mateship and resilience that they embody. As part of the service, they also laid a wreath in honour of all those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Their presence at the service was a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering our history and fostering a spirit of gratitude and unity.

Thank you to our students and their families for making the effort to be part of this significant community event.

I would also like to thank our Year 4 students and teachers for leading our beautiful Community Prayer here at school on Friday 2 April. Through thoughtful reflection and prayer, they helped us to honour the spirit of ANZAC Day within our school community, deepening our understanding and respect for this important national day.



Working Together for the Safety and Wellbeing of All

A new term brings fresh opportunities for learning, connection, and growth, and we remain deeply committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of every young person in our care. At the heart of this commitment is the strong partnership we share with you, our parents and carers. Together, we play a vital role in supporting the development of our children, both in and beyond the classroom. While our core responsibility as educators is to nurture learning, we also acknowledge that you, as your child's first educators, are instrumental in shaping their values and behaviours, particularly in the digital space.

This week's newsletter places a particular focus on the theme of safety, highlighting the importance of keeping our children safe in all aspects of their lives, physically, emotionally, and online. We invite you to explore the valuable resources and information provided, designed to support you in having meaningful conversations at home and to help us, as a community, foster a safe and respectful environment for every child.

Safeguarding Children and Young People

At St Mary's Memorial School, the safety and wellbeing of all children is a core priority. As part of our commitment, we uphold the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy, which is on display in our School Administration Office. This policy promotes a child safe culture across all Catholic communities, placing the dignity and safety of every child and young person at the centre. It provides a framework for schools, parishes, and agencies to develop safe environments and practices, guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are committed to always acting in the best interest of children, with cultural responsiveness and care.

Our Commitment to Child Safety – Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

We are committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all students. As part of this commitment, we implement the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC) each year. This evidence-based, respectful relationships and child safety program is designed for children and young people from age 3 to Year 12. It teaches students to recognise abuse, understand appropriate and inappropriate touching, and develop strategies to keep themselves safe. The KS:CPC is a mandated curriculum, delivered by teachers, and is recognised both nationally and internationally for its quality and effectiveness. Please reach out to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Supporting Our Children's Safety – Helpful Resources from SAPOL and National Agencies

At St Mary's Memorial School, we value the partnership between home and school in supporting children's safety and wellbeing. Families play an essential role in helping children understand how to stay safe, especially in the online world.

SAPOL (South Australia Police) offers a range of educational resources and presentations for schools and families, covering topics such as personal safety, the role of police in our community, and cyber safety through the ThinkUKnow program. This term students in Year 5 and 6 will participate in a presentation delivered by SAPOL's Community Engagement Coordinator.

In addition, The eSafety Commissioner and the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) have released Online Safety Conversation Cards, a valuable resource designed to support parents in having meaningful conversations with their children about online experiences. These cards developed for culturally and linguistically diverse communities and families will guide discussions around online interests, how to handle uncomfortable or unsafe situations, getting help, and reporting abuse.

We encourage all families to explore these age appropriate [Resources for Parents and Carers](#) and take the time to engage in open and ongoing conversations with your children about online safety.

To learn more about online safety please see the below helpful links:

- ◆ www.accce.gov.au
- ◆ www.eSafety.gov.au
- ◆ www.thinkuknow.org.au

Social Media Age Restrictions

Did you know in Australia, the legal age for having a social media account on most platforms is now 16. The Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024 mandates that platforms take reasonable steps to prevent users under 16 from creating or holding accounts. This law, which came into effect on December 10, 2024, aims to protect young people from potential online harms.

Let's continue working together to support our children to grow up safe, confident, and connected. Please use the following link [eSafetyCommissioner - Social Media Age Restrictions](#) to support you, your children and families creating and maintaining safer digital spaces for everyone.

Headspace also has some helpful [Information for family about the social media ban](#) to support parents and carers discussing the social media minimum age topic with their children.

Federal Election 2025

Education is an important topic at every election. As we head towards the Federal Election on 3 May 2025, we are asking our families to consider how their votes will benefit the whole community.

It is essential that everybody who cares about Catholic schools understands the key issues. A number of resources are available on [CESA's Federal Election page](#).

Welcoming Our Newest Learners: Little Stars Transition Program

In Week 3 this term, we will be delighted to welcome both new and current families, and most importantly, their children, to St Mary's Memorial School, as we begin the exciting journey of school life together. Starting school is a significant milestone, and we are committed to making this a positive, nurturing, and successful experience for each child and their family.

