

NEWSLETTER

4 JULY 2025
TERM 2, WEEK 10

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A Prayer Celebrating Our Children

Loving God,

We give thanks for the uniqueness of every child in our school community.

For the gifts, talents, and special qualities each one brings, we celebrate with joy.

May we always nurture their strengths, encourage their growth, and support them through challenges.

Help us to see and honour the beauty in their differences, and to create a place where every child feels valued, loved, and inspired to shine.

Guide us as a community to walk together in kindness, respect, and hope.

Amen.

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

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation

On Tuesday, 24 June, we had the wonderful honour of joining together for a special celebration as several of our students received the Sacrament of Confirmation with Fr John.

This important ceremony marks a significant step in the faith journey of our young people. Confirmation is a sacred sacrament in which the candidates receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, strengthening their relationship with God and empowering them to live as active members of the Church community.

We congratulate all the children who took part in this meaningful celebration and thank Fr John for leading the ceremony with grace and warmth. It was a truly memorable occasion for the students, their families, and our whole school community.



*Santiago
Martin
Noah
Charlie
Madeline
Daniel
Randinu*

*Elizabeth
Louise
Eva
Austin
Celeste
Thomas*

*Emanuella
Luca
Jayden
William
Monique
Ned
Hamish*

May the gifts received at Confirmation continue to guide and inspire these young people throughout their lives.

Congratulations to Our SACPSSA Netball Teams

A huge congratulations to all involved in last Friday's SACPSSA Netball Carnival, where our Year 3–6 students participated in a fantastic and successful day.

With 239 students, 24 teams, 17 staff, and 11 volunteers taking part, it was a wonderful demonstration of teamwork, skill, and school spirit.

Special thanks to Mr Tristan Sharrock, our amazing Health & PE teacher, and Mr Paul Robinson, ESO Sports Coordinator, for their incredible efforts in planning and coordinating this event. Their dedication made the day possible and truly memorable for our students.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to the parents for their wonderful support, from cheering enthusiastically on the sidelines to coaching teams. Your involvement played a vital role in the day's success.

Well done to everyone involved.

Celebrating a Fantastic Quiz Night

We are thrilled to share the success of the recent 2025 St Mary's Memorial School Quiz Night, hosted at Sacred Heart College by our incredible School Community Group.

Thanks to the amazing efforts of Chantele, Jennie, Kathryn, Des, Angela, and the entire team, the evening was a wonderful celebration of community spirit, connection, and fun. Their dedication and hard work, from organising and coordinating, sourcing donations and sponsors, to managing the event on the night, ensured everything ran smoothly and made the night truly memorable.

It was heartening to see so many parents and community members come together, creating a vibrant atmosphere full of laughter and friendly competition. Even though our staff table didn't top the leaderboard, we thoroughly enjoyed being part of the evening.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, your commitment and enthusiasm are deeply appreciated and vital to the life of our school community.

Well done, and we look forward to more fantastic events together.



Student Academic Reports

Families should have received their child's academic report on Monday, 30 June. It has been a genuine pleasure to read through all the reports this year, supported by our School Quality Performance Team. The reports clearly reflect the progressive growth of our students from the start of the school year.

With two terms still ahead, our students have many further opportunities to continue growing and improving across all learning areas.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated teaching staff for their ongoing commitment to providing excellent teaching and learning opportunities. Their efforts engage students in rich, rigorous, and diverse learning experiences every day.

A special acknowledgement goes to Tammy Patterson, our Leader of Learning, for the exceptional work she has undertaken to support our teachers and ensure a smooth process for delivering academic reports to parents.

Please remember to book your Parent-Teacher Interview for Week 2 next term to discuss your child's progress and report in detail.

Staffing Update

I would like to inform our school community that Cathy Regester has formally submitted her resignation, with her final day at St Mary's Memorial School to be Friday, 18 July 2025.

Cathy has been a valued member of our school since 1997, and her contribution has had a lasting impact on students, families, and colleagues. In addition to her work at St Mary's Memorial School, Cathy has shared her expertise more broadly across Catholic Education, including with the Catholic Education Office SA and during her time at St Paul's in Mildura.

