



LENTEN CANON



*Spirit of God, who lead Jesus into the desert to fast and pray,
Lead us as we enter this time of Lent.
Give us courage to think with our hearts and act with honesty;
Give us strength to deal with what we find;
Give us love to forgive ourselves and each other.
So that, in peace and joy, we may celebrate at Easter
The death and resurrection of Jesus
And all that it means for us.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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



Blessing of Totem Poles

Last week's commissioning of the FIRE carriers and blessing of the Totem Poles that stand in our Reflection Garden was a beautiful experience for all present. There is a Totem Pole for each Level, one for the teachers and one for our community. Each year these are painted to reflect our story for the year. The Totem Poles were blessed by Father Steve and indigenous elder Ian Hunter was invited to attend and conducted a smoking ceremony to build acknowledgement and welcome us to Country. Thank you to Rochelle Lopez for coordinating the event and to all the parents who attended to support this important initiative.

Dear Families,

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 5 Billabong Camp

Our Year 5 students and staff enjoyed three days of fun at Billabong Ranch in Echuca this week. The weather was kind to them and the staff and students were able to experience a different setting for learning and building relationships. Thank you to all the staff who volunteered to attend and gave up their own family time to care for the children. We look forward to hearing the stories and sharing their photos with you all.

Pancake Tuesday

Thank you to all the parents who helped out on Pancake Tuesday. The students thoroughly enjoyed the treat. We are so grateful for your help.

Prep Yr. 6 Buddy Picnic

Just a reminder that the Prep Yr. 6 Buddy Picnic is on Thursday the 29th February at 5pm on the oval. I look forward to gathering together and enjoying each other's company. These events are a wonderful way to build relationships and to relax and have fun as a school community. The MAD team will be providing a sausage sizzle. BYO picnic rug, food and drink. Further information will be sent this week.

Latecomers

Just a reminder that any student who arrives after 8:50am must sign in for a late slip in the school office. It is essential that these protocols are followed to ensure all students are accounted for and safe. Please assist your child to be punctual thus providing time for them to settle in and socialise.

Welcome to New Staff

Last week we employed Brigitte Maguire to join our Learning Support Team. Brigitte is studying teaching and comes highly recommended. We are delighted to welcome her to St Mary's.

Working Bee

Thank you to the MaD team and the parents/carers who attended the first Working Bee for the year last weekend. The grounds looked great on Monday morning. The next Working Bee is the Prep /Year 6 working bee and is scheduled for 23rd March. We hope to invite as many parents/carers as possible to attend. Please mark this date in your diaries.

Kiss and Drop and William St

Just a reminder to all parents that the Kiss and Drop and Pick up point in William St are not carparks. Please do not get out of your car as it holds up the flow of traffic and please move on if requested to do so by staff.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

North East Link Greensborough Highway works

Be advised Lane closures will be in place over several weekends from mid-March to May, from 7pm Fridays to 6am Mondays. During this time, crews will make changes to the centre median between Grimshaw Street and Watsonia Road and create space for major construction.

As works progress on the M80 Ring Road completion, they'll be installing fencing and traffic barriers and establishing work areas along Greensborough Highway and the M80 Ring Road from mid-February.

Reduced speeds and lane closures will be in place at various times during these works for everyone's safety.

Red Rooster Car Park

As of February 29th 2024 until mid 2025, the Red Rooster Car Park will be significantly reduced as part of the North East Link Works. Both the NE Link team and Red Rooster have requested that St Mary's Families **no longer use their car park for pick up and drop off purposes**, as the few remaining car parks are for Red Rooster Staff, Customers and Suppliers **only**.

Marisa Matthys

Principal





Term dates 2024

Term 1

30 January - 28 March

Term 2

16 April - 28 June

Term 3

17 July - 20 September

Term 4

7 October - 17 December

Student of the Week

Prep M

Lukas S

For your fantastic listening skills and putting in so much effort into your work. Well done Lucas!

Trinity F

For your resilience in always trying your best and giving everything a go. Keep up the great work!

Prep S

Amelia A

For always being respectful and polite to your peers. You have made so many new friends in Prep S, Well done.