To support this important transition, we are excited to introduce the expansion of our transition to school program with a fresh new name, Little Stars. This engaging program is designed to help our youngest learners feel confident, connected, and ready to shine as they begin their school journey. It is a specially designed experience to help children develop socially and emotionally, become familiar with classroom routines, and begin building a strong sense of belonging within our school community.



Grounded in the Early Years Learning Framework, the program emphasises learning through play and promotes five key learning outcomes:

- A strong sense of identity
- Connection and contribution to their world
- A strong sense of wellbeing
- Confidence and involvement in learning
- Effective communication

Through evidence-based, play-based learning, the program nurtures children's natural curiosity, creativity, and imagination.

The Little Stars Transition Program will run on Fridays during Term 2, beginning Week 3 (Friday, 16 May 2025), and will continue for eight sessions. Families and their children will be warmly welcomed by Mrs Sincock, our Mid-Year Reception Teacher.

As you move around the school on Fridays, keep an eye out for our littlest learners, you'll spot them in navy blue polo shirts with a cute Little Stars logo on the back! We're sure our school community will make them feel right at home and help support their transition into our beautiful school.

We look forward to a wonderful term of joyful learning and new beginnings.

Earth Savers in Action

What began as a thoughtful idea in Term 3 last year has now blossomed into a thriving student-led initiative here at St Mary's Memorial. After months of planning, preparing, and presenting their vision, our Year 2 Earth Savers have officially launched their program this term—and they couldn't be more excited!

With the arrival of their bright new vests, the Earth Savers are now a visible presence in our school yard during recess and lunch breaks. These passionate students take great pride in wearing their jackets and working together to care for our environment. Each day, they patrol the grounds with smiles on their faces and tongs in hand, picking up litter and leading by example.

Their message is simple but powerful: **See it, pick it up.** And it's catching on.

The ripple effect of their efforts is already being felt, with other students noticing their work and beginning to think about how they, too, can contribute to keeping our school—and our planet—clean, tidy, and cared for.

Inspired by Pope Francis' call to action in *Laudato Si'*, the Earth Savers are living out their mission to protect our common home, one small action at a time. We're so proud of their commitment, and we can't wait to see how this movement continues to grow.



We were delighted to host a brief whole school gathering on Monday 28 April, bringing students and staff together to begin the week with a sense of connection and purpose. These gatherings will continue each Monday morning at 8:45am (weather permitting) on the courts and will include brief news, updates, and reminders to help us all start the week well.

Thank you to all families, staff, and students for your support and warm participation. And to all the incredible mothers, grandmothers, and special women in our community, we wish you a joyful and love-filled Mother's Day on Sunday, 11 May.

A few key dates for your diaries include:

- Wednesday May 7 at 7:00pm – SMMS Community Group meeting
- Thursday 8 May – Mother's Day Stall
- Friday 9 May - Mother's Day Coffee Van onsite
- Week 3, May 11-17 - Catholic Education Week
- Wednesday May 14 – Principal School Tours
- Friday May 16 – Walk to School Day
- Week 4, May 19-25 - National Volunteers Week and Laudato Si Week
- Thursday May 22 - National Simultaneous Reading Time
- Friday 30 May - Sausage Sizzle, SMMS Community Group
- Tuesday 10 June, Pupil Free Day – No OSHC available
- Wednesday 17 August - School Photo Day

Mrs Sonja Smith
Principal

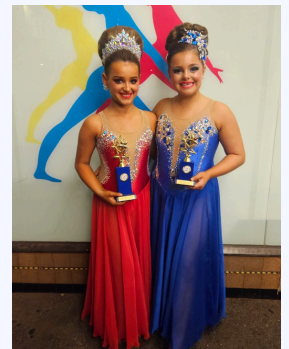


Congratulations to Harper S and Harper N



We are proud to celebrate Harper S and Harper N, who recently competed in the 2025 Graceful Girl Solo Competition in the Junior 11 Years Division 1 category. Between them, they earned an impressive 2nd place and an Honourable Mention!

Well done to both girls on their success! Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to calisthenics are truly commendable. We are proud of your achievements and the way you represent our school with grace and determination.



PUPIL FREE DAY

TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 2025

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WILL BE NO OSHC SERVICE PROVIDED DUE TO ALL STAFF PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING.

FROM THE APRIM

Welcome to Term 2!

