



7 December | Vol. 17



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*Gracious God,
As we enter this season of Advent,
May our hearts be open to the hope, peace, joy,
and love that your Son, Jesus Christ, brings
into our lives.*

*Prepare us for His coming with anticipation and
reflection.*

*Help us to share this message of hope with
others.*

Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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



Dear Families,

Farewell Year Sixes

As another year ends for St Mary's Primary School we are grateful to have had an opportunity to stop, reflect and express gratitude for the many achievements of our school community in 2023. Thank you to Robyn Vorster, Taylor Leslie and Rob Williams and all staff for their support and care of the Year Six children throughout the year. Indeed, we have much to be thankful for and proud of this year.

For the Year Six students, and staff, we look forward to a wonderful celebration of St Mary's in our Church and hall with our graduating class of 2023. Thank you to Mel Mayne and the Parents Association for supporting the event.

In Appreciation

This time of the year for us is an ending and a beginning. The school year ends, the holidays commence and for some students, parents and staff the new year will bring a new beginning at a different setting. We feel some sadness as we say goodbye to students, parents and staff who have been a part of our school community, a part of the St Mary's story. We thank them for their generous spirit and what they have contributed to our school and wish them all the best for the next stage of their lives:

2023 Leaving Parents

Sanjiwika Wasgewatta, Chamara Adihetty, Jacinta Anderson, Emma Austin, Darryl Austin, Dora Basile, Joseph Basile, Theresa Bousejean, Patrick Bousejean, Susanne Brabender, Peter Brabender, Leanne Capodicasa, Stefan Capodicasa, Belinda Chalouhi, Andrew Chalouhi, Helen Ciavarella, Mauro Ciavarella, Anna Colman, Richard Colman, Kathleen Stella Crawford, Shane Crawford, Lechee De Chavez, Shaddy De Chavez, Marie A Cheryl De Costa, Joseph Bhushan De Costa, Sandra Di Domizio, Mark Di Domizio, Karen Popalis, Alfonso Di Nuzzo, Lee Duchovny, Martin Duchovny, Esperance Elzein, Joseph Elzein, Cherie Zealley, Luke Farley, Rebecca Georgiou, Phillip Georgiou, Alessandra Marciano, Mark Gionfriddo, Danielle Gray, Leon Gray, Shujun Yang, Shaofei Guo, Emma Hall, John Hall, Lauren Hartigan, James Hartigan, Suzanne Knecht, Jan Knecht, Celine Maggiore, Filippo La Delfa, Yan Jia, Shao Liu, Georgina Marinucci, Remo Marinucci, Annamma Mathew, Manoj Mathew, Jodie Datson, Stuart Mcleod, Aparna Mohan, Vijay Mohan, Yvonne Gray, Karen Stacey, David Panozzo, Justine Piscitelli, Domenic Piscitelli, Kate Sanford, Anthony Pitts, Juliette Pongas, Dimitrios Pongas, Liberata Posani, Joseph Posani, Jodie Price, Jeffrey Price, Bianca Quai-Hoi, Edwin Quai-Hoi, Tania Rocca, Veronica Hernandez, Carlos Rodriguez, Belinda Rose, Aaron Rose, Valentina Sanelli, David Sanelli, Irene Sapio, Mathew Sapio, Anne-Marie Sukkar, Elie Sukkar, Barbara Taylor, Jack Taylor, Bernadette Thorley, Matthew Thorley, Rosemary Leiva, Sergio Vera, Carly Walsh, Wayne Walsh, Carlie Walshe, Christopher Walshe, Kate Zappulla Richards, Thomas Zappulla, Sally Al-Dalow, Saman Ziadeh

Students

Tanya A, Jacob A, Jake A, Flynn A, Arabella B, Sophia B, Jilay B, Ava B, Imelda B, Aleksandar B, Abigail B, Audrey B, Summer B, James C, Mia C, Olivia C, Serena C, Jasmine C, Harminder C, Sarah D, Zoe D, Peyton D, Audrey N, Junah D, Alexia D, Calista D, Leo D, Lucy D, Eden D, Remy D, Sacha D, Christian E, Livia F, Charlie G, Jordan G, Isla G, Oliver G, Mia G, Violet H, Scarlett H, Emily H,

Students Cont.

Abigail I, Henrik K, Sebastian K, Teresa L, Archer L, Jordan L, Jessica L, Spencer L, Luca M, Reuben M, Charlotte M, Zak M, Hanora M, Diya M, Sofia N, Liam O, Austin P, Ellie P, Alexander P, Clarissa P, Mikayla P, Laura P, Paige P, Victoria P, Olivia P, Jye P, Samuel P, Tyson Q, Bhadra R, Mithra R, Luca R, Addison R, Lucas R, Rafael R, William R, Elijah S, Luke S, Isabella S, Myah S, Peter S, Mikaila S, Scarlett S, Jobe S, Paxton S, Stephanie S, Samir S, Tony S, Clara S, Georgia T, Samuel T, Angelina T, Teagan T, Zachary V, Jedda W, Sienna W, Charlie W, Penelope W, Abigail Z, Charlotte Z, Rayan Z, Ghassan Z, Celina Z.

Congratulations to all of our students on the achievements of 2023. All Year 6 2023 students have been an absolute pleasure to teach and to get to know and I wish each and every one of them every blessing for the future.

End of Year Assembly

Next Wednesday 13th December, the St Mary's staff, students and parents will come together to celebrate and give thanks for all that has been achieved in 2023. We are truly grateful to God and we wanted to give thanks for St Mary's Parish School and everyone involved. Thank you to our families who have supported us throughout this Year.

St Mary's Year 6 Graduation

Just a reminder that all family members of the Year 6 graduates are welcome to attend the Prayer Service in the Church at 12pm. A guard of honour will be formed throughout the school at approximately 1.15pm to farewell our Year Sixes and leaving staff.

Final Orientation Day

The students will have their final orientation day on Tuesday, December 12th at 11.30am. It was wonderful to see the students happy and settled in their classes with their new peers and teachers last Tuesday. We look forward to supporting the students to flourish in 2024.

Christmas Carols

Last night we came together as a community to sing, reflect and listen to the sounds of Christmas. Thank you to Kurt Geyer and our staff and students for sharing their talents and for providing joy at this important time of year. Thank you to the PA for providing the raffle and the MAD Team for organising the sausage sizzle.

St Mary's Feast Day

Today we celebrated St Mary's Feast Day. The students had fun running through bubbles, water and puffs of colour. Thank you to Ana Amorim for organising the event. Congratulations also to the staff for supporting the students. A huge thank you to Ana Amorim for also organising the beautiful Prayer Service and subsequent activities.