Austin H

For your enthusiasm towards all learning and for helping your classmates whenever they ask. Thank you Austin for always being kind and considerate of others.

Prep K

Florence G

For your enthusiasm and curiosity towards your learning each day and for your fantastic use of our Italian words in the classroom. Molto Bene Florence!

Jude M

For setting a great example when walking in our safety line. You have shown many examples of being a respectful, responsible and safe learner and friend. Excellent effort Jude!

1MH

Amanda

For the effort you put into your learning. You try your best to listen carefully and give everything a go!

Evan

For demonstrating responsibility with attentive listening and prompt following of instructions. You are a great role model to your peers.

1ZB

Alexis M

For consistently displaying respect in the classroom by actively listening to and valuing the contributions of her peers. Well done Alexis!

Michael G

For consistently demonstrating responsibility by attentively listening to and promptly following instructions in the classroom. Well done Michael!

1G

Isabella R

For always welcoming others and being such a kind and friendly member of 1G. You are so respectful to your teachers and peers. Well done!

Jayson S

For always demonstrating whole body listening and working so hard to complete every learning task. You show such dedication to your learning. Keep it up!

2V

Lita L

For transitioning positively to your new school and consistently following our class expectations. You set a wonderful example for others Lita!

Alessandro T

For working hard to consistently demonstrate our behaviour focus 'follow instructions the first time'. Keep up the wonderful work!

2M

Harry F

For your wonderful contributions and your hard work during reading. Keep up the fantastic effort Harry

Bella S

For displaying our term value of Fellowship through your ability to include and help those around you. Well done Bella, you are a wonderful role model for our class.

2R

Cooper H

For settling into St Mary's so positively and making an effort to build new friendships. We're so glad you've joined our school!

Andreas K

For settling into St Mary's and sharing your wonderful insights and ideas with the class. We're lucky to have you!

3P

Gabriel L

For respectfully taking on board feedback and making positive choices for your learning. Well done Gabriel!

Chloe G

For consistently putting amazing effort into your learning and continuing your learning at home as well!

3L

Billie S

For being a responsible learner in our classroom. You always try your hardest in everything you do. Keep up the amazing work Billie!

Angus S

For being such a responsible listener in our classroom. I love that you are putting your hand up to share your connections and knowledge with us. Keep it up Angus!

3F

Aaliyah I

For being a confident in making new friends. Keep up your amazing work at your new school!

Alice P

For being a respectful and positive student who always follows classroom instruction and for being a great helper!

4V

Zoey N

For your generosity and kindness during Term 1. Zoey, you are so considerate of others and always willing to help those around you. Well done on a brilliant start to the year.

Lucas F

For following instructions and using class time effectively. Lucas, thank you for being a respectful and resilient learner. You are a great asset to 4V.

Student of the Week

4C

Zara B

For always being respectful and following instructions the first time. Thank you for showing kindness and being inclusive of others. Well done!

Luca F

For being a kind and considerate member of 4C. You consistently show our term value of fellowship, well done Luca!

4B

Ryan Carter

For being a very responsible learner in our classroom and always trying your best. Thank you for being a fantastic role model to your classmates. Keep up the great work!

Lily Keleher

For always being a respectful member of our classroom and sharing your knowledge with us. Thank you for taking responsibility for your learning. Keep up the amazing work!

5R

Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 5 students who attended their first school camp! And for making it such a fun and memorable experience!

5OB

Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 5 students who attended their first school camp! And for making it such a fun and memorable experience!

5S

Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 5 students who attended their first school camp! And for making it such a fun and memorable experience!

6W

Elizabeth S

For your positive attitude and kindness towards others. You have also worked to a high standard. Keep up the great work, Elizabeth!

Losalia F

For being respectful and following instructions the first time. You are showing kindness and being inclusive of others. Well done!, Losalia

6PG

Lucia D

For making positive choices to help herself learn Well done. Keep up the great attitude!

Levi J

For being a bright, bubbly and helpful class member. Thank you for always helping out your peers.

6L

Kiera K

For always being respectful in the classroom. You always show kindness to others. Well done Kiera!

Selina B

For always making positive choices and being inclusive of others. You always think about others and show kindness to all. Keep it up Selina!

