

# CANDELA

St Mary's Primary School, Greensborough

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*"Be still and know that I am God."*

*Lord, Your words lead us to the calmness and greatness of Your Presence.*

*Amen*

## DEAR FAMILIES,

**A Message from Principal Marisa Matthys**

### **End of Term One**

We are all finding it difficult to accept that Term One has come to an end. The ten weeks go by so fast. As usual it has been an exciting, interesting and eventful term. I consider that much has been achieved by the students, staff and parents. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the enthusiasm and interest of our students, the dedication of all staff and the fantastic support of our parents. Our working partnership is highly valued and key to the philosophy of who we are at St Mary's. I know everyone is looking forward to a restful break to gain time for rejuvenation and hopefully it will provide a Covid circuit breaker.

# 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.**

## Farewell to Bindi Saxena

Many of the St Mary's families will know Bindi. Bindi has been providing a counselling and child psychology service to St Mary's for six years through Disha Psychology Consultancy. Bindi has now decided to change the direction of her career and is going to work in Child Protection. This is a huge loss to St Mary's school as her service supported many students and families over six years. We wish Bindi well as she moves into a very difficult yet urgent area of child support. I would like to thank Bindi for her excellent work and support of St Mary's students over the years.

## Lent

Thank you for supporting the work of Caritas through Project Compassion and the work of St Vincent de Paul. The school raised \$450 over the 40 Caritas days. I thank all families and staff for supporting this important social justice initiative.

## Holy Week and Easter Prayer Services

Easter is that wonderful time of hope. It is a time to acknowledge all the signs and symbols of hope that we experience in our world which is so needed. All the events of Easter are central to our faith. Easter is a time when we are able to reflect on the meaning of our Christian faith and our Catholic Church through Christ's death and resurrection.

Thank you to the staff and students for organising our Stations of the Cross prayer service today to reflect on the events of Holy Week. I thank the staff and students who did an exceptional job preparing the prayer service. I encourage you to continue the journey at Mass for Holy Thursday, the Good Friday service and of course Easter Sunday. As a school we will celebrate the Risen Christ when we return in Term Two. At school, Easter Sunday will be celebrated after the holidays on Friday 29th April. Please see further in the Candela for Parish Holy Week times and services.

## Sibling Enrolments for 2023

Just a reminder to any siblings who may be enrolling for Prep for 2023, enrolment forms are due by the 20th of May 2022. The form is now available at the office and on the School Website. To avoid disappointment, all Prep 2023 enrolment forms must be received by the due date.

## St Mary's Open Days

Congratulations to our school leaders who conducted the tours for Open Day and other days of the week. The feedback from the families is extremely positive. If you know of anyone who missed our Open Day please tell your friends and family to come along to the Information Evening on Wednesday 27th April to meet our wonderful leaders and to hear about our exciting plans for the future and the excellent learning opportunities our school provides. The next Open day is on Thursday May 5th.

## 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. Before I go to say something unkind or hurtful I

### **Stop, Think and Choose what to do**

Please talk with your child/ren about this weekly behaviour foci.

# A Message from Principal Marisa Matthys, continued

## Lent

Prep and Year 6 Working Bee

Congratulations to everyone who attended the Prep and Year 6 Working Bee. The school looked absolutely magnificent and the amazing work achieved was so noticeable. We are truly grateful for your work and that of the MAD team. Congratulations to Thomas T. who won the Tuckshop award.

## Help Help Help Needed

Do you want to make a difference for your child's education at St Mary's?

If you answered yes then the PA is for you. We need parents to willingly put their hand up for President, Deputy, Secretary, or General Member. We are in desperate need for your help. Most events already have someone who is willing to organise the event.



We just need a small team of people to meet monthly to ensure coordination of the various events. Last week we had to cancel an event due to lack of support. Ultimately it will be the students who suffer due to the inability to pay for school improvement. Thank you to Helen K 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](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

## Easter Raffle

A HUGE THANK YOU to Katie Field, Eva Z, Natalie H, Paola F, Katie K, Nadine A, Sue B, Rach B and Trish L for all of your hard work and hamper making expertise! Congratulations to our top 10 grand prize winners and to our 1st prize winner Olivia P from PF.

Thank you to all the families that donated raffle prizes and purchased raffle tickets. With all the donations we were able to hand out over 60 prizes and raised \$2,460!

## Online Safety

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

I wish all families, staff and students a peaceful Holy Week and Easter and I look forward to working with you in Term 2.