Congratulations to Student Leaders

Throughout the last few weeks students from Years 4 to 6 and staff have been listening to the speeches of our students who have applied for a position on the Community Action Teams for 2024. I wish to applaud all students who applied and congratulate every child for their maturity in success and disappointment. The following students have been voted in the Community Action Teams (CAT) by staff and peers.



Congratulations to Student Leaders cont.

PBL and Wellbeing CAT: Charlie J, Beth S, Layla H, Isabel G, Aurelia S.

Digital CAT: Archer R, Marie-Chantal WI, Seraphima B, William H, Levi J.

Sustainability CAT: Georgie M, Isla T, Darcey T, Hannah S, Savannah O

Languages CAT: Finn L, Addison, M, Alexis, D, Caitlin, N, Soham B.

Liturgical & Social Justice CAT: Lyra W, Chelsea C, Lily G, Molli O, Chloe F

Arts CAT: Kiera K, Madison M, Losalia, F, Aurora B, Maddy K.

House Captains

Bosco - Harper W, Luca LK,

Loyola - Indie N, Nate Moloney

McAuley - Chloe AW, Cooper A

Mercy - Maddy H, Jack D.

I explained to all Year 6 2024 students, you do not need a badge to be a leader. All leaders will sign a contract agreeing to a standard of behaviour and the expectations of St Mary's Catholic School.

School Leaders

Last week Laurina van-der-EL and I interviewed students for the positions of School Leader and Deputy School Leader. These students will be announced at the Whole School Assembly on Wednesday the 12th December. Good luck to all applicants.

St Mary's Community Fair

A huge thank you to all those who supported our fair through your generous donations and volunteering your time.

After a 4 year hiatus, it took a small team many meetings, phone calls and late nights to get the Fair up and running again. A huge thank you to Erin McLindon, Helen Kiddell, Mel Mayne, Katie Field, Laurina van-der-EL and Laura Carrazza for their dedication from the outset.

A huge thank you to those who came on as Team Leaders with such tenacity, passion and amazing organisational skills!

Laura Burke

Chrissy Dacey

Christine DiPasquale

Penny Connelly

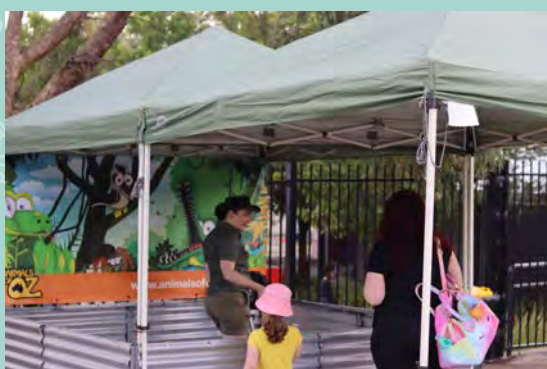
Suzie Astbury

Nicci Prior

Sally James

Nick Holly

Thank you also to those amazing community members who volunteered on the day. We know many of you covered multiple shifts or stepped in at the last minute to fill positions. We are so grateful to you for your willingness to be involved and ensure the Fair was a great success.



Farewell to Staff

At the end of 2023 we will bid farewell to Robyn Vorster. Robyn has been at St Mary's since 2019 and in her time has had a huge impact on many students' lives. Robyn has chosen to work at St Martin's in Rosanna as that is the parish she attends and she has always wanted to teach there and an opportunity arose for her to fulfill that wish. I thank Robyn for her dedication and commitment to the students and wish Robyn well for her future endeavours.

We are also farewelling Nicole Campbell. Nicole joined St Mary's in 2022. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances Nicole needs to return to Queensland where her family live. She is deeply saddened to leave St Mary's and we are sad that she has to go. I wish Nicole well for her future.

We also bid farewell to Alannah Capogreco (LSO). Alannah has been completing her psychology degree whilst working as an LSO at St Mary's. In 2024 Alannah will be studying full time as she nears completion of her course. We are grateful for all of Alannah's work and wish her well in her endeavours and future as a psychologist.

All leaving staff will be farewelled appropriately by the staff and community.

Anne-Marie Sukkar has decided to take a year's leave to support her child entering Prep. We expect Anne-Marie will return to St Mary's in 2025.

Grace Gibbons is completing her Masters in Educational Leadership in 2024 therefore her teaching days have reduced to two days a week to enable her to complete her Melbourne University course.

Catrina Studdert will be finishing up as Prep teacher at the end of the year and return as CRT extraordinaire. We are so grateful for her dedication and support throughout the year.

Welcome New Staff

We welcome our new staff to St Mary's; Ashleigh Musig (Prep), Annabelle Robertson (Yr 2), Eliza Free (Yr 3), Jacqui Carfi (Yr 4), Lisa Cusack (Yr 4), Leah O'Shea (Yr 5), Amy Buckley (Yr 5), Ella Ryan (Yr 5), Tenielle Pereira (Yr 6), Stephanie Vlahos (LSO).

We are delighted to be working with such amazing practitioners and we look forward to getting to know them and supporting them to flourish at St Mary's.

Staffing 2024

Prep: Carolyn Smith (PS), Sally Kerr (PK), Ashleigh Musig (PM)

Year 1: Kirin Geale (1G), Louise Zannino.6/Cris Brewer.4 (1ZB), Tania Micomonaco.6/Kate Hoseason.4 (1MH)

Year 2: Annabelle Robertson (2R), Angie Varvaris (2V), Emma Maerz (2M)

Year 3: Eliza Free (3F), Taliah Postans (3P), Cassie Lia (3L)

Year 4: Olivia van Raay (4V), Vesna Bosnjak (4B), Jacqui Carfi.6/Lisa Cusack.4 (4C)

Year 5: Nichole Sorockyj (5S), Ella Ryan (5R), Amy Buckley.6/Leah O'Shea.4 (5OB)

Year 6: Taylor Leslie (6L), Rob Williams (6W), Tenielle Pereira.6/Grace Gibbons.4 (6PG)

LSO's: Bernie Benson, Maggie Bradley, Daniel Burston, Ritu Charles, Bernadette Degiorgio, Linda Doherty, Kathryn Dwyer, Maree Fernandes, Maca Franco, Chloe Holmes, Renee Indovino, Daniel Marasco, Nancy Marino, Stephanie Nativo, Keshala Perera, Samantha Sankey, Peter Shuttlewood, Holly Spicer, Sharyn Trenou, Lisa Trinh, Stephanie Vlahos, Grace Waldron and Karyn Weaver.

