

14 JUNE 2024  
TERM 2, WEEK 7

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Creator God, you are the giver of life.  
Saviour Jesus, you have shown us what it is to love.  
Guiding Spirit, you awaken us to justice.  
Show us how to build a just future, where all people have equal opportunity to belong  
and to flourish in your vitality and love.  
(Refugee Week, 16-22 June, 'Finding Freedom: Family')*

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

### MAINTAINING A HEALTHY WORK-LIFE BALANCE FOR OUR DEDICATED STAFF

I would like to take a moment to discuss the importance of maintaining a healthy work-life balance for our dedicated teaching staff. We deeply value the professional and positive relationships we share with our parents and families and believe that fostering these relationships is key to providing the best educational experience for your children.

Teaching is a nuanced and demanding profession that extends far beyond the hours spent in the classroom. Our educators consistently dedicate numerous hours outside the regular school day to plan lessons, mark assignments, assess student progress, and report on each child's growth. These efforts are crucial in ensuring that every student receives the personalised and high-quality education they deserve.

However, it is equally important to recognise that our teachers have lives outside of school. They are not only educators but also parents, spouses, friends, and community members. Balancing their professional responsibilities with their personal lives is essential for their well-being and for sustaining their passion for teaching.

To support this balance, staff work hours entail a normal working day, Monday to Friday. While we strive to be proactive in our communication with families and aim to respond to correspondence within 48 hours, any communication, meetings, or correspondence outside of regular work hours will be at the discretion of the individual staff member. I kindly ask that you thoughtfully consider the necessity and frequency of emails sent to teachers to help manage their workload effectively. Sometimes, a conversation might be a more appropriate way to communicate. We can schedule these at a mutually suitable time to work together in supporting your child.

Our commitment to providing your child with the best educational experience remains unwavering. Our exceptional staff will continue to ensure the safety of our students, nurture positive relationships, utilise data to inform instruction, and maintain a supportive and engaging learning environment.

## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday, 18 June**  
Year 3 Mass @ 9:30am

**Thursday, 20 June**  
Community Prayer

**Friday, 21 June**  
Whole School Assembly - Yr 3  
Mid-year Reception Transition Visit 3  
Year 4 Parent Social Night (SMMSCG)

**Tuesday, 25 June**  
Rec-Yr 2 Liturgy @ 9am  
Tasty Treat Tuesday Cookies

**Thursday, 27 June**  
Community Prayer

**Friday, 28 June**  
Morning Coffee Van on site (SMMSCG)  
Mid-year Reception Transition Visit 4

**Tuesday, 2 July**  
Yr5/6 SACPSSA Netball Carnival

**Wednesday, 3 July**  
Sausage Sizzle Lunch - SMMSCG

**Thursday, 4 July**  
Community Prayer

**Friday, 5 July**  
Whole School Assembly - Yr 1  
LAST DAY OF TERM 2

We encourage parents to continue providing their love and support to both our students and staff. Your involvement and understanding play a significant role in the success of our educational community. We are thrilled at every opportunity to work alongside such a wonderful community and look forward to an amazing second half of the year filled with growth, learning, and achievement.

Thank you for your continued support.

## SEMESTER ONE ACADEMIC REPORTS AND PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

In the last School Newsletter, I provided some information about your child/ren continuing to be engaged with high-quality learning across the curriculum. On Monday, 1 July, they will bring home their Semester One Academic Report, which details their learning progress and achievements for the first half of the year.

Below is some more information for you to gain a further understanding about the purpose, structure, curriculum areas and progressive reporting.

### Purpose of Reports:

End-of-semester reports serve as vital tools for assessing your child's academic progress, offering insights into their strengths and areas for improvement. These reports provide a comprehensive snapshot of your child's performance across various subject areas based on the Australian Curriculum standards.

### Report Structure:

Students will receive an A-E grade for each academic area (Working Towards, Working At, Working Beyond for Grade Reception). Grades are assigned based on an on-balance judgement against each learning area of the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standard (Version 9); the mandated curriculum followed across schools in South Australia.

CESA Performance Standards and moderation also assist in the grade-assignment process, supporting the on-balance judgement decision-making. More information about the curriculum can be found on the ACARA website [Australian Curriculum - Learning Areas](#).

Curriculum Areas on Semester Reports in 2024 as per the Australian Curriculum:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts (Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts)
- Technologies (Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies)
- Languages (Japanese)

In previous years, St Mary's Memorial School has split some curriculum areas into different subjects. For example, 'The Arts' was reported as Visual Arts, Media Arts, Music, Dance, and Drama. This year, curriculum areas will not be separated into the different strands within the one learning area. Students will continue to be engaged and participate in all strands of the learning areas, but the grade received on the end-of-semester report will be reported with combined results under one learning area.