Kind Regards,

*Marisa Matthys*

Principal



# Year 6 Camp Fees

A reminder to all Year Six families that the payment of \$380 must be paid before your child attends Camp on the 2nd of May. Thank you to families that have paid in full.

Payment for Camp can be made by bank transfer to:

**St Marys School Account**  
**BSB 083 347 Account 647033719**

If you have a payment plan and you are unsure if it covers your Camp fee, please email [accounts@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au](mailto:accounts@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

Thank you,  
Finance Office

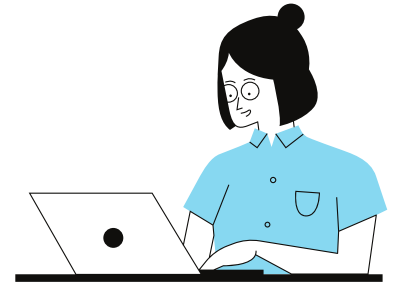




Dear Parents/Caregivers,

There is evidence of an increased amount of time children are spending on devices, especially after our years of Covid-19 and the difficulty of balancing online and offline activities. Signs that your child's online activity may be having a negative impact on them or on your family include:

- less interest in social activities like meeting friends or playing sport
- not doing so well at school
- tiredness, sleep disturbance, headaches, eye strain
- changes in eating patterns
- reduced personal hygiene
- obsession with particular websites or games
- extreme anger when being asked to take a break from online activity
- appearing anxious or irritable when away from the computer
- becoming withdrawn from friends and family



**Our Response ~ Suggestions from eSafety for reducing time online**

- Have a conversation with your child/ren and how much time they spend online and explain why it is worrying and what they could be missing out on.
- Involve your child in creating a family plan for leisure and entertainment time that balances time spent sitting in front of screens — including time online and watching TV — and a variety of offline activities.
  - Creating a family tech agreement with set rules about how devices, like smartphones, tablets, computers, TVs and gaming consoles are used in your home could be a great starting point. Refer to this website for varied age groups: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-and-advice/family-tech-agreement>
  - Device-free zones and times can help you manage screen time. For example, no devices in the bedroom for younger children, all screens off at least one hour before planned bedtime or all family members switch off at dinner time
- Keep an eye on the games, apps and devices your child uses.
- Join in - Play games together as a family, or explore some joint online projects. Rather than being just a solitary activity, online time can then become another way of strengthening connections as well as building social skills.
- Where possible, avoid limiting online time as a punishment as this approach may inflate its importance to children.
- Parental controls are software tools that allow you to monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. But be honest and open with your children about why and how you want to use these technologies. Refer to this website for further information <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology>

Even a minor reduction each day of a '15-minutes switch-off' calculates to a reduction of approximately 91 hours a year!

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

References:

- <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues/time-online>
- <https://www.esafety.gov.au/research/digital-parenting/screen-time>



# Student of the Week

Prep S

**Annie J**

For always making good choices inside and outside the classroom. You always follow our school behavioural expectations.

**Jaxon T**

For demonstrating whole body listening and showing respect towards your peers and teachers. Great Job Jaxon.

Prep F

**Amelia T.**

For always using your manners and demonstrating one of our 3 R's. Well done, Millie.

**Leonardo**

For being a respectful member of Prep F. You are always using your manners and including others in games. Well done, Leo.

Prep K

**James K**

For all the hard work that you have put into recognising the sounds letters make. Keep up the awesome effort James!

**Isabelle P**

For the responsible way that you participate in reading activities and for the hard work that you are putting into all your class work.

1MZ

**Jasmine V**

For working consistently hard in all subject areas. You are a superstar Jasmine and a wonderful role model to your peers. Well done!

**Finn R**

For being such an active participant in our whole class discussions. You always share your ideas and knowledge with your peers. Well done!

1B

**Archie C**

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

**Billie S**

For always trying your best in all of your tasks and being confident in sharing your ideas. Keep up the good work!

1V

**Zachary E**

For always being a respectful listener and trying your best. Your contributions to our maths talks are wonderful Zachary. Keep up the great work!

**Charlotte T**

For always following instructions and showing whole body listening. Your enthusiasm towards learning is wonderful Charlotte. Keep up the amazing work!

2G

**Ryan C**

For being a reliable and respectful member of the class and always trying 100% in every learning area. Keep up the persistence and building your confidence Ryan!

**Ella M**

For always demonstrating excellent listening skills and participating confidently across all learning areas. You consistently set a wonderful example for others. Well done Ella!