Specialists:

Science & Digi Tech: Rochelle Lopez
Visual Arts: Jan Tivisini
Performing Arts: Kurt Geyer
Physical Education: Fergal O'Reilly
Library/Enrichment: Fiona Maclsaac

Literacy Coach: Bec Mellerick

Maths Coach: Karen Watson
PBL Coach: Jane Bennett
Italian Coordinator: Tania Micomonaco
Italian Assistant: Gessie Burgio
Level Leader Release: Cris Brewer

Exec Team

Religious Education Leader: Ana Amorim
Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader: Marguerite Jones
Learning Diversity Leader: Rachel Perissinotto
Learning Culture Leader: Laurina van-der-EL
Literacy Leader: Laura Cardillo
Maths Leader: Belinda Cheong
Deputy Principal HR: Belinda Cheong
Deputy Principal Curriculum: Laurina van-der-EL
Principal: Marisa Matthys

Administration Team

Administration Manager and IT Coordinator: Jen Baker
Administration Assistant: Sharyn Ryan
Administration Support: Gillian Brown
Finance Manager: Rochelle Mietus
School Nurse: Jen Lim

Maintenance Team

Maintenance Manager: Michael Falzon
Maintenance Coordinator: Gary Collings
Maintenance Assistant: Faris Georgy

Condolences

We send our heartfelt condolences to Jen Baker and her family on the loss of her beloved Lola (grandma). We pray for peace and comfort during this sad time.



2024 Bell Times

8:50 AM	BELL: Roll, Meditation, SEL - Other
9:00AM - 10:00AM	Lesson 1 & Eating Brain Food
10:00AM - 10:15AM	Bell: Recess - Play
10:15AM - 11:15AM	Lesson 2 & Eating Playlunch
11:15AM - 11:30AM	Bell: Recess - Play
11:30AM - 12:30PM	Lesson 3 & Eating Lunch
12:30PM - 1:10PM	Lunchtime Break
1:10PM - 2:10PM	Lesson 4
2:10PM - 2:25PM	Bell: Recess - Play
2:25PM - 3:15PM	Lesson 5
3:15 PM	Dismissal

Thank You

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Fr Steve, staff, students and parents for your support. This year our community has experienced loss and sadness, joy and hope. I am deeply appreciative that I am present in this welcoming supportive community. I commend all of our community leaders and members i.e. the SAC, Parents Association, Fete Committee, PPC, Finance Committee, Faith Development Team and any other committees or groups that enhance our Parish and School.

I am deeply grateful to Laurina and my Leadership team for their vision and hard work.

I wish everyone a safe, holy and peaceful Christmas and a wondrous New Year.



A Message from our Acting Principal Mr. Smale

On Tuesday 5/12/2023 I was Principal of the day, a role that takes a lot of hard work, hard work to reach 50 tokens and hard work to say last names over the PA. Anyway, being Principal, I was able to walk around giving tokens, giving signatures, being on yard duty (optional) and also on crossing duty (optional). I had a very fun day saying the announcements and talking with the staff in the office (who are very kind and work hard) . I met some new people in classes and the office. When I came into school one of the first things you would've noticed is that I was wearing a suit, because when I was Principal I got free dress. Little fun fact I was the first Principal of the day with the token system. Spending the day with Mrs Matthys free dress giving out tokens no work, it was all fun but one of my favorite parts was changing the roster so my year level can play on the oval. With Mrs Matthys I went to every class to give the best teacher a golden goose a golden goose is like a golden ticket but for teachers, if a teachers receives one it will be put in a hat and if they get picked they can leave early(and it's a nice thing to have) I gave my golden goose to a year 6 teacher Miss Leslie. When I came back from break I was surprised by a FREE hot chocolate (because coffee is bad). There is so much more to talk about the best day in school but I think I've told you the best parts but there's just a few more things. It's a very challenging role to have everyone yelling for pizza or a pay rise. The list is endless of requests some more would be: no school tackling is allowed, year prep/1/2/3/4/5/6 to be on oval, like I said its endless but those are the popular ones. And that was Mr. Smale's day as Principal. (side note as an estimate there was probably around 40-45 people ask for tokens/ golden tickets/ free time and just straight up annoying me) It was a fun day and I might have left out some but that is about it hope everyone enjoyed the day.

From Mr. Smale



Student of the Week

Prep F

Amira M

For demonstrating the values of St Mary's consistently this term. You should be proud of yourself.

John C

For all your hard work this term in learning. You are dedicated to improving your writing and all your hard work has been noticed.

Prep S

Daphne J

For an outstanding first year of school. Your energy and love of learning is infectious.

Christopher S

For working hard to reach your goal of being principal for a day. Well done Chris can not wait for you to be my BOSS!

Prep K

Evie P

For your enthusiasm when practising for our Christmas carols. Your enjoyment for conducting and sharing your singing with the class brings joy to the class.

James B

For completing a wonderful Christmas story and Christmas acrostic poem. Well done on having-a-go at writing tricky words. Keep it up James!

1MH

Bella J

For always listening attentively and giving your best effort especially with your writing. Keep it up!

Alessandro T

For demonstrating leadership in our classroom by managing problems respectfully and responsibly. Well done!

1ZB

Beth H

For consistently demonstrating respect in the classroom and on the playground. Keep up the amazing work!

Celia W

For always listening to and following instructions. You are a wonderful role model for your peers. Congratulations Celia!

1B

Joseph B

For demonstrating responsibility in the way you consistently use your time carefully to focus and complete learning tasks. Well done Joe!

SophieTB

For consistently striving to achieve your best and continuing to work hard! Great work, Sophie! Keep it up!

2V

Alec R

For your super efforts in remaining focused and following instructions. Your hard work has been recognised by all. Keep it up Alec!

Millie N

For consistently demonstrating respectful, responsible and safe behaviours in the classroom. You are a star Millie! Keep up the wonderful work.

2M

Evie H

For your amazing contributions to our class discussions and all of your amazing effort in our Earth Hero narratives. Keep up the amazing work Evie!

Tony S

For showing our school value of being Safe, by moving safely around the classroom. Keep up the wonderful work Tony!

2B

Evie J

For your consistently respectful, responsible and safe behaviour in the classroom and on the yard. You're a wonderful role model to those around you Evie.

Finn R

For your engagement and enthusiasm in all learning tasks. You're always willing to give things a go and you have such a positive growth mindset. Well done Finn!

3P

Jack R

For consistently making responsible choices to be on task during your learning. Well done Jack!

Thomas H

For demonstrating resilience when problem solving and being a good friend to others. Well done Tom!

3L

Sienna C

For consistently trying your hardest in all of your learning. You have made so much progress this year and should be very proud of yourself. Keep it up Sienna.