### Progressive Reporting:

A significant change introduced last year is the adoption of progressive reporting. Unlike traditional reporting, where each semester's grades stand alone, progressive reporting accumulates grades across the entire year. This means that your child's end-of-year report will reflect their progress and achievements throughout the year rather than starting anew each semester. Some benefits of progressive reporting are outlined below:

- **Continuous Assessment:** Progressive reporting allows for a more comprehensive assessment of your child's academic growth over time. By tracking progress continuously, teachers can better identify areas where additional support may be needed and tailor instruction accordingly.
- **Holistic Evaluation:** Instead of viewing each semester in isolation, progressive reporting provides a holistic view of your child's learning journey. This long-term perspective enables educators and parents to recognize patterns, strengths, and areas for improvement more effectively.
- **Goal Setting and Monitoring:** With progressive reporting, students can set goals based on their previous achievements and monitor their progress throughout the year. This fosters a sense of ownership and accountability for their learning outcomes.
- **Early Intervention:** By identifying challenges early on and addressing them proactively, progressive reporting supports timely intervention strategies to help students overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.
- **Enhanced Communication:** Progressive reporting encourages ongoing communication between teachers, students, and parents about academic progress. It provides opportunities for constructive feedback and collaborative discussions on how to support each student's individual needs.

The transition to progressive reporting at St Mary's Memorial School reflects our commitment to providing comprehensive, data-informed assessments that support student learning and success. We believe that this approach will empower students to achieve their academic goals and thrive in their educational journey.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

## INVITATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

We are thrilled to invite all families to support the exciting process of developing our new Strategic Plan. Your insights and perspectives are crucial, and we encourage you to participate by completing our online Strategic Questionnaire Survey. This survey takes just 5-10 minutes and provides a fantastic opportunity for you to share your thoughts.

A link to the survey was emailed to all families on Thursday, 30 May. If you did not receive this information, please contact Angela Maisey at [amaisey@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au](mailto:amaisey@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au).

Additionally, over the next week, students in Years 4-6 will have the chance to provide their valuable input through a child-friendly online survey.

Next Wednesday, the School Board will collaborate with Leanne Muffet from Strategic Matters to build on and complement the staff workshops. We are genuinely enthusiastic about this process and its significance in presenting a clear vision for the future of our school and thank you in advance for your valuable contributions.

## LUNCH LIBRARY TIME ACTIVITIES

It's been wonderful to see our school library open during lunchtime, offering students a range of quiet and enjoyable options. Whether diving into new books, getting creative with projects, or even challenging staff to a friendly card game, our library provides a warm and peaceful environment for students to unwind and nurture their love for learning. We encourage all students to take advantage of this opportunity to relax and explore their interests during their lunch breaks



This [letter regarding NCCD](#) (Nationwide Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability) which aims to inform parents about the assessment process and its significance in supporting students with disabilities. It provides clarity on how this data collection helps tailor educational support to meet individual student needs effectively.

A few key dates for your diaries include:

- **PJ Day** - Friday, 5 July
- **School Photo Day** - Wednesday, 28 August
- **School Disco** - Friday, 13 September
- **Grandparents & Special Friends Day** - Thursday, 19 September
- **Sports Day** - Friday, 25 October

Kindest regards,

Sonja Smith  
Principal

St Mary's Memorial School  
GLENELG

## Sibling Enrolments

We encourage families to complete an Application for Enrolment from birth

**\* 2026 CLOSING SOON**

**COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT TODAY!**

Applications open from **2026** and beyond

# FROM THE APRIM

Last week our children began their involvement in 'The Push Up Challenge' for 2024. What this involves is each child in our school completing 7 push ups or star jumps (for our children in Reception to Year 4) each day to make up the 3249 required this year. This challenge is being lead by our Year 6 House Leaders, who have also contributed a positive mental health message for each day of this challenge.

The sad fact is that 3,249 people have died in the last year due to poor mental health and it is our young men who are most at risk. In Australia June has been designated the month of mental health with Men's Mental Health Week running from the 10th to 16th – you may notice staff wearing a green ribbon in recognition of this thanks to ESO Nikki highlighting its' importance in the staffroom.

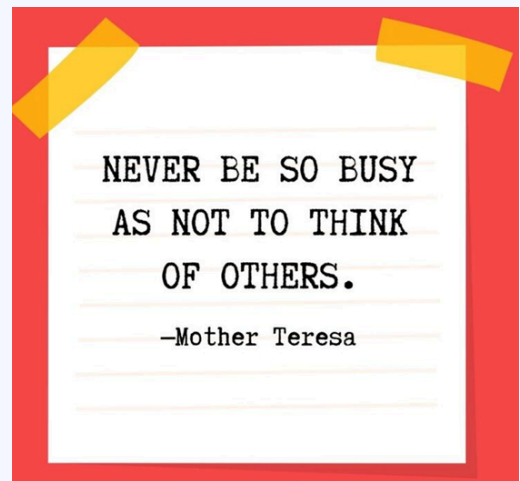
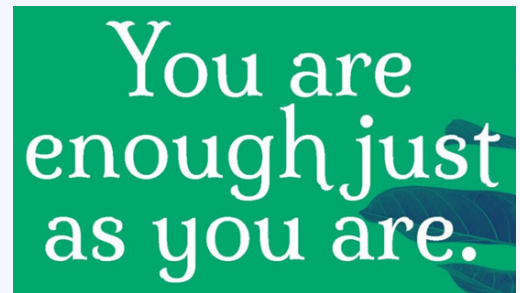
The statistics surrounding poor mental health are alarming and this small, physical act is one way we can highlight the importance positive mental health. Exercise is known to improve mental health, hence the link to push ups. Last year Dave Anderson did the Push Up Challenge himself. I looked back at an interview his class did with him as part of Community Prayer and was alarmed to see that he had to do "only" 3114 push ups – this has increased by 135! This reflects 135 more lives lost!