We are sincerely grateful for Cathy's longstanding commitment to Catholic education and for the care and dedication she has shown during her time with us. While Cathy is currently on leave, we will ensure her valuable contribution is formally acknowledged.

I have also communicated this update to Fr John Herd and the Chair of the School Advisory Board, Christina Marsden.

While we work through the transition following Cathy's resignation, Desiree Henthorn, Deputy Principal, will be the main point of contact for all matters relating to students with disabilities, including questions, enquiries, and associated work.

Welcome to Our New ESO Team Member

We are delighted to welcome Mr Harry Francis to our Education Support Officer (ESO) team. Harry is a recent graduate of Sacred Heart College and will begin his tertiary studies at UniSA later this year. He also brings valuable experience through his involvement in the senior program at Glenelg Football Club.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Harry to our fantastic ESO team at St Mary's Memorial School.

Celebrating Our Little Stars

Today our newest learners, the St Mary's Little Stars complete their 8-week Transition to School Program.

Over the past term, they've embraced each session with excitement, building confidence, friendships, and a sense of belonging. Led by their teacher, Mrs Louise Sincok, the program has given them a gentle and positive start to school life.

Wearing their Little Stars t-shirts with pride, they're already part of our community – and we look forward to officially welcoming them as Reception students in Term 3!



Playground Update

We wish to provide an update regarding the playground area that has recently been out of bounds.

With the support of the School Advisory Board and Catholic Education SA, it has been determined that the playground structure cannot be repaired due to ongoing deterioration of the underground supports. As a result, the playground will be removed during the upcoming term break.

Work will commence next week, with Mazzone Construction Group onsite to begin the process. On Monday, 7 July, fencing will be erected to secure the area, and labourers will start dismantling and salvaging timber slats, which will be neatly stacked along the fence. Demolition machinery will arrive on Tuesday, 8 July, to begin the removal of the structure, with all rocks and materials stored or removed safely.

As an interim measure, the area will be cleared of all debris, including the current soft fall, before new soft fall is installed so that the space can be reopened for children to play freely. While we understand this is not ideal, we are committed to ensuring safe play spaces for all students to access.

The recent consultation with staff, students, and the School Advisory Board as part of the School Masterplan will guide the future development of our play spaces.

Vicki Messent, our OSHC Director, has been notified to ensure the safety of all students attending Vacation Care and staff working during this period.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to maintain a safe environment for all.

Wishing all our families a safe, happy, and enjoyable term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back and reconnecting on Monday, 21 July.

A few key dates for your diaries to begin our year include:

- Monday, 21 July – **TERM 2 commences**
- Monday, 28 July – Thursday 31 July, Parent Teacher Interviews
- Thursday, 31 July, 14 & 28 August - Strength Switch Parenting Sessions with Courtney Quigley
- Friday, 8 August – Feast Day / Market of Hope
- Monday, 4 August – Catholic Schools Open Week
- Friday, 22 August – Book Week Parade
- Wednesday, 27 August - School Photo Day
- Friday, 5 September – Pupil Free Day, OSHC available
- Monday, 8 September – Pupil Free Day, OSHC available
- Friday, 19 September – Grand Friends Day

Mrs Sonja Smith
Principal

	Dominican Awards For an excellent attitude towards the Dominican Pillar of Study 27 June 2025	
Aarav Patel	Edward Cranston	Link Chen
Acer Alksne	Ellie Heinrich	Louis Janaway
Addi Wickstein	Ellie Lovering	Madeline Donaldson
Alfie Heinrich	Eve Boughen	Madison Ciartariello
Alice Anderson	Giordana Forte	Makenzie Buob
Ambreen Madhay	Harry Fotkou	Marley Corston
Amelia Vale	Hudson O'Connor	Maya Alksne
Charlie He	Isla Wigg	Mia He
Chloe Catherine	Ivy Frantis	Oliver Davis
Camilleri	Josie Murphy	Phoebe Barendregt
Chloe Hill	Lily Lewis	Piper Barendregt
		Rose Provis
		Sage Purchase
		Seb Pope
		Spencer Bosley
		Tobias Defferrari
		Tom Farrier
		Tui Donoghue
		William Bagwell-Cleg
		William Rasheed
		Yuvaan Sharma
		Zoe Steer