Ryan C

For consistently demonstrating our behaviour expectations (I am respectful, responsible and safe). You are an amazing role model for others. Keep it up Ryan.

3C

Chelsea M

For consistently demonstrating the values of St Marys throughout the year. You are a role model student. You should be proud. Keep it up Chelsea!

Cohen S

For always being an upstander. You are a role model to others. Well done Cohen. Keep it up!

4V

Koby L

For making fantastic progress in your learning this year, particularly in Maths. You should be extremely proud of yourself!

Indigo A

For consistently striving to achieve your best and continuing to work hard! Thank you, Indigo!!

Student of the Week

4G

Cienna B

For showing resilience throughout the last few weeks. Also modelling responsible and respectful classroom behaviour consistently throughout the year!

Jayden A

For making so much progress this year in approaching classroom tasks with a positive mindset and a responsible attitude.

4L

Ethan B

For being a responsible and respectful member of our classroom. Ethan, you are an enthusiastic learner and always strive to do your best. Well done, Ethan!

Rafael R

For demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning and actively participating in class discussions. Thank you, Raf, for sharing your amazing thoughts and ideas with the class! Keep up the GREAT WORK!!

5W

All of 5W

For a fantastic year of learning together! You have all worked incredibly hard to achieve your goals throughout the year and should be proud of yourselves. Good luck in Year Six!

5G

All of 5G

For working together all year to build an inclusive, fun and respectful learning community. It has been a pleasure to be your Year Five teacher. You have worked hard and kicked goals. I can't wait to watch you keep growing in Year Six.

5S

All of 5S

For being such a wonderful and inclusive class. You have all created a sense of community within 5S and have been an amazing support to one another. You have all shone in so many ways and should be proud of all you have achieved and the amazing people you are becoming! Wishing you all the best for a successful year in Year Six.

6W

Olivia P

For always being a positive influence to others and working to the best of your ability. Super effort, Olivia!

Luca M

For ending your final year of primary school on a positive note. Fantastic work, Luca!

6V

The Whole of 6V

For the amazing year we have had together. I am grateful for the laughter, the challenges we've overcome and the memorable moments we've shared. Each day, you brought energy and a positive spirit that made teaching you an absolute delight. Keep up the great work next year!

6L

All of 6L

For the fantastic year of fun, laughs and learning we have had together! You all continue to shine with positivity in all that you do. Goodluck with your next adventure into Highschool!

Italian

All St Mary's Students

For the fantastic year of Italian Learning!
Buon Natale

P.E.

YEAR 6 HOUSE CAPTAINS 2024

Congratulations to the following Year 5 students who have been elected as Year 6 Captains for their respective House in 2024. I look forward to working with you and seeing you all grow as responsible, safe and respectful leaders.

McAuley: Chloe A W, Cooper A
Bosco: Harper W, Luca L K

Loyola: Indie N, Nate M
Mercy: Madeline H, Jack D

Visual Art

Alessia, 4L

For displaying great initiative by creating an amazing model for your postcard art competition entry. Good Luck with your submission!

Lucas A, 4L

For displaying great initiative by creating an amazing model for your postcard art competition entry. Good Luck with your submission!

Performing Arts

All St Mary's Students

For working so hard to prepare for Carols night and for their beautiful performance.

Science & Digi Tech

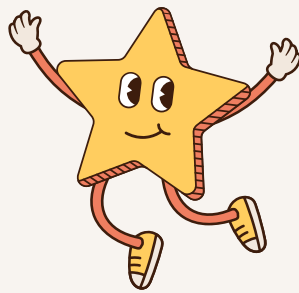
Kiera K (5S)

For your wonderful contributions to our class discussions and for demonstrating great enthusiasm during your science experiments, particularly the Lava lamp. Keep up the amazing work Kiera!

Madison M (5G)

For showing respect and responsibility, working consistently hard to complete all your learning tasks and for demonstrating excellent scientific skills in your experiments. Wonderful work Madison, keep it up!

These are our PBL Student Champions!



Congratulations to the Franklin Family
on their new bundle of joy, Amelia.
Mum, Dad and Imogen are very
excited for their new addition.



A REFLECTION ON THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS



Leading up to Christmas we are so often told to remember the true meaning of Christmas. To be wary of placing too much importance on buying gifts that only give us short-lived happiness. But what do people mean by the true meaning of Christmas? Why is the celebration of Christmas so important? If it's not about presents then what is it truly about?

In the popular Dr Seuss book "The Grinch who stole Christmas" we are presented with a miserable character, the Grinch, who goes out of his way to destroy Christmas for the people in Whoville. However, even after stealing the presents, Christmas trees and decorations the Grinch is amazed at how the Whos are still able to celebrate Christmas. He says "But how can it be? It came without ribbons, it came without tags, it came without baggage, boxes and bags". Then he realizes that maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store, that maybe Christmas means a little bit more.

Just like the Grinch we are called to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas spirit is not found in presents but in our hearts and in the choices and actions we take as followers of Jesus. The Birth of Jesus reminds us of what Jesus believed in: Love, Hope, Compassion, Justice and Peace. The advent season allows us to remember the importance of welcoming Jesus into our hearts so that we too can bring these qualities into our communities. This Christmas take the time to think about others, having compassion for a lonely neighbor or forgiving a sibling who has hurt you. Remember that Christmas isn't found under a tree but rather in our hearts, gifts of time and an act of love. These are the basic ingredients of a Merry Christmas.

What will you do, as a family, this Advent season to explore the true meaning of Christmas? How can we bring love, hope, compassion, justice and peace to those around us this Christmas season?

Ana Amorim
Religious Education Leader



2024 STUDENT LEADERS

Congratulations to all the students from Year 5 who recently wrote and presented speeches for a leadership position in 2024. The following students have been elected based on votes from their peers in Year 4, 5 and 6 as well as staff.

Liturgical and Social Justice Community Action Team

- Lyra W
- Chelsea C
- Lily G (not pictured)
- Molli O
- Chloe F



Languages Community Action Team

- Finn L
- Addison M
- Alexis D
- Caitlin
- Soham

Digital and E-Smart Community Action Team

- Archer R
- Marie-Chantal W-I
- Seraphima B
- William H
- Levi J



2024 STUDENT LEADERS

Sustainability Community Action Team

- Georgie M
- Isla T
- Darcey T
- Hannah S
- Savannah O



Positive Behaviour and Wellbeing Community Action Team

- Charlie J
- Beth S
- Layla H
- Isabel G
- Aurelia S

Arts Community Action Team

- Kiera K
- Madison M
- Losalia F (not pictured)
- Aurora B
- Maddy K



2024 STUDENT LEADERS

House Captains

Bosco

- Harper W
- Luca Luzza-Kos



Loyola

- Indie N
- Nate M



Mercy

- Maddy H
- Jack D



McAuley

- Chloe A-W
- Cooper A



Students will receive their leadership badges at our final school assembly. This will also be when our School and Vice Captains are announced.