I think of the quote from St Mary MacKillop *"Never see a need without doing something about it"* and the Dalai Lama *"It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act."* Our community is putting in front of mind, positive mental health and positive physical health. We need to let our children know how to take care of themselves and how to look at world in positive and joyous ways.

We pray for all those struggling with poor mental health, those who care for these people and those who face grief as a result.

Hug your people and let them know they are loved ... and then go out and do some push ups!

Joy and blessings,  
Tamara Smith



## PRAYER

### *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

*Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord  
And where there is doubt true faith in You*

*Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy*

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul*

*Make me a channel of your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
It is in giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we are born to eternal life*

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

The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Patrick O'Regan on Wednesday June 26th at 7pm at Our Lady of Victories Church, Glenelg.

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](mailto:jdherd@hotmail.com)

## SUNDAY GOSPEL QUOTE



*For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.  
Mark 3:35*

## MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

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.

### PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MASS START TIME

Week 8	Year 3 Mass	Tue 9:30am
Week 9	Rec, R1 & Yr 2 Liturgy	Tue 9:00am
Week 10	No Mass	

## 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.

Tamara Smith  
APRIM  
[tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au](mailto:tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au)



## GLENELG CATHOLIC PARISH

*Our Lady of Victories, 13-15 High St, Glenelg SA 5045  
Our Lady of Grace, 36 Beadnall Tce, Glengowrie SA 5044*

Presbytery: 17 High Street, Glenelg  
Office Hours: Mon, Wed-Fri 9am-2pm  
Phone: 08 8294 1888  
Email: [glenelgcp@bigpond.com](mailto:glenelgcp@bigpond.com)  
Web: [www.glenelgcp.com](http://www.glenelgcp.com)

## COMMUNITY PRAYER

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

**OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CHURCH**

# HISTORY

**THIS TERM IN HISTORY OUR 3-6 STUDENTS CONTINUE TO LEARN ABOUT OUR COUNTRY'S STORY OF THE LAND, IT'S PEOPLES AND THE IMPORTANT EVENTS THAT HAVE HELPED TO SHAPE OUR CULTURE AND IDENTITY.**

*The Yr 3s are diving deeper into special days, this term focussing on those celebrations that originated from other countries, such as Diwali, Chinese New Year, St Patrick's Day. A good number of our students have proudly contributed their knowledge and first-hand experiences of these special days to help our learning and understanding of the diverse ways and values associated with these community celebrations.*



*Our Year 4s are continuing their learning about the First Fleet arrival, with a particular focus on what happened when the convicts disembarked, how they got along with the Aboriginal people, and what daily life in Sydney was like in those first months of settlement.*

*For the Yr 5s, the focus has shifted to how the Aboriginal people were impacted by the British, with an emphasis on land dispossession, conflicts, introduction of disease, and the loss of traditional resources and cultural identify.*



*The Yr 6s have become quite curious about the reasons particular 20th century migrant groups came to Australia. The push and pull factors that influenced the migration of these groups have become highly interesting discussion points in our lessons.*

# PJ DAY

## Last day of term

Friday 5th July

Please bring a donation:

- Gold coin (or more)
- Warm woolies - beanies, socks, scarves, gloves, sleeping bags



We have been advised that school lunch provider **THE DAILY FIXX** will be closed for lunch orders on Friday, 21 June 2024.

The Daily Fixx will recommence orders Monday, 24 June 2024.

Orders through **Saucy Sweet Cafe** will operate as normal.

Thank you for your understanding.



**WEDNESDAY  
3RD JULY 2024**

**END OF TERM  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE LUNCH**

**\$3.50 OR 2 FOR \$5.00**

**ORDER VIA** 

**RSVP: MONDAY 1ST JULY 2024**

YEAR 6 GRADUATION FUNDRAISER

# Chocolate Day

Chocolate sales **EVERY FRIDAY** to raise funds for the graduating class of 2024

\$2 for 3 mini chocs

\$1 for regular size choc

Purchases limited to 1 x regular chocolate or 1 x mini bundle only.

Prices and chocolate selection will vary depending on stock.



**YEAR 6 GRADUATION  
WINE DRIVE**

\$30 fundraised from every dozen bottles sold will go towards helping our Year 6 kids have the best graduation ever!

**ORDER BY  
SUNDAY  
30 JUNE**

**PICK UP  
MONDAY  
8 JULY  
31 HYMAN AVE  
EDWARDSTOWN**

SCAN ME



**PURCHASE 12 BOTTLES OF WINE OR SPIRITS TO  
GO IN THE DRAW TO WIN A \$100 VISA GIFT CARD**

wine drive  
FUNDRAISING.MADE.EASY