

CANDELA

St Mary's Primary School, Greensborough

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DEAR FAMILIES,

A Message from Principal Marisa Matthys

Congratulations to our Swimmers

Congratulations to our nine swimmers who competed in the Regional Championships. They certainly all gave their best. Our girls medley team came third as did Zoe D in her backstroke and a third in the girls 11 yr old freestyle. What an amazing effort. A huge congratulations to Charlie W who came first in freestyle and breaststroke. He has now qualified for the State Swimming Championships. We are so proud of him and wish him good luck. Thank you to Fergal and Lisa T for supporting the swimmers.

A Prayer for World Peace

*We pray for the power to be gentle,
the strength to be forgiving,
the patience to be understanding,
and the endurance to accept the
consequences of holding on to what
we believe to be right.*

*May we put our trust in the power
of good to overcome evil
and the power of love to overcome
hatred.*

*We pray for the vision to see and
the faith to believe
in a world emancipated from violence,
a new world where fear shall no
longer lead men or women to
commit injustice,
nor selfishness make them bring
suffering to others*

*Help us to devote our whole life and
thought and energy
to the task of making peace,
praying always for the inspiration
and the power
to fulfill the destiny for which we and
all men and women were created.*

Author Unknown

A Message from Principal Marisa Matthys, continued

Vision Statement

St. Mary's is a dynamic Catholic community of empowered learners engaging justly in the world.

Explicit Teaching of Expected Behaviours

Throughout 2022 we are embedding the behaviours we wish to see our students demonstrate. This week's explicitly taught expected behaviour is [I am respectful when I use friendly language and I can make a positive difference](#). Please talk with your child/ren about the weekly behaviour foci.

First Eucharist

Congratulations to our children who made their first Eucharist last weekend. Thank you to Fr Steve and the Parish and to Laurina Van der EL, Cassie Lia and the Year 3 team for all the preparation for Eucharist and to all teachers and leaders who

supported the First Eucharist children and their families at Masses over the weekend. Our students and their families are in our prayers. We look forward to celebrating Eucharist again with our children and their families this coming weekend.

Working Bee 26th March

The second Working Bee for the year is on Saturday 26th March (Year 6 and Prep). Hopefully the weather will be conducive to achieving a great deal around the school. We look forward to seeing many families attending. We really missed the MAD team in the last two years and finally we can achieve great works for our school. There is much to be done. Many hands make light work. Please meet up at the shed near Father Steve's house at 8.30am.

Urgent Help Needed for the Parents Association

Do you enjoy meeting people? Do you want to make a difference for your child's education? If you answered yes to both questions then the PA is for you. Last week we held the AGM and all reports were read. We congratulated Carley and Emma on their years of service as they stepped down from their roles. We also thanked Angela B and Yvonne G who also stepped down. No parents put their hand up for President, Deputy, Secretary, or General Member. We are in desperate need for help. The PA meet monthly. Thank you to Helen who is our new treasurer. There are so many wonderful ideas and ways to raise money for school improvement and to build community however we need your help to do this. Please email me if you are willing to support the PA principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au

VACPSP Conference

This week I am at Lorne for the VACPSP conference. Laurina van der EL is in charge. The conference theme is 'Hope for Now and Whatever Lies Ahead'. I look forward to sharing my learning with you all upon my return.

Billabong Ranch Camp

I wish all those attending the Year 5 camp this week a safe and happy time. I thank Briar Wagner for all her work in ensuring safety and OH&S risk assessments have been completed. I look forward to hearing about their adventures upon their return. We have 10 staff attending and I am sure everyone will have a wonderful time. Due to staff attendance at camp there will be different teachers and learning support in some classrooms.

Parent Teacher Child Conversations and Goal Setting

On Monday 28th March the students will be dismissed at 12pm to allow time for P/T/C conversations to take place. You will be provided with an opportunity to discuss the testing that took place at the beginning of the term and it is a wonderful opportunity to hear from your child about their successes and areas to work on in their learning. Please book online through Compass. Parents have the option to choose online or face to face. If attending face to face we ask that you are fully vaccinated. Camp Australia will be open from 12pm. To ensure all families have a meeting time, P/T/C Conversations also have a time slot on Tuesday 29th March from 3.45 until 4.45pm with the same face to face or online options.

A Message from Principal Marisa Matthys, continued

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Congratulations and thank you to Emma H and the PA and all parents who assisted at the Bunnings BBQ day. This great fundraiser raised almost \$1000 for St Mary's school. The money raised will go towards purchasing four sport colored marquees to ensure our students and staff are protected from the sun when attending outdoor events. Thank you to the community for raising this money.