Wheelchair Basketball

On Wednesday November 29th 2023, all students in Years 3 & 4, were provided with the opportunity to participate in a Wheelchair Basketball program offered by Basketball Victoria. The program aims to raise awareness of the sport and the importance of inclusion and accessibility for people with a disability or impairment in sport and recreation activities whilst giving participants a real experience of Wheelchair Basketball. This incursion speaks to the core of who we are as a Catholic School and provided a wonderful opportunity to experience the dignity of others.

Under the guidance of the wonderful coach Andrea, students learned how to dribble using backspin on the ball, travelling and play a game whilst in “the chair”. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience as some commented: “that was both fun and difficult”; “I value my legs more now”. Students realised how fortunate they are to have the full use of limbs and recognise that basketball (and all sports) is for everyone to enjoy!!



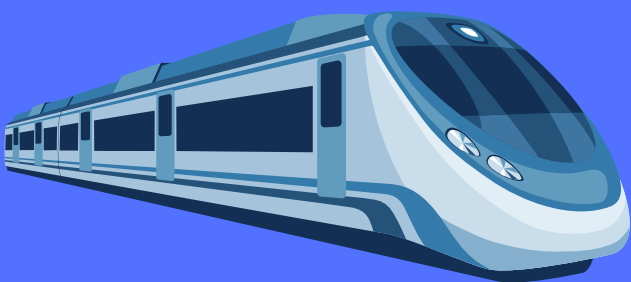
Maths' Enrichment Group NEWS

The Maths' Enrichment group traveled to METRO HQ on Thursday, November 30. This group of mathematicians ventured out to witness firsthand the myriad of ways that we rely on maths in our world. They learnt about the sheer size of machinery required to create tunnels and build five new railway stations, aimed at relieving congestion in Melbourne's transport system. We learnt about the archaeological dig, with lots of interesting information about the sustainability focus and ways in which large corporations endeavor to minimize effects upon the environment, whilst endeavoring to meet the needs of a growing population.

Jimmy said that he enjoyed the train ride into the city. Jack, Raffaele and Arlo were astounded at the depth of the tunnels under the surface.

Asa said that the excursion 'stretches our minds and she liked traveling with different children from other grade levels'. Thomas enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the huge machinery in the upstairs classroom, where the students completed an information task that allowed them to apply their new understandings.

The students loved the opportunity to use the VR headsets and experience aspects of the new railway stations. We discovered that we had walked approximately 7km throughout the day!

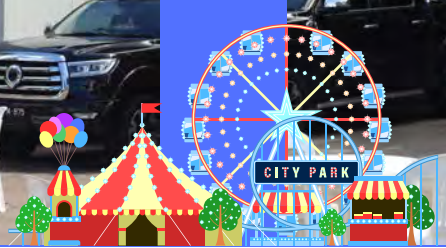


Enrichment Excursion

METRO TUNNEL HQ



Community Fair



Christmas Carols



Feast Day





THANK YOU SO MUCH

This year, our grade 6 students will have the opportunity to celebrate their primary school graduation with their family and peers at a family Graduation Celebration Party hosted on the last day of school at The Manningham Hotel. This is in addition to the Graduation planned at school itself.

This Graduation Celebration Party has been planned and executed by a wonderful group of passionate grade 6 students who have looked after everything from the party theming and event planning, pulling together the perfect playlist with input from their peers, developing the invitations and table place-cards and developing amazing reflection videos that will be played on the night.

These students have worked exceptionally hard over the last 3 months which will undoubtedly reflect in what is going to be a fun and memorable Graduation Celebration Party. A very big thank you to our grade 6 graduation committee which has included:

**Ava B, Mikayla P, Diya M, Samuel P, Lucy D, Olivia C, Remy D,
Jake A, Summer B, Sarah D & Laura P**



And our teacher in charge, the fabulous Robyn Vorster.

A very big thank you also to Sunnyland Press who have looked after the printing of all of our Graduation Celebration Party print material and Goochie Goo Nappy Cakes who are creating a beautiful 2023 balloon garland for the event.

Goochie Goo Nappy Cakes
FB @Goochiegoonappycakes or 0423 227 136

Sunnyland Press
www.sunnyland.com.au

Sunnyland
DESIGN • PRINT • MAIL

VOTE FOR ST MARY'S COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

SHOP AT GREENSBOROUGH
PLAZA AND EVERY PURCHASE
OF \$20+ SPENT AT ANY STORE
EQUALS ONE TOKEN

VISIT CUSTOMER SERVICE
DESK LEVEL 2

SHOW RECEIPT AND COLLECT
TOKENS

**ONE TOKEN IS ISSUED PER
RECEIPT (OF \$20 OR MORE).
THEREFORE ITS PREFERABLE TO
SPLIT YOUR PURCHASES TO
GAIN MORE TOKENS**

VOTE FOR ST MARY'S
CHRISTMAS TREE LOCATED ON
LEVEL 2, NEAR TOYWORLD.

THE SCHOOL WITH THE MOST
TOKENS AT THE END OF THE
CAMPAIGN WILL RECEIVE A
\$2000 GIFT CARD.





ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

TIMETABLE 2023

Blessing of the Christmas Crib

At Masses at St Thomas and Sacred Heart next weekend 2/3 December, our Christmas crib will be blessed. All parishioners, and particularly families with children, are invited to bring an item from their own cribs or Christmas tree to be blessed at the same time.

The blessing and same invitation for St Mary's will take place at all Masses on 9/10 December.

96th Festival of Family Carols

Will take place at St Mary's on Sunday, 3 December at 7:30 pm

Communal Penitential Service

Will take place at St Thomas' on Friday, 15 December at 7:00 pm (supper to follow)

Individual Reconciliation

St Mary's	Saturday	2/9/16 December	5:45-6:15 pm) or by
St Thomas	Saturday	2/9/16/23 December	9:30-10:00 am) appointment at
Sacred Heart	Friday	1/8/15/22 December	9:45-10:15 am) each Parish

Masses for Christmas

St Mary's	Christmas Eve (Sun 24/12)	<u>no</u> 5:00 pm Mass Carols 5:30 pm, Mass 6:00 pm Carols 9:00 pm, Mass 9:30 pm
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Christmas Day (Mon 25/12)	8:00 am and 10:00 am <u>no</u> 5:00 pm Mass*
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St Thomas	Christmas Eve	7:00 pm
	Christmas Day	10:30 am

Sacred Heart	Christmas Eve	5:00 pm
	Christmas Day	9:00 am



ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

It's time for the St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal!