I hope the long weekends within the school holidays gave you opportunities to spend quality time with family and friends.

Easter is my favourite time of year. I really enjoy remembering the sacrifices Jesus made for us during Holy Week and then the beauty and simplicity of Holy Saturday where light is brought into to brighten the darkness most often symbolised through the bringing in of a new Paschal candle into the church building. And of course Easter Sunday and the joy of the risen Christ.

With all of this falling right in the middle of the school holidays, as St Mary's Memorial School we honoured these special Church days here at school both the week before and the week after their actual days.

This began with our beautiful little Reception children presenting the Stations of the Cross on our last day of school, Friday, exactly one week prior to Good Friday when this story is traditionally told. Our school body sang beautifully throughout the Stations. Our Year 4 children honoured Mary and the suffering she went through as her son was treated so badly, through a moving liturgical dance. A group of Year 6 children supported the Reception children and lead the narration and slides to complete a moving presentation for our community.

When we returned to school a week after Easter Sunday, thanks to the Parent Community Group, every child was treated to an Easter Egg through a fun Easter Egg hunt. The children were challenged to save their Easter egg wrapper, which now makes an Easter sign to celebrate the Easter Season and the fact that Jesus has risen:

“He is risen”

(Matthew 28:6)

On Tuesday we celebrated a joy filled Easter Mass with Fr John and the Glenelg Parish. Again, the singing was beautiful and, as always, the respect our children displayed through our celebration was something to be proud of. Our readers, altar servers and children in processions did a wonderful job and 3A lead the actions of our final hymn.

When Mass had finished the winners of the 44 Easter raffle prizes were announced and the winners of the Project Compassion fundraiser. All up, thanks to your generous donations of money and Easter prizes, our school raised \$4337 for Project Compassion. This means that many poor communities around the world will become healthier, happier and safer places because of what you have done for them.

THANK YOU!

During our Easter Mass Fr John reflected on the life of Pope Francis, remarking that for him to be able to give the Easter Blessing, and in fact be absolutely determined to be out with the people when so unwell, and then die on Easter Monday seemed a wonder in itself. Easter is a time that Christ promises life everlasting; our whole faith rest in the life giving promise of Jesus Christ. We all pray that Pope Francis is now celebrating that joy with Jesus himself. I finish here with the words Pope Francis said on Easter Sunday:

**“Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter.
Blessed be God almighty, part of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Joy and blessings,

Tamara Smith
tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au



PRAYER



SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



SACRAMENT PROGRAM

This program last year and in Term 1 with Reconciliation and the program will continue in Term 2 with Confirmation and first Holy Communion in Term 3.

Dates for workshops this term have not yet been set.

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

The Sacramental Program will now continue in Term 2 for those who have received Reconciliation.

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.

MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

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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.

Here is an outline of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar for Term 2. Please note that the times for these Masses may, or may not, change.

Week 2	No Mass	
Week 3	Catholic Education Week Mass	Tue 9:30am
Week 4	Year 6 Mass	Tue 9:30am
Week 5	Year 5 Mass	Tue 9:30am
Week 6	Year 4 Mass Pentecost Parties	Tue 9:30am Friday
Week 7	No Mass	
Week 8	Year 3 Mass	Tue 9:30am
Week 9	Rec, R1 & Yr 2 Liturgy	Tue 2:30pm TBC
Week 10	No Mass	



**COMMUNITY
PRAYER**

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

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH

**COMMUNITY
PRAYER**

TERM 1 SPORTS WRAP-UP & TERM 2 PREVIEW

We've had an action-packed start to 2025, with our students proudly representing St Mary's Memorial School across a range of SAPSASA and SACPSSA events, as well as in extra-curricular sport.

During Term 1, we participated in several SAPSASA carnivals, including Boys Football and State Championship Swimming (Annie H, Jasmine D, Mason B, Grace B). Our students demonstrated great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout these events.

We also had a fantastic day at the SACPSSA Swimming Carnival, held at Burnside Swimming Centre. Our squad of 34 students competed in the highly competitive Section 1 Division, achieving outstanding results across all year levels. We were crowned Overall Section 1 Girls Champions, along with winning the overall Year 3, Year 4, and Year 5 Girls divisions. A special congratulations goes to Annie H in year 4, who was named Age Champion and broke the girls 50m Breaststroke record. Additionally, our Year 3 Girls relay team (Winnie Q, Ivy H, Isabelle M, Lucy H) set a new record in the 50m Freestyle Relay; a remarkable effort by all involved!