AMAZING WORK!

Well DONE

GREAT JOB!

P.E.

Nate M 6L & Archer R 6L

Congratulations and well done to Nate and Archer from Year 6 who participated in the Watsonia District Tennis Tournament on Thursday February 15th. Both boys gave it their all as they competed in a round robin competition against other players from schools all around the Watsonia District. Determination, perseverance and effort were all on display as Nate and Archer made their families, their school community and the entire St. Mary's Parish very proud. Great work boys!!

Visual Art

Chloe G

For always displaying enthusiasm and creativity during Art classes. Thank You for following instructions the first time and for working well in all situations.

Lita 2V

For demonstrating amazing drawing techniques showing attention to detail and soft colouring. Welcome to St Mary's Lita.

Performing Arts

All Prep students

For being wonderful listeners, participators and singers in your first classes in Performing Arts

Science & Digi Tech

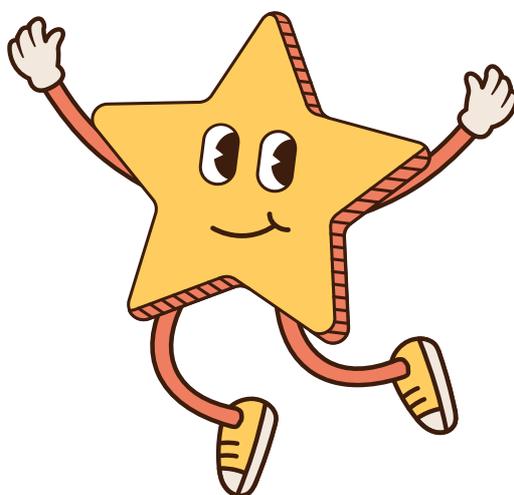
All Prep students

For being spectacular Scientists and sharing how much you know about Science. Keep up the amazing discoveries Preps and shoot for the stars!

Arlo M 4C

For consistently working towards achieving your goals in Science and Digital Technology. Your passion for learning Chemistry and understanding the world around us is inspiring to other budding scientists. Keep leading the way Arlo!!!

Will YOU be our
next PBL
Champion??



Sustainability CAT

Today we are going to be talking about what we did on our excursion on the 9th of february. We were invited to an opening of a reverse vending machine.

A reverse vending machine is exactly as it sounds: containers such as cans, bottles and many more are refundable and get recycled through this machine in exchange for 10c each.

You can find where these vending machines are located on the Victoria's Container deposit Scheme website.

Whilst at the opening, we met the Minister for Energy & Resources of Victoria Lily D'Ambrosio and we got to see her cut the ribbon for the opening and we each got to put a plastic bottle in the machine and see how it works. The machine scans the bottle but make sure not to take the label off, because it will not work. It carries it thought the container and drops it off at the plastic bottles bin. While we were there we got to see a car that runs on water from the Bild-group. Bild-group is a corporation that constructs roads and machines.

We think that this machine has an important impact because many more people will be motivated to recycle because there is even more of a reason.



WDSSA Swimming Carnival 2024

On Thursday February 22nd 2024, 26 swimmers from St. Mary's made the journey, some by foot, others by car (due to Year 5 Camp), to Watermarc Leisure Centre. These students were part of the school swimming team that participated in the 2024 Watsonia District School Sports Association Carnival. Boys and Girls swam in age categories of 9/10, 11 and 12/13 year old and all swimmers performed magnificently. When the results were calculated and tallied, St. Mary's Primary School was declared the overall best school for swimming in the Watsonia District. The top three schools were separated by only 4 points-St. Mary's in 1st with 143 points, second finished on 140 points and third had 139 points. Year 6 House Captains, Cooper A, Harper W and Chloe A W, smiled from ear to ear as they willingly accepted the trophy on behalf of their enthusiastic swimming team.

The next stage of competition is the Banyule and Inner North Moreland Division Carnival which will be held on Tuesday March 12th at Oak Park Aquatic Centre. Swimmers who finished 1st or 2nd in an A race at District will go forward to compete at Division. Heartiest congratulations to all our swim team members. Many thanks to Mrs. Trinh and Miss Leslie for assisting at the event, family members of the swimmers who cheered and supported the team and special appreciation to school parents Lydia Azel and Suzannah Siddles for taking on roles to ensure that the event ran smoothly. Big shout out to former parent of St. Mary's, Carly Walsh, who came back to assist at the finish line demonstrating the love that she has for the St. Mary's community.