Open Day Thursday 17th March

Congratulations to our student leaders who lead the Open Day tours. We had quite a good turn out and the parents were most complimentary of our students and the way they conducted themselves and the tours. Please let your family and friends know that we will be showcasing our amazing school again on Thursday 5th May. Enrolments need to be submitted by May 20th 2022.

Parent Literacy Workshops

I would like to extend my thanks to the parents who attended the Literacy Helpers Course. It was wonderful to see so many parents in attendance. We look forward to welcoming you into the classrooms to support our love and support of Literacy for the students. Congratulations to Laura C and Rebecca M for presenting to the parents.

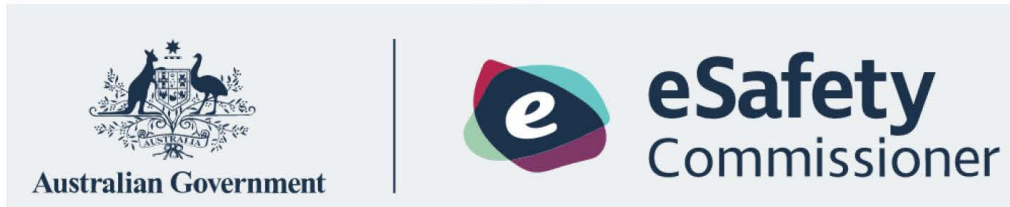
Online Safety

In an effort to prevent online negative behavior happening at home and then impacting relationships at school, Belinda Cheong has provided information and resources further in the Candela. Please read this important information.

Kind Regards,

Marisa Matthys

Principal



*"81% of parents with preschoolers say their children use the internet.
Of these parents, 94% report that their child was using the internet by the age of 4."*

~ eSafety Commissioner - Supervising Preschoolers Online

23-March-2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Latest research from the eSafety Commissioner website indicates the increased time our children are spending online whether it be watching streamed shows or videos, playing games, or accessing social media. St. Mary's is an eSmart school and we are committed to continuing our journey to build an eSmart community in partnership with parents, students and teachers.

We are currently reviewing our P-6 scope and sequence to develop ideas for the explicit teaching about online safety and are ensuring our ICT policies are up to date. We have connected with the Cyber Safety Project, becoming members of their curriculum portal to assist with lesson ideas and resourcing. We are also excited to have the co-founders Sam Macaulay and Trent Ray facilitate a live parent webinar for Cyber Safety and Wellbeing on the 18th July 2022. Registration to this event can be found on the flyer attached to this newsletter!

The [eSafety Commissioner website](#) is an informative, evidence-based resource for all stakeholders. The parents page directs you to issues, skills and advice that should be unpacked with children and directs you to useful resources and webinars that can be accessed for free.

Key Resources for Social Media, Apps and Games:

[Looking after your mental wellbeing on social media](#)

Age limits are imposed on social media apps for the reason that students at a certain age have the understanding, skills and responsibility to navigate through the platform independently (with the support of their family). It is a good idea to protect younger children from online risks, such as encountering harmful content, contact with strangers or missing out on physical activity. It is highly recommended these age restrictions are adhered to, but it is up to you to decide when and how to best support your children as they begin their online journey.

How do I choose age-appropriate content?

Good-quality media can support your child's learning, however it is even better when we know what is the most appropriate. The following sites can help you make informed decisions about your family's choices.

- [Australian Classification Board](#) - online database when reviewing movies and games.
- [Raising Children Network](#) - advice about choosing video games, online games and apps.
- [The Australian Council on the Children and the Media](#) - reviews of movies, apps and games searchable by age and platform.
- [NetAware](#) (UK) - guide to popular social media apps, sites and games, including risks, age recommendations and safety tips.
- [Commonsense Media](#) (US)- database of apps, games and websites searchable by age.
- Check age ratings and consumer advice for apps and games on devices your children use via the App Store or Google Play.

The eSafety Guide

Learn about the latest games, apps and social media, including how to protect your information and report harmful content.

Other Key Resources and Information:

Online Safety Book

Highlights some of the key online safety issues for young people and includes a range of practical tips and advice on what to do if things go wrong. There is also a list of important services that can offer extra support.

Online Safety Act 2021 (commenced January 23 2022)

The new laws protect Australians from serious online abuse, including image-based abuse, child cyberbullying and seriously harmful or dangerous online content. This page provides further information including fact sheets and short videos

Remember the Online Safety Basics

1. Be Engaged, Open and Supportive
2. Set some Rules
3. Use Technology and get Information (use and trial what technology your children are on, set up for privacy, take advantage of parental controls and consider age ratings on apps)

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/online-safety-basics>

If ever needing further clarification or information about eSafety and St. Mary's commitment to being an eSmart school, please feel free to contact the school.