Alongside these carnivals, our extra-curricular sports program thrived, with R-2 Cricket Clinics, after-school Cricket, Basketball, and the launch of our very first Gather Round Football competition. As part of the Gather Round celebrations, we are thrilled to share that two Year 3/4 teams, a Year 5/6 Boys team and a Year 5/6 Girls team all represented our school proudly. Both Year 5/6 teams had the privilege and exciting opportunity to play pre-game at Adelaide Oval during the Hawks vs Port match as part of the AFL's Gather Round festivities. Included in those festivities Matilda Tonon a Reception student was chosen to play during the Adelaide vs Geelong game, she ended up with 3 possessions including a GOAL!



We would like to extend a huge thank you to all our families and volunteers. Your continued support, time and dedication make opportunities like these possible, and we are so grateful to have such an amazing St Mary's Memorial School community.

Looking ahead to Term 2, we are gearing up for an even bigger term of sport. Students will have the chance to participate in SACPSSA Netball Carnivals for Years 3–6, as well as the Boys Basketball Carnival. Through SAPSASA, students will participate in Netball, Cross-Country and Soccer competitions.

Our Winter Sports program has seen a fantastic response with strong participation across Netball, AFL, Soccer and Basketball, and we are excited to continue offering opportunities like the Tuesday afternoon SANFL Clinics for our Junior Primary students.

We are very much looking forward to another wonderful term of sport at St Mary's Memorial School, filled with great competition, teamwork and school spirit!

Tristan Sharrock
HPE Teacher & Sports Coordinator



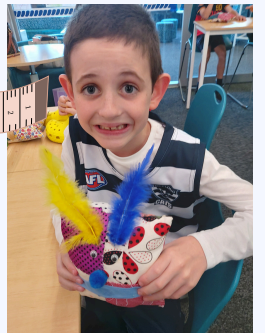
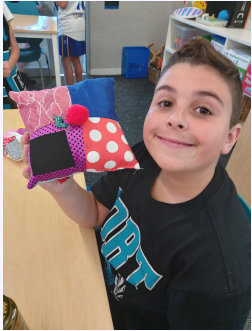
YEAR ONE TOY INCURSION



Year One students were so excited to have a visit from the Australian Museum of Childhood. They were thoroughly engaged in discovering toys from the past and investigating the forces that help them move. What a fantastic way to apply and challenge our learning in Science and History.



YEAR 5S ARE "SEW" GREAT!

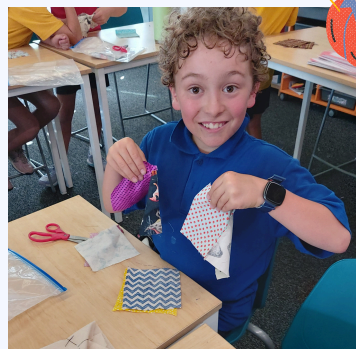


As part of our Design and Technology unit on the characteristics and properties of materials and fibres and how these are used to create products, students in 5S spent time classifying different types of fabric. They also investigated how Australia produces cotton to provide some of the resources needed for clothing production.

And then the fun commenced with students planning, designing and sewing a sensory pillow from a range of fabrics. Everyone demonstrated persistence and resilience when practising their stitching on calico; threading needles and constructing their pillows.



The classroom resembled a high end fashion house with bits of material, hobby fill, cotton, buttons and feathers flying around! The end product, however, was amazing! Year 5S would like to thank Anne for her sewing machine support and Alison for her endless supply of material.



FROM THE FINANCE MANAGER

Updated statements will be issued at the end of week 2, term 2. Please contact finance@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au with any questions you have regarding your account including payment options.

School Card

If you think you may be eligible for School Card in 2025 or have received School Card in previous years and need to reapply for the current year. Please follow the link <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

Thank you,
Jennifer Ashfield

KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

Have you changed your email, mobile number, home address, or had any medical updates for your child?

It's important that we have the most up-to-date information to ensure we can contact you when needed and support your child's wellbeing.

Please contact the school office via email to info@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au to update your details. Thank you for helping us keep our records current!

LUNCH ORDER PROVIDER UPDATE



You may have noticed a small change when placing lunch orders through the Qkr! app – our lunch provider (previously Saucy Sweet) has updated their business name to **Rim Thang**, which means street food in Thai.