Year 6 Liturgical and Social Justice CAT are collecting food for the less fortunate people of Greensborough and the surrounding areas. We have allocated one grocery item per class and we ask that each student brings the item allocated to their class

by Monday the 11th of December.

Please support this Christmas Appeal by donating a food item as per the list below, so that ALL enjoy the JOY of Christmas.

Thank you for your support
The Year 6 LITURGICAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE CAT

Prep K	Shortbread	3L	Minced Pies
Prep S	Tinned Beans	3P	Tinned gravy powder
Prep F	Canned Fruits	4L	Jelly packets
1ZB	General Canned Vegetables (eg tomatoes, peas, corn, beans, carrots)	4V & 6W	Self saucing pudding
1B	Custard (long life)	4G	Tea bags
1MH	Tinned peas	5G	Instant coffee
2V	Tinned baby carrots	5S	Tins of milo, ovaltine, hot chocolate
2M	Mineral Water	5W	Fruit juice
2B	Tinned ham	6L	Long Life milk
3C	Savoury crackers in packs (rice crackers)	6V	Fruit cake



School Closure & Early Release Dates for 2023

14 December - Students released at 1:45pm

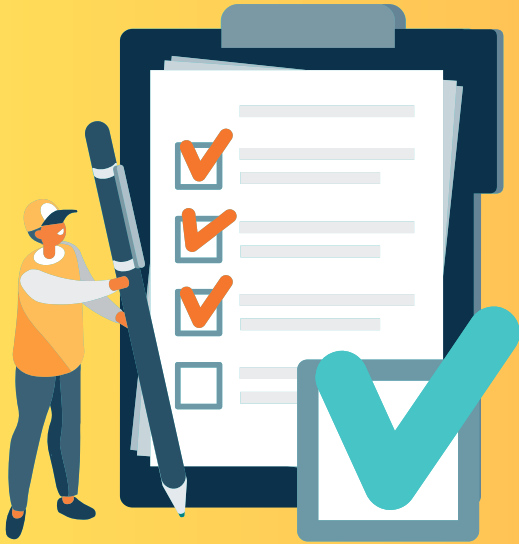
15 December - Closure for Staff Handover

Camp Australia will be opened on these dates, please register [here](#).



2024

Save the Date



Testing Days

1st & 2nd February

*Years 1 - 6, 2024 - **Session Letters will be sent next week.**

**2024 Prep Parent
Connections Night
6th March**



**School Photos
2nd May**

*If a student or staff member is absent on this day, they will be referred to the Photographers Studio for make-up sessions. More details in 2024.

Kids Unlimited

ENROLMENTS
**NOW
OPEN**



St Mary's School Greensborough (VIC): Term 1, 2024

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

11:05-11:55am

+ Add

 Chess Thu, 11:05am

FOR ENROLMENTS AND TRIALS CONTACT US:

1300 424 377 | info@kidsunlimited.com.au | kidsunlimited.com.au



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by  **Camp Australia**

MISSION XII PROGRAM



ROCKETEERS

Extraordinary Holiday Adventures

St Mary's Primary School

Address: 210 Grimshaw Street GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

Phone: 0431 630 835 **Program Times:** 07:00 am - 06:30 pm

Fri 15 Dec **Mission Takeoff XII: Urban Playground**

Let's unleash your creativity with Makedo! Join us in constructing your very own town from collected cardboard pieces. Name your city and use our awesome Makedo tools to create an architectural masterpiece!

Full Fee \$76.27 | After Max. CCS* \$7.63



Incursion

Mon 18 Dec **Operation: Love Your Local**

Let's explore the many ways we can give back to our community. From creating chalk art on the roads, to writing notes of thanks for your local community, it's time to show our love and appreciation for those around us.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



Base Camp Day

Tue 19 Dec **Adventure: Wish at Village Cinemas**

Wish is set in the magical kingdom where the people of Rosas are granted their wish by the King. When Asha's wish brings a cosmic energy named Star, they unite to battle foes to save her community, proving the magic of human-star connection.

Full Fee \$102.27 | After Max. CCS* \$10.23



Excursion

Wed 20 Dec **Operation: Super Spy Training**

Explore the world of espionage and intelligence through fun spy games, code-breaking, and stealthy missions. Will you be our next super spy?

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



Base Camp Day

Thu 21 Dec **Project: Bubble Tea Cafe**

Our Bubble Tea Café is open for business! Make your own bubble tea with tapioca pearls, and some delicious mochi pancakes! We'll also be engaging in role plays as waiters taking orders and as customers buying bubble tea.

Full Fee \$83.27 | After Max. CCS* \$8.33



Incursion

Fri 22 Dec **Operation: Artists in Action**

Let's explore various forms of art from painting and sculpture to music and theatre! It's time to express yourself and unleash your creativity today. Make your move and be inspired to go beyond your imagination and create your very own masterpiece.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



Base Camp Day

Tue 02 Jan **Operation: Science Meets Art**

What do you get when you combine science and art? An explosion of messy eruptions and colourful creations! Discover the art of science and the science behind art today.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



Base Camp Day

Wed 03 Jan **Project: Gift Fiesta!**

'Tis the season for gift-giving! Let's get busy making multiple handcrafted gifts, including a DIY beeswax candle, a clay pinch pot or bookmark, and many more, as we wrap the day with fun and festivities.

Full Fee \$83.27 | After Max. CCS* \$8.33



Incursion

Thu 04 Jan **Experience Takeover: H2O Splash Fest**

Get wet 'n wild like never before as you'll be treated to an action-packed day full of water games, such as splashball tag, water cup team relay, water bombard, giant treasure sprinkler run and so much more!

Full Fee \$87.27 | After Max. CCS* \$8.73



Incursion

Fri 05 Jan **Operation: Survival Challenge**

Put on your game face as you make your way through a series of survival-themed activities, featuring outdoor games, team challenges and more. Are you ready?

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



Base Camp Day

Visit campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers to join our next mission

by Camp Australia

MISSION XII PROGRAM



ROCKETEERS

Extraordinary Holiday Adventures

St Mary's Primary School

Address: 210 Grimshaw Street GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

Phone: 0431 630 835 Program Times: 07:00 am - 06:30 pm

**Mon
08 Jan** Operation: **Worldwide
Wonders**

Calling all junior globetrotters! Grab your 'passport for play' and let's explore the different countries and cultures around the world through cooking, paying games and craft activities. What worldly wonders will you experience today?