Belinda Cheong
ICT Leader



THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Cyber Safety & Wellbeing Live Parent Webinar

MONDAY 18th July, 2022. 7:30PM – 8:30PM

Registration link : <https://bit.ly/STMARYSG22>

Learn, connect and play safe online

Children today love to play, connect and learn online. This session aims at providing parents and guardians with insights and important information about popular online experiences children are exposed to today. Building a positive and healthy family environment where digital use is encouraged, but managed effectively, can be a tough balance.

Throughout this workshop the Cyber Safety Project Team highlight important settings and parental controls that allow your child to navigate online tools independently and safely. You will uncover proactive tools and strategies for developing fundamental digital safety and wellbeing skills in your young people at home, including ways to seek help when things go wrong online.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- ✓ The Cyber Safety Project
Methodology: *Plan, Prevent & Protect*
- ✓ Social networking trends and safety 101.
- ✓ Managing cyber bullying, help seeking strategies and resources.
- ✓ Parental controls & app privacy settings
- ✓ Cyberbullying and help seeking strategies
- ✓ Establishing and maintaining a safe digital environment in the home.

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT



TRENT RAY
Educator & Microsoft
Learning Consultant



SAM MACAULAY
Educator & Cyber Safety
Curriculum Specialist

Cyber Safety Project
is a Certified Provider
by the Office of the
eSafety Commissioner





On Friday 18th March St. Mary's once again joined more than 6 200 Australian schools by participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). The NDA is an opportunity for schools to deliver the powerful message that bullying is never ok.

The theme for 2022 is Kindness Culture. By building Kindness Culture together, we can promote

inclusion, respect and community belonging for all students. One of the simplest acts of kindness is smiling and there were plenty of those on Friday as students and staff gathered together for a shared lunch and dance party on the Piazza.



The NDA promotes school, parent and community partnerships to build safe, supportive learning environments. A shared definition and understanding of bullying is critical to finding positive and lasting solutions for everyone involved. The national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

*Bullying is an **ongoing** and **deliberate misuse of power** in relationships through **repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour** that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an **individual or a group** misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening. Bullying can happen **in person or online**, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be **obvious** (overt) or **hidden** (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records). Bullying of any form or for any reason can have **immediate, medium and long-term effects** on those involved, including **bystanders**. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.*

Effective practices

- Explicit teaching of **school values** and **positive behaviour**
- Fostering a **positive school climate**
- Integration of **social-emotional learning**
- Proactive support and teaching of **practical strategies**
- **Whole school** and **multifaceted** approaches
- **Involving students and families** in bullying prevention and policy
- Teaching **bystander strategies**
- Being prepared with **effective responses**



What works

Positive teacher-student relationships

- **Respect** for students
- **Shared understanding** of bullying
- Appreciation for **students' perspectives** about their social interactions
- **Consistent, calm and respectful** responses
- A focus on **lasting, positive solutions**



Positive family relationships

- Parenting that is **calm and firm**
- **Proactive discussions** at home about bullying
- Learning about **effective responses**
- A focus on **lasting, positive outcomes**
- **Collaboration** with the school



Families have a key role in preventing and responding to bullying.

Learn what bullying is and what it is not. This is the first step in talking about how to prevent or respond to bullying with your child.

Further information for supporting your child can be found in St. Mary's Anti-Bullying Policy as well as the following websites:

- [Bully Stoppers](#)
- [Bullying. No Way!](#)
- [eSmart](#)

Student of the Week

Prep S

Alexander B-H

For being a very respectful member of Prep .S. Alex you always use encouraging words with your peers. Thanks for your positivity in our classroom.

Eloise I

For always using friendly language with your peers, teachers and friends. Great Job Eloise.

Prep F

Imogen F.

For working so diligently on her sounds at home and in the classroom. You are demonstrating that you are responsible when it comes to your learning.

Xavier S.

For being a respectful member of Prep F, always being a role model to your peers. Well done, Xavier.

Prep K

Willow BW

For showing wonderful listening skills when we are on the mat. You always give your best Willow and I am very proud of the way you are having-a-go at all of your learning tasks.

Leo F

For the respectful and calm way that you participate in our morning meditation. Well done on being able to display whole body listening during our learning time in the classroom.

1MZ

Ava Lucia

For being such a wonderful member of our class. Ava you always contribute to class discussions and work so hard to complete all of your learning tasks. Well done!

Dylan

For being so focused during whole class discussion and working so hard on all of your learning tasks. Well done Dylan!

1B

Winnie A

For always demonstrating the 5 L's and showing respect to your classmates. Well done!

Parker S

For always contributing ideas to our class discussions and working hard in all of your tasks. Great work!

1V

Rose G

For a positive start to your time at St Mary's. Well done Rose. We are so happy to have you in our class!

Olivia B

For the enthusiasm you show towards learning Italian. The sentences you have come up with have been wonderful. Bravo! Keep up the fantastic work Olivia.