2HB

**Shelby N**

For demonstrating a growth mindset in writing to record your ideas and for enthusiastically contributing to class discussions. Keep it up Shelby!

**Chiara P**

For continuously demonstrating respectful behaviours with your peers and teachers. You are looked up to by others. Thank you Chiara!

2M

**Thomas S**

For always showing initiative and following the instructions set inside and outside of the classroom. You are setting such a wonderful example to your classmates. Keep up the great work Thomas!

**Isla G**

For showing your brilliant writing and publishing of our Thingamajig books, what a wonderful way to end Term 1 Keep up the amazing work Isla!

3S

**Christelle A**

For being an enthusiastic and engaged learner. You have been working to your potential and should be proud of your achievements in Term 1. Well done !

**Joshua M**

For participating in classroom discussions. Your knowledge and contributions have been a real asset to our class. Keep up the fantastic work Josh!

3G

**Charlotte J**

For challenging yourself in the classroom, particularly during maths. It's amazing to see what you are capable of when you put your mind to a task! Keep up the great work.

**Cara S**

For finishing the term with some of your best work in reading, writing and maths. You have shown wonderful progress towards your goals and worked respectfully within the classroom.

3L

**Jasper S**

For working so hard during our maths lessons and challenging yourself every day. You should be so proud of your achievements! Keep it up Jasper!

**Dakota I**

For being a hard working and caring member of our classroom. You put your full effort into everything you do and your positivity is shining through!

4B

**Oliver M**

For showing dedication to your learning in all areas of the curriculum. You have demonstrated what can be achieved when we remain resilient and responsible. Well done Oliver!

**Beth S.**

For using a growth mindset in Mathematics. You demonstrated resilience and accountability for your learning by reviewing your work and identifying areas for improvement. Keep up the great work Beth!

# Student of the Week

4L

**Alexis D**

For consistently being Respectful, Responsible and Resilient in all aspects of your learning. Keep it up!

**Lyra W**

For your wonderful and passionate work with raising money for the library. You have shown great leadership in your community role. Well done!

4M

**Indie N**

For showing respectful listening in and out of class and always being ready to learn something new, Well done Indie!

**Harper W**

For being a great leader during our inquiry lessons and always considering how others may feel. Keep it up Harper!

5B

**All of 5B!**

For a wonderful camp experience! Well done on participating in all camp activities with enthusiasm and respect.

5W

**All of 5W!**

For being so wonderful on camp! Participating in all the activities with enthusiasm and always behaving and showing respect to all. Keep up the amazing work!

5V

**All of 5V!**

For being so amazing on camp! You participated in all the activities with lots of smiles, laughter, encouragement and respect! Keep up the fantastic work!

6M

**To all of 6M**

For a wonderful Term 1 in the Art Room. You are a great team and create a positive vibe. I'm looking forward to working together on more creative projects. From Mrs T.

6H

**Mia H**

For always striving to improve and contribute to our class discussions in a positive manner. Well Done Mia.

**Will H**

For demonstrating great resilience and contributing positively to our class discussions. Well Done Will.

6PM

**Thomas T**

For striving to work conscientiously and contribute positively to our class discussions.

**Charlie**

For continually being positive and contributing to the positive atmosphere of our class.

Science

**All 6M students**

For showing continued respectful and responsible behaviour in your Science and Digital technology classes. I appreciate how well you have collaborated with one another and actively listen to each other. Keep up the AMAZING work 6M!!

**Matthew G PF**

For demonstrating ongoing resilience during Science and Digital technology by having a go and trying your best to understand other people's point of view. Keep up the great work Matthew!

Visual Arts

**Lucas A 6H**

For demonstrating responsibility during Art lessons by organising and distributing equipment. Your assistance is greatly appreciated Lucas.

**Sofia T 2HB**

For designing detailed line patterns on your animal template and drawing an authentic background habitat

**Oliver G 5V**

For displaying positive energy in the Art Room. Your genuine and complimentary feedback is greatly appreciated by us all.

Physical Education

**Charlie W 5W**

Congrats Charlie on your wonderful performance at Region Swimming Championships. Two gold medals, ensuring qualification for two State Championship Finals in Term 2 is an amazing achievement. We are all very proud of you Charlie and best wishes in your Freestyle and Breaststroke State Swimming Finals.

**Indigo O'H PS**

Well done on your fantastic efforts throughout our Health lessons in Term 1. A regular contributor to our class discussions, you were able to identify those who help and look after us in our community. Keep up the great work Indigo.