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43




 Base Camp Day

**Tue
09 Jan** Adventure: **Magic Gliding
at IceHQ Sports Arena**

Strap your skates on, we're going ice skating! Join us as we glide along the rink and show off our silky-smooth skills.

Full Fee \$106.27 | After Max. CCS* \$10.63




 Excursion

**Wed
10 Jan** Operation: **Bring Your Joy**

We're celebrating all things that bring us JOY! From Show & Tell to fun activities and games that make us laugh, bring your joy today for a delightful day that's full of smiles.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43




 Base Camp Day

**Thu
11 Jan** Adventure: **Pin-Smash! at
Zone Bowling**

Roll on in as we head to tenpin bowling. Leave nothing to spare, as you aim for as many strikes as possible! How will your pins fall?

Full Fee \$102.67 | After Max. CCS* \$10.27




 Excursion

**Fri
12 Jan** Project: **Wild Rangers!**

Create your own zoo enclosure using different craft materials collected from your nature walk. Then let's make your own set of binoculars, fit for a ranger, as we use our imagination to explore the wild!

Full Fee \$83.77 | After Max. CCS* \$8.38



 Incursion

**Mon
15 Jan** Operation: **Enchanted
Realms**

Immerse yourself in a world of magic, spells, and mythical creatures as we explore a spellbinding day right here in Base Camp! Get ready for an adventure in our enchanted realms, discovering wizards and other whimsical wonders.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43




 Base Camp Day

**Tue
16 Jan** Project: **Iconic
Trendsetters!**

Calling all fashionistas! Create your own tie-dye bucket hat and a leather braided bracelet to finish your look. Then use loose pieces of fabric to knot your own garment and walk the runway to show off your creations!

Full Fee \$84.17 | After Max. CCS* \$8.42




 Incursion

**Wed
17 Jan** Experience Takeover:
Delicious Science

Discover how science can be delicious! Through a fun and interactive workshop, you'll learn how to make your own ice cream, and get to eat it too! Let's experiment and get excited about food science while we cool off with this tasty summer treat.

Full Fee \$89.77 | After Max. CCS* \$8.98




 Incursion

**Thu
18 Jan** Adventure: **Arcade Tags at
GAMR**

Unleash your inner ninja as it's time for an electrifying laser tag battle followed by some epic arcade gaming you won't want to lose out on!

Full Fee \$106.27 | After Max. CCS* \$10.63




 Excursion

**Fri
19 Jan** Operation: **Community
Heroes**

Let's get to know our local legends and learn about what they do to help our community. You may even meet and engage with your local heroes to learn what they do and what you can do to help them!

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



 Base Camp Day

Visit campastralia.com.au/rocketeers to join our next mission

by  Camp Australia

MISSION XII PROGRAM



ROCKETEERS

Extraordinary Holiday Adventures

St Mary's Primary School

Address: 210 Grimshaw Street GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088


Phone: 0431 630 835 Program Times: 07:00 am - 06:30 pm

Mon
22 Jan **Operation: Splash Mania**

Today is all about water play! With a bucket load of awesome activities to let your imagination come to life, let's roll up our sleeves and get ready for a splashtastic day exploring your creativity and senses.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



 Base Camp Day

Tue
23 Jan **Film Fest: LEGO Create Day**

Build with LEGO® bricks and enter the Film Fest! Today is all about crafting captivating stories and sets for your movie. Next stop? Film Day!

Full Fee \$82.77 | After Max. CCS* \$8.28




 Incursion

Wed
24 Jan **Film Fest: LEGO Film Day**

Get ready for our 3rd annual Rocketeers Film Fest! Following your "LEGO Create Day," it's time to film your LEGO stories and craft your stop-motion entry for a chance to shine!

Full Fee \$91.27 | After Max. CCS* \$9.13



 Incursion

Thu
25 Jan **Project: Back to School Bash!**

It's almost back-to-school time! Create your own To-Do planner with fun felt stick-on items. You'll get a mini pencil case you can use for school, which will also hold your felt pieces. What's in your schedule for school?

Full Fee \$83.17 | After Max. CCS* \$8.32




 Incursion

Mon
29 Jan **Operation: Base Camp Beach Day**

We're bringing the beach to Base Camp! Get ready to make some sand art, salt dough creations, play cricket and enjoy more beach-themed activities with friends.

Full Fee \$64.27 | After Max. CCS* \$6.43



 Base Camp Day



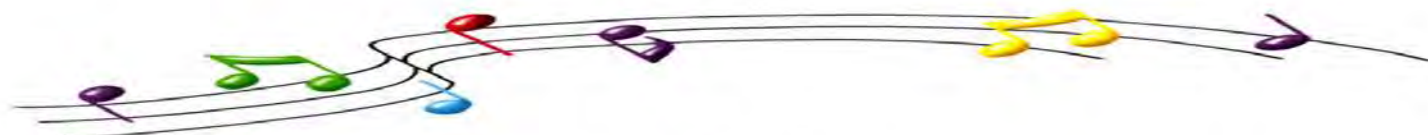
Discover a World of Opportunities



PARADE COLLEGE Open Day

Sunday 25 February 10am - 2pm

1436 Plenty Rd Bundoora | www.parade.vic.edu.au



'HANDS ON MUSIC' Program 2024



Now enrolling for individual lessons

During school here at **St Mary's Primary School**

We offer a variety of one on one instrumental music lessons in **PIANO, GUITAR, DRUMS , EUKELE, BASS GUITAR and SINGING** and more, during the school day in a nurturing and positive environment. Phone mobile: 0402 910330



We also provide suggestions on-



- hiring instruments,
- performance piece preparation
- purchase of books
- lunch-time concerts/on line concerts in lockdowns.
- and preparation for AMEB exams (if requested).

Please direct any queries (or text) to mob: 0402 910 330.

or for more information email: handsonmusic.j@gmail.com(note .j) web-site: www.handsonmusic.com.au





LIMITED VACANCIES 2024 (3YO KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM ONLY)

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3 Year Old Timetable
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Thursdays 9.15am - 2.15pm
Fridays 9.15am - 2.15pm

Contact Us:

☎ PH: 9435 8752

✉ Email: apollo.parkways.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

📍 Apollo Parkways Preschool 31 Plenty River Drive
Greensborough 3088



Table Tennis Hope Star Group Training

Lesson details

There are **2 sessions** running **every Friday** for kids **6 to 12-years-old**.

- **Beginner level at 5:00pm - 6:00pm**
- **Intermediate level at 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

All skill levels are welcome.