WDSSA Results

MEDLEY RELAY	1. Back		Lachlan H	2nd	Harper W		3rd
	2. Breast		Caleb H		Lucy P		
	3. B/fly		William S		Georgie M		
	4. Free		Cooper A		Lyra W		
FREESTYLE	12/13	A	Cooper A	1st	Lyra W	4th	
		B	Jack H	2nd	Georgie M	3rd	
	11	A	William S	2nd	Indigo A	2nd	
		B	Lachlan H	1st	Olive McG	3rd	
	9/10	A	Taylor S	2nd	Abigail McC	6th	
		B	Ryan C	2nd	Chiara P	2nd	

WDSSA Results

BACKSTROKE	12/13	A	Cooper A	1st	Lyra W	2nd
		B	Oliver McK	1st	Harper W	1st
	11	A	William S	1st	Lucy P	3rd
		B	Lachlan H	1st	Chloe A-W	1st
	9/10	A	Logan T	2nd	Skylah O-K	4th
		B	Ryan C	3rd	Chiara P	3rd
BREASTSTROKE	12/13	A	Oliver McK	2nd	Harper W	2nd
	11	A	Caleb H	3rd	Lucy P	3rd
	9/10	A	Taylor s	1st	Greta M	4th



WDSSA Results

FREESTYLE RELAY	12/13	1	Cooper A	1st	Lyra W	2nd
		2	Jack H		Harper W	
		3	Oliver McK		Georgie M	
		4	Xavier W		Savannah O’N	
	11	1	Lachlan H	1st	Olive McG	3rd
		2	William S		Indigo A	
		3	Harry C		Lucy P	
		4	Caleb H		Gemma H	
	9/10	1	Thomas H	1st	Abigail McC	3rd
		2	Ryan C		Chiara P	
	3	Taylor S	Skylah O-K			
	4	Logan T	Aoibhinn O’R			

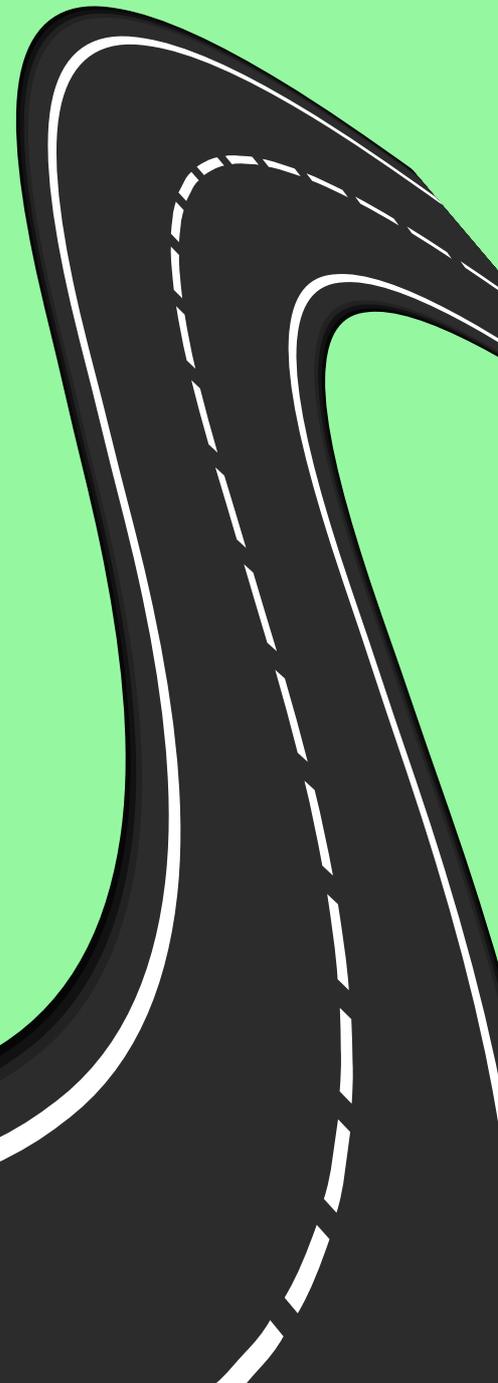


Greensborough Highway



Lane closures will be in place over several weekends from mid-March to May, from 7pm Fridays to 6am Mondays.