2G

Lawrence B

For your hard-working approach and wonderful kind manner towards your classmates. Also, your patience and calmness which helps everyone in our class to feel comfortable working with you. You're a treasure in our class. Keep working hard Lawrence!

Pippa T

For always being open to give all new learning 'a red hot go'. Pippa you also demonstrate a kind and gentle approach towards your classmates and show integrity to speak up on behalf of others to ensure everyone is included. Keep doing wonderful things Pippa!

2HB

Maximus D

For demonstrating respectful listening and a positive mindset in the classroom.

Isabelle S

For the kind and respectful way you look out for those around you. Thank you Isabelle!.

2M

Lexi S

For always showing resilience within the classroom and always having a go. Well done Lexi, keep up the great work!

Jacob A

For always trying your best in class and for consistently working as hard as you can. Keep up the great work Jacob!

3S

Charli Z

For demonstrating a growth mindset and persistence in learning tasks. Well-done Charli!

Anthony Y

For demonstrating enthusiasm and creativity in writing tasks. Your positive energy spreads throughout the class. Great work!

3G

Keira G

For consistently giving your best effort in all learning areas. We can always rely on you to make thoughtful contributions to classroom discussion, from which we all benefit.

Lucy P

For knowing how you learn best and taking the initiative to create the best learning environment possible. You are a responsible learner. Keep up the great work!

3L

Regan F

For being a hard working and caring member of our classroom. Your positivity shines through in everything you do. Keep it up Regan!

Spencer S

For always showing respect and following the 3R's inside and outside the classroom. You always try your hardest in everything you do. Keep it up Spencer!

4B

Grace L

For successfully using a range of Addition and Subtraction strategies for challenging Maths problems. Grace, your growth mindset is admirable and you should be very proud. Keep it up!

Jack H

For being resilient when faced with challenging tasks. Your growth mindset and willingness to give things a go is something you should be very proud of. Keep it up!

Student of the Week

4L

Archer R

For the wonderful enthusiasm you continue to demonstrate towards your learning especially in our Italian practice. Keep it up Archer!

Hudson A

For showing persistence to approach your literacy tasks and demonstrating improvement in reading and writing. Great work Hudson!

4M

Chelsea C

For demonstrating kindness and respect towards peers to ensure everyone in our classroom feels happy in our class.

Lucia D

For being a kind friend in the classroom and always caring for other students and doing your best in Italian to learn new words

5B

Sienna W

For being a responsible and respectful member of our class. Great work!

Jordan G

For showing resilience and working hard on all tasks. Good job!

5W

Neriah D

For working hard and being a responsible and respectful student. Well done, Georgia!

Jordan L

For being a polite and respectful student to everyone. Great work!

5V

Harminder C

For always displaying a growth mindset. It's wonderful to have your happy smile and positive attitude in our classroom. Keep up the great effort Harminder!

Eden D

For being a responsible and respectful member of our classroom and for always showing kindness to everyone around you. Well done Eden!

6M

Christos P

For the focus and application you have been demonstrating when writing a biographical recount. Well done Christos, keep up the great work!

Auriana A

For being a conscientious student with a positive and motivated attitude who always applies yourself to every learning task and strives to achieve your full potential. Well done Auriana, keep up your enthusiasm for learning!

6H

Alana C

For your positive attitude and contributions to classroom discussions. Well Done Alana.

Ruby T

For being a responsible and respectful member of our class and for your contributions to our classroom discussions. Well Done Ruby

6PM

Henry B

For communicating with others with a positive and kind outlook.

Ava C

For demonstrating maturity and sensitivity in your dealings with others.

P.E.

Isabella Y 4B

For your wonderful positive and infectious attitude that you always bring to Health and PE. Your smiling disposition brightens up our learning environment. Well done Isabella

Oliver T 4L

For your brilliant 'give it a go' attitude and wonderful inclusive nature throughout our Health and PE sessions in Term 1. Keep up the great work Oliver.

Visual Arts

Kiera K 4M

For displaying patience and focus with your weaving activity. You have created a beautiful pattern with great attention to detail. Great work Kiera!

Paige P 5B

For sharing your talents with others and assisting peers with foil sculpture techniques. Thank you for being so willing and enthusiastic with this task. Well done Paige!

Performing Arts

Angus S 1B

For trying your very best in Performing Arts and listening to instructions.

Blake S 4B

For taking part in Performing Arts and setting a great example for your classmates

Science

Will H 6H

For working collaboratively and actively supporting your group as they start to identify focus areas and research questions for their science inquiry project. Keep up the great work Will!!!

Grace L 4L

For always staying on task and extending yourself beyond what is expected. I was very impressed by the numerous examples of heat conduction you were able to demonstrate. Keep up the wonderful work Grace!!