While the name has changed, there are no changes to the menu or the way lunch orders are placed. Orders will continue through the Qkr! app as usual, and students will enjoy the same fresh and tasty options they've come to love.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to another great term of school lunches!

UNIFORM CHANGE-OVER

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

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:

TUESDAY 2:45 - 4:00pm
THURSDAY 2:45 - 4:00pm

For any further queries, please contact
Noone Uniforms: (08) 7095 2534
Online Orders: www.noone.com.au
Email: cumberlandpark@noone.com.au



SAUSAGE SIZZLE LUNCH

Friday 30th May

\$3.50

for one



\$5

for two



Qkr opens Monday 5 May

Order via the Qkr  App

Orders CLOSE 5pm Tuesday 27th May

**Remember to select individual child's profile*



PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMUNITY

Celebrating Mother's Day at SMM

MAY
Thursday 8th

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

Each class will have a designated time to visit the Mother's Day Stall with their teacher.

GIFT PRICES
\$4 - \$5 - \$6

MAY
Friday 9th

COFFEE VAN

Free Coffee for Mums!

A coffee van is on-site grab your free coffee and enjoy!

See you at 8:30am



PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMUNITY

Scholastic Book Club orders open until 19/5/25
ORDER ONLINE ONLY
(click on image for instructions)



ART COMPETITION

DATE: 18 MAY 2025
TIME: 2.30PM - 4.30PM
WHERE: ST. DOM'S HALL

FOR 5-15
YEARS OLD

In this month of May come and spend an afternoon drawing, painting and coloring pictures and images of Mother Mary in the love you see of a mother

Let your creativity be seen through this competition.

Snacks will be provided.
Parents welcome.

PRIZE FOR WINNERS!

Winners will be selected and will receive exciting prizes.

FREE REGISTRATION
Contact the parish office
8294 1888

2 MAY 2025

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL



ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL 2025 TERM 2 CALENDAR

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY SUNDAY
Week 1	April 28	April 29 Easter Mass Whole School 9.30am	April 30	May 1	May 2 Community Prayer & ANZAC Day Commemoration – 8:45pm on the Courts.	May 3 May 4
Week 2	May 5	May 6 SAPSASA KO Netball Rd 1 – Yr 6 Yr 4 Air-Raid Excursion	May 7 7.00pm SMM Community Group Meeting	May 8 Mothers Day Stall	May 9 Community Prayer Assembly – Yr 3 Coffee Van SMMSCG	May 10 May 11 Mother's Day
Week 3 CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK	May 12	May 13 Whole School Mass 9.30am Tasty Treat Tuesday	May 14 9:30-10:30AM – Principal's School Tour	May 15	May 16 Community Prayer Walk to School Day "Little Stars" Transition Visit	May 17 May 18
Week 4 NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK & LAUDATO SI WEEK	May 19	May 20 Mass – Yr 6	May 21	May 22 National Simultaneous Reading Time	May 23 Community Prayer Assembly – Year 2 "Little Stars" Transition Visit	May 24 May 25
Week 5 RECONCILIATION WEEK	May 26 National Sorry Day Beacon Hill College Choir	May 27 Mass – Yr 5	May 28	May 29	May 30 Community Prayer Sausage Sizzle SMMSCG "Little Stars" Transition Visit	May 31 June 1
Week 6	June 2	June 3 Mass – Yr 4 Tasty Treat Tuesday	June 4	June 5 World Environment Day	June 6 Community Prayer Pentecost Parties "Little Stars" Transition Visit	June 7 June 8 Pentecost
Week 7	June 9 Kings Birthday – Public Holiday	June 10 Pupil Free Day – No OSHC Available	June 11	June 12 SACPSSA Basketball Yrs 5 & 6 Competition	June 13 Community Prayer Knock-out Soccer – Yr 6 "Little Stars" Transition Visit	June 14 June 15
Week 8	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20 Community Prayer "Little Stars" Transition Visit	June 21 SMMSCG QUIZ NIGHT June 22
Week 9	June 23	June 24 Mass – Yr 3 Tasty Treat Tuesday	June 25	June 26	June 27 Community Prayer Assembly - Receptions SACPSSA Netball Yrs 3-6 Carnival "Little Stars" Transition Visit	June 28 June 29
Week 10	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4 Community Prayer PJ Day – St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal "Little Stars" Transition Visit	July 5 July 6 NAIDOC WEEK BEGINS

* PLEASE NOTE, EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY CHANGES WILL BE COMMUNICATED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

2 MAY 2025