During this time, crews will make changes to the centre median between Grimshaw Street and Watsonia Road and create space for major construction.



Watsonia District Tennis Tournament

On the 15th of February, 2024 Nate M and Archer R from Year 6L played in the Watsonia District Tennis Tournament. At 9:30am, Thursday morning Nate and Archer played at Watsonia Tennis Club on Elder St.

Archer was playing in Pool A, where he played against last year's state finalist. "I may have been smashed," said Archer. Though he got smashed he put up a great fight against his other two opponents even beating one of them in a tiebreaker. "I got so much out of today and I hope to do it again soon." In the other pool, Nate played 4 matches and unfortunately didn't win any, although he hit some nice shots and put up a fight in his last match. "I wasn't satisfied with my mental game today, however it was a great experience." Nate quoted.

Sadly neither of them qualified for Division. "We'd love to participate again" they agreed. Thank you for taking the time to read this!



Save the Date

**Uniform shop open Friday
1st March 8.30-9.30am**



**Prep Parent Connections:
6th March**

School Photos: 2nd May



Alpha - invitation to Staff and Parents

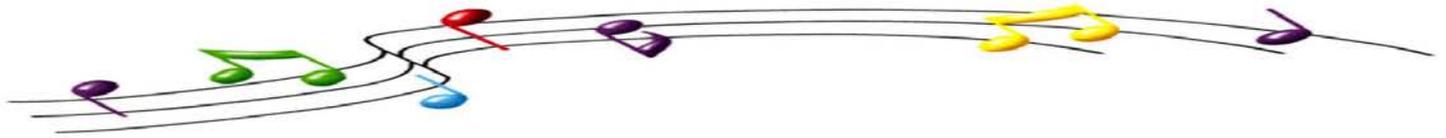
Alpha is a series of interactive sessions in a friendly, welcoming space. Participants explore the basics of the Christian faith through real conversations about life, meaning and purpose. Regardless of your background and faith tradition, there's a seat for you at this table.

Begins 20th February – St. Mary's Church foyer

Find out more & register using the above QR code or by clicking this link <https://tinyurl.com/y87kzhj3>

We share a meal.
We watch a video.
We engage in discussion.





'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

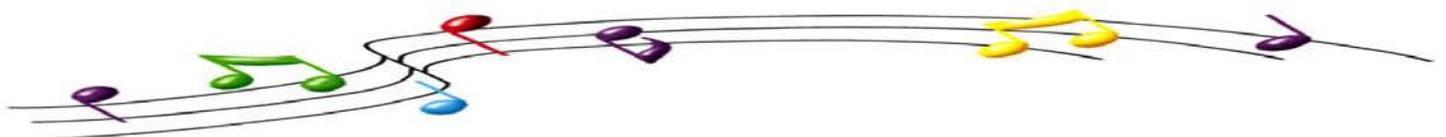


We also provide suggestions on-

- 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





CHOOSING A SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD

INFORMATION EVENING

Deciding on where to send your child can be daunting.

Marcellin College is hosting an information evening on *Choosing a Secondary School for Your Child*.

The evening will cover a host of topics to assist you in making an informed decision.



Join us on Tuesday, 5 March 2024 at 7pm

Marcellin College

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

For more information visit marcellin.vic.edu.au



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EST. 1950

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MARCELLIN COLLEGE

OPEN DAY

Grow, learn, lead



SUNDAY, 17 MARCH | 11am – 2pm

Principal's Address 11am, 12pm and 1pm

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE

Now accepting Year 7 2026 enrolments | Applications close 16 August 2024

Secure your place today marcellin.vic.edu.au

Kindergarten Open Day

Saturday 24 February 2024
9am - 12pm

Scan for a list
of locations



banyule.vic.