\$200 for 1 term (1 session per week for 8 weeks)

Special offer for the first 10 students to sign up before the 12th of January 2024

\$190 for 1 term (1 session per week for 8 weeks)

Enrolment details

Email: tabletennishopestar@gmail.com

Or contact Jian Fang Lay
0493 759 560



My name is **Jian Fang Lay** and I'm a **current Australian Table Tennis player**.

I've represented Australia in **6 Olympic Games** and **6 Commonwealth Games**.

My player profile can be found below:

• <https://www.olympics.com.au/olympians/jian-fang-lay/>

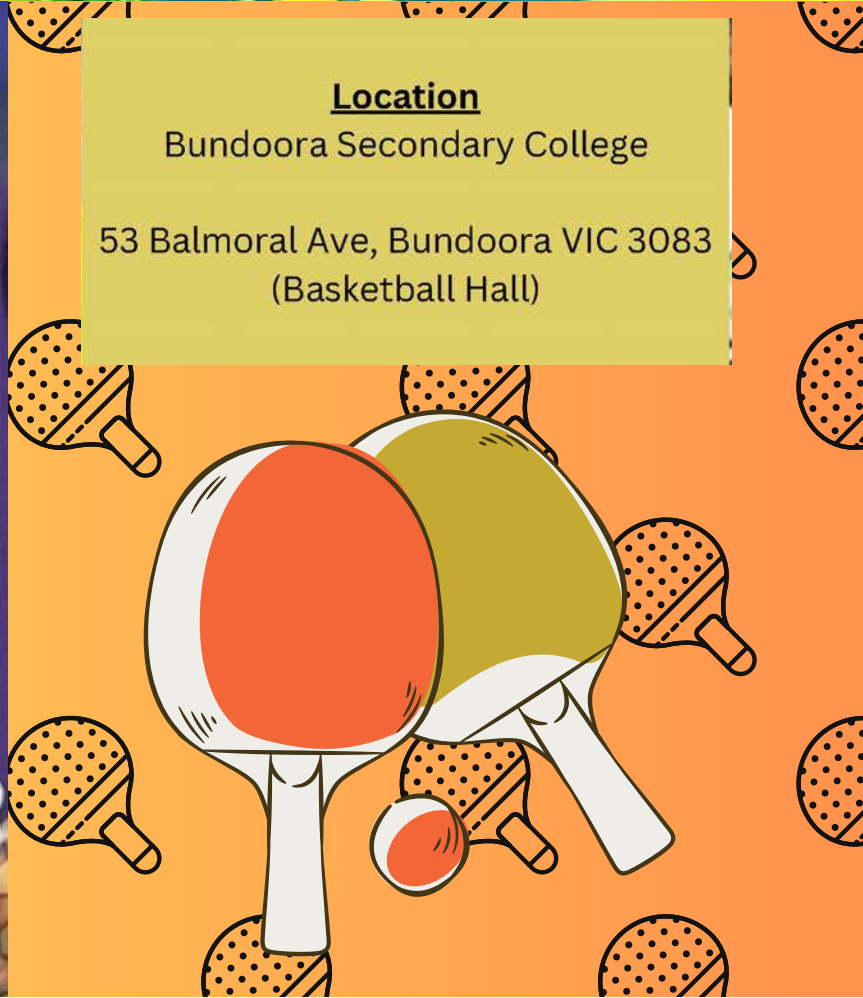
• <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/jian-fang-lay/>

I'm currently running **table tennis group training sessions**. I hope to share **my experience** and **inspire** more kids to play table tennis. Table tennis is a great sport to get kids **active**. It's excellent for **training kids' reflexes** and **hand-eye coordination**.

Location

Bundoora Secondary College

53 Balmoral Ave, Bundoora VIC 3083
(Basketball Hall)



DECEMBER 9, 2023

DVE Sprints Meet



WaterMarc™
Banyule

1 Flintoff Street, Greensborough VIC 3088



Dive into excitement at the DVE Sprints Meet and join us for a splashing good time as swimmers from all levels showcase their skills and compete for glory.

**Warm up from 12.15pm.
Competition starts 1.00pm.**

**Entries close:
Monday 4th December
@ 11.59pm**

**Registered swimmers - online via Swim Central.
Unregistered swimmers - Trybooking, use QR Code.**

**YARRA
PLENTY
WAVES**



SCHOOL SPORTS Swimming HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Boost your swim skills & get ready for school **SWIMMING**

Full Program Fees
\$180

**MON, WED &
THURS**

8-25 January



3-PM

- Improve your swimming skills with focused coaching
- Learn from qualified and experienced coaches
- Get ready for school swimming sports with confidence
- Don't miss out on this opportunity to boost your swim skills and have fun!



MORE DETAILS

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LIAT WAY (OFF SAINSBURY AVE)
GREENSBOROUGH**

FUN SWIM



**YARRA
PLENTY
WAVES**

**YARRA
Swim School**



CaROLS by
CaNDLeLiGHT

**FREE
EVENT**

Saturday
16 December
2023

**Greensborough War
Memorial Park Oval**

Henry Street, Greensborough

Food trucks and
preshow entertainment

5:00pm

Carols showtime

7:00pm

Performers:

- Denis Walter (MC)
- Carla Troiano
- Ricky Muscat
- The Australian Children's Choir
- The Diamond Valley Brass Band
- The Kazoos and Santa

Sponsored by:

**Jellis
Craig**

For more information, visit:
banyule.vic.gov.au/Carols
or scan the QR code.

This is a no smoking event. No dogs.



SUMMER Holidays



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SUMMER Holidays

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Team
Kids

BEST
HOLIDAY
PROGRAMS
IN AUSTRALIA



Team
Kids



7:00 AM START
6:00 PM END

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 9AM ON EXCURSION DAYS

IN-HOUSE INCURSION EXCURSION

MON · 29th JAN

The Fun Fair



Step right up and immerse yourself in the TK Fair! Test your luck with a variety of carnival-inspired games, master the art of juggling, and let your kazoo skills shine. The excitement has only just begun!

Base Fee	\$83.38
Exp Fee**	\$8.00
Daily Total	\$91.38

After Max CCS* **\$9.14**

Team Kids
= SCREEN FREE FUN

- FUN CLUBS**
- EPIC EVENTS**
- HOLIDAY FUN**
- YUMMY SNACKS**
- AWESOME PARTIES**
- FUN ZONES & GAMES**
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS**
- AND MORE...**

*Child Care Subsidies may apply. \$5 Admin Fee per family. \$5 Late Fees apply within 7 days per child. Payment plans available.

**Experience/Activity Fee. Programs may be subject to change. Third Party Payment Fees apply. See Terms and Conditions for cancellation policy



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TEAMKIDS.COM.AU/VENUES



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BOOK TODAY!