FROM THE APRIM

Since our last newsletter we have entered the part of the Church year called Ordinary Time. With the change of Church Season our school celebrated being ordinary. It is the ordinary and everyday blessings we have that often go unnoticed. Because they are ordinary and every day, we overlook how fortunate we are for them and perhaps don't give thanks as often as we should.

In our lives there are moments when we gain a new sense of wonder and awe for the ordinary blessings we have each and every day.

So, what is Ordinary Time. It is easier to start by saying what it is NOT. It is not Easter or Lent or Christmas or Advent.

It IS all the time in between. It is a celebration of all the things Jesus did throughout His time walking on earth as a human, just like us. While we call this time ordinary, the ordinary life of Jesus is anything but. It is the time Jesus taught us to love, to forgive, to welcome. He healed, performed miracles and went to many celebrations. He built community and shows all of us how to live good, loving lives. There is nothing ordinary about this.

I will now spend the rest of my newsletter space to celebrate the ordinary things that have been happening around our school ... or should I say extraordinary?!

Let us remember that the ordinary things of life can be extraordinary blessings.

Joy and blessings,
Tamara Smith



PRAYER

ORDINARY TIME

Dear God,
 Help us to be grateful for all the ordinary things in our lives.
 We pray for the millions around the world
 who are not able to enjoy the simple things we do each day
 those in war zones
 those who live rough
 those who are denied the right to an education
 those who are hungry
 and those who struggle with health.
 Help us to follow the example of Jesus
 Who is the way the truth and the light
 We make our ordinary prayer
 In the name of Jesus
 ALL: AMEN

SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

Here is an outline of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar for Term 3. Please note that the times for these Masses may, or may not, change.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MASS START TIME

Week 1	No Mass	
Week 2	No Mass	
Week 3	Feast Day Whole school Mass	9am Friday
Week 4	Year 4 Mass Feast of the Assumption of Mary	9:30am Tuesday
	Holy Day of Obligation Community Prayer	8:45am Friday
Week 5	Year 3 Mass	9:30am Tuesday
Week 6	Year 1 & 2O & 2H Mass	9:30am Tuesday
Week 7	Year 6 RC & RM	9:30am Tuesday
Week 8	No Mass	
Week 9	Year 5 & 2S & RS	9:30am Tuesday
Week 10	No Mass	

SACRAMENT PROGRAM

Congratulations to those children who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation.



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

The new Sacramental Program begins in Term 4. 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

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.



COMMUNITY
PRAYER

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

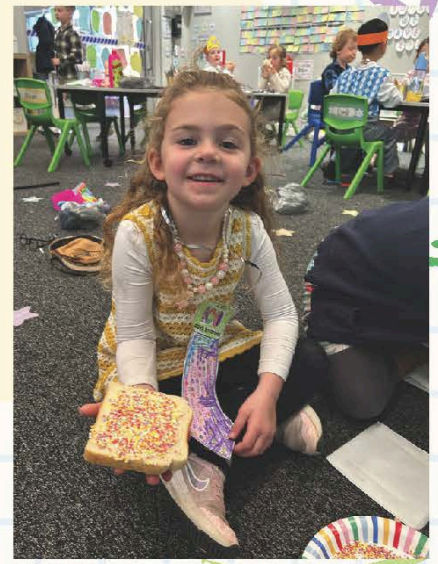
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH

COMMUNITY
PRAYER

100 DAYS OF Reception



The Reception students have reached 100 days of school! To celebrate, we came to school dressed as '100 year olds' and participated in a range of activities involving 100! We are so proud of their efforts and growth over the last two terms!



TERM 2 SPORTS WRAP-UP

What an incredible Term 2 it's been for sport at St Mary's Memorial! From SAPSASA and SACPSSA competitions to after-school sport, our students have been active, engaged, and full of school spirit. A huge thank you to all the staff, families, and community members who have contributed their time and energy to making these opportunities possible. Here's a look at what we've been up to:

SAPSASA Cross Country

Following our District Cross Country event, we were thrilled to have Year 6 student Allegra selected to represent our district at the SAPSASA State Championships. She did a brilliant job on the day, and we are incredibly proud of her efforts and sportsmanship!

SAPSASA Netball Carnival

We hit the ground running this term with our Year 6 girls competing in the SAPSASA Netball Carnival. It was a competitive and exciting day, and the girls demonstrated outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship. A huge congratulations to Year 6 Girls Ivy, Avy, and Grace who were selected to represent our district team and went on to win the State Championship Carnival overall! What a remarkable achievement!

SAPSASA & Knock Out Soccer

This term saw the launch of our first Knockout (KO) and SAPSASA Soccer teams, with 24 students (12 boys and 12 girls) representing SMMS. It was a high-energy day full of action-packed games, skill-building, and plenty of fun. Students played 4–5 games each, giving their all and representing the school proudly.

SACPSSA Basketball Carnival

Our competitive basketball team of 8 Year 5/6 boys headed to the Wayville State Basketball Centre to compete against 15 other schools. In our first year in the competition, the team finished 7th overall, winning 3 out of 5 games, a fantastic achievement and an exciting sign of things to come.

SACPSSA Netball Carnival

What a day! All of our Year 3–6 students participated in the Netball Carnival at Netball SA Stadium. With 238 students, 17 staff, and countless community volunteers, the day was a vibrant celebration of participation, movement, and fun. It was wonderful to see hundreds of smiling faces, active bodies, and teams working together, sport at its absolute best!

After-School Sports

Our after-school sports programs have continued to thrive, with Basketball, Netball, Soccer, and AFL teams all enjoying success, development, and plenty of fun. Even our Auskick players were treated to a visit from some AFL Adelaide Crows stars, a highlight for our youngest footy fans!

Due to our involvement with the SANFL this year, the Year 5/6 students and our Aus-kickers took part in the SANFL Mini League Half Time Experience at Glenelg Oval. The day included a Q&A with Glenelg players, a parade and guard of honour before the match, and a half-time game against McAuley Community School on the main oval. A huge thank you to Glenelg FC and SANFL for the opportunity, and to the parents who helped out on the day!

Thank you to the many parents and caregivers who support these programs, from coaching and managing to simply being there each week. Your involvement is vital and so appreciated.

Looking Ahead to Term 3

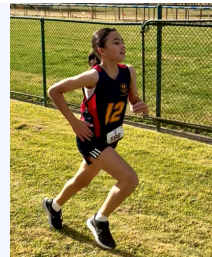
Term 3 promises to be just as exciting, with the following coming up:

- Year 3–6 Cross Country Carnival training is well underway!
- SAPSASA Athletics Day for Year 5/6 students
- SACPSSA Touch Football Carnival for Year 5/6 students

Stay tuned for updates and more opportunities for our students to grow, move, and shine through sport!

Thank you again for your support and encouragement of our sporting programs, here's to an energetic and exciting Term 3 ahead!

Tristan Sharrock
HPE Teacher & Sports Coordinator



Proud Moments from Our Students



Congratulations to Mabel!

We are so proud of Mabel (Yrs 3M) for being selected to represent Calisthenics SA in the Sub Junior State Team at the upcoming Aust Cali Carnivale! She also achieved an incredible 4th place in the top division of the Graceful Girl Solo, coached by former St Mary's student Gracie Lovelock.

Amazing work, Mabel!



Celebrating Anika: Our Published Young Author

A huge congratulations to Anika (Yr 4S) on an extraordinary achievement! Anika has written and published her own poetry book, *The Blossoms of Childhood*. She has also been officially recognised as the Youngest Poet in Australia by The Australian Book of Records.

We are so proud of her creativity, dedication and passion for the arts - what an inspiring accomplishment!



Go Ollie!

Hi fives to Ollie, who recently won three titles in Darwin – the NT J500 Under 12 Singles, Under 12 Doubles, and the Under 12 Rafa Nadal Masters.

A fantastic achievement following his strong performance at the Australian Teams Championship on the Gold Coast.

Next stop: Brisbane! Keep it up, Ollie – we're cheering you on!

AWESOME!

Awesome Max!

A massive congratulations to Max (Yr 4S), whose amazing artwork was published in the latest edition of K-Zone magazine!

We're so proud of your creativity, Max - what a fantastic achievement!



Well done Caolan!

A big shoutout to Caolan (Yr 3W) for completing his first Martial Arts grading and earning his next belt with a 2nd grade award!

He was so proud of his achievement - and it's a great reminder that every step forward brings us closer to our goals.



ALLIED HEALTH PROVIDERS - REMINDER

As communicated to families on 12 May, via email, Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) has issued a directive requiring all Catholic schools, including St Mary's Memorial School, to implement a new process for how privately engaged service providers, such as allied health professionals and music tutors access and operate within school settings.

This updated process is designed to support inclusive practices and ensure that all students learn and thrive in a safe, respectful environment.

The new requirements will take effect from the beginning of Term 3.

Please refer to our email for further information.

OSHC NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well.

We would like to inform you of an important change to our Before School Care booking process, effective from Term 3. To ensure we remain compliant with our legal staffing ratio requirements, all morning bookings must now be finalised by 3:00pm each Friday for the following week.

As part of our compliance obligations, we are required to maintain a 1:15 staff-to-child ratio, with at least one qualified educator present. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate casual or last-minute bookings, as we cannot call in additional staff at short notice.

For example, on Tuesday morning this week, we had 28 children booked in by 7:00am, but 44 children attended. This unexpected increase put us at risk of non-compliance and created significant pressure on our staff and program.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and supportive environment for all children by ensuring bookings are made in advance.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Regards,
Vicki

FINANCE OFFICE UPDATE

Mid-year fee statements have now been posted home. Please note that two-thirds of the total amount invoiced in February is now due, unless you are on an approved payment arrangement.

We kindly ask families to review their statements carefully. For any questions regarding payments or charges, please don't hesitate to contact the Finance Office at finance@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you for your attention and ongoing support.

UNIFORM SHOP

The on-site 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

THE STRENGTH SWITCH PARENTING COURSE



PRESENTED BY COURTNEY QUIGLEY
Visible Wellbeing, Facilitator & Coach



We invite you to come together for this **three-workshop series**, with other parents from our school community and learn how to tap into your strengths to help both you and your children flourish in life.

St Mary's Hall

9:00am – 10:30am

Thursday, 31 July

Thursday, 14 August

Thursday, 28 August

THIS PARENTING COURSE RUNS OVER THREE SEPARATE SESSIONS. EACH SESSION IS DIFFERENT, AND ATTENDING ALL THREE PROVIDES THE FULL EXPERIENCE.

St Mary's Memorial School is excited to offer The Strength Switch Parenting Course, a three-workshop series designed to support and strengthen family connections. Each session focuses on a different topic, and together they offer a complete and practical approach to positive parenting.

To get the most out of the course, we encourage you to attend all three sessions. Click on the link to confirm your attendance at The Strength Switch Parenting Course [Register here](#)

THE STRENGTH SWITCH PARENTING COURSE

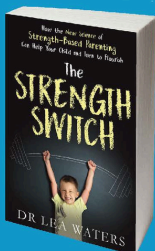
- developed by Professor Lea Waters AM, PhD
Trained Psychologist, Founder - Visible Wellbeing, Honorary Professorial Fellow - University of Melbourne
Bestselling author of THE STRENGTH SWITCH

How can you help your children to thrive by drawing on what's best in them and you?

Based on Professor Lea Waters AM, PhD bestselling parenting book *The Strength Switch*, this course provides you with evidence based strategies to bring strength-based parenting to life. It helps your children to understand themselves and their strengths better, helping them to navigate life's ups and downs.

The research by Dr Waters has linked strength-based parenting to:

- Increased wellbeing and life satisfaction
- Improved grades and academic achievement
- Lower rates of depression and anxiety
- Increased parent satisfaction.



Professor Lea Waters, mother of two and pioneer in the field of positive psychology, designed this course to equip parents with a tool-kit of strategies, as well as the confidence to start practising strength-based parenting at home.

Come together for this three-workshop series, with other parents from our school community and learn how to tap into your strengths to help both you and your children flourish in life.



This Course is proudly presented by
St Mary's Memorial
Facilitated by
Courtney Quigley
Visible Wellbeing, Facilitator and Coach



THE STRENGTH SWITCH PARENTING COURSE

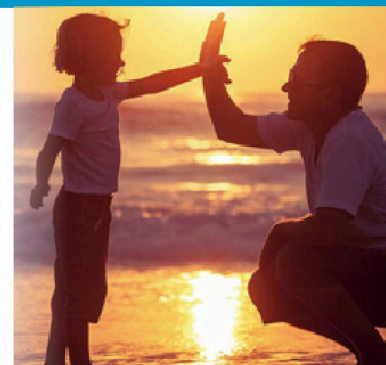
Who is the course for?

Parents of kids of all ages - it's never too early or too late to start applying the principles of strength-based parenting.

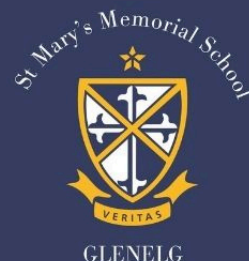
What will I come away with?

- Action plans to help you start to change some of your immediate reactions to certain behaviours at home, focusing more on strengths.
- Confidence in applying the concepts you've learnt having had the opportunity to practise them with other parents.
- Fun activities to do with your kids that strengthen family bonds.
- Expertise from your facilitator for those tricky issues.
- An increased awareness of your strengths and how you can use them during both good and tough times.
- A network of other parents who you can share your journey with.

Dates
Thursday, 31st July
Thursday, 14th August
Thursday, 28th August
TIME:
9:00am, – 10:30am



2025 KEY DATES



TERM 3: Monday, 21 July – Friday, 26 September

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS	Tuesday 28 – Thursday, 31 July
THE STRENGTH SWITCH – COURTNEY QUIGLEY	Thursdays, 31 July, 14 & 28 August
FEAST DAY & MARKET OF HOPE	Friday, 8 August
YEAR 3 CAMP – 1 NIGHT (PER CLASS)	Monday 11 – Wednesday 13, August
BOOK WEEK	Monday 18 – Friday, 22 August
BOOK WEEK PARADE	Friday, 22 August
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY	Wednesday, 27 August
SMMS CG GIN TASTING DAY	Saturday, 30 August
SMMS CG FATHER'S DAY STALL & COFFEE VAN	Thursday, 4 September
PUPIL FREE DAY	Friday, 5 September
PUPIL FREE DAY	Monday, 8 September
SCHOOL DISCO	Friday, 12 September
GRAND FRIENDS DAY	Friday, 19 September

TERM 4: Monday, 13 October – Wednesday, 10 December

YEAR 4 OVERNIGHT CAMP	Tuesday 21 – Wednesday, 22 October
SMMS CG LAWN BOWLS NIGHT	Saturday, 25 October
YEAR 5 CAMP	Monday 3 – Wednesday 5, November
SMMS CG COFFEE VAN MORNING	Friday, 7 November
REMEMBRANCE DAY	Tuesday, 11 November
YEAR 6 CAMP	Monday 24 – Thursday, 27 November
SMMS CG SNOW CONE TREAT	Thursday, 4 December
SMMS CHRISTMAS CONCERT	Friday, 5 December
END OF YEAR MASS	Tuesday, 9 December
YEAR 6 – LAST DAY AT SMMS	Tuesday, 9 December
END OF TERM FOR YEARS 1–5	Wednesday, 10 December
YEAR 6 GRADUATION LITURGY & GATHERING	Wednesday, 10 December

PLEASE NOTE: Dates and events are subject to change if deemed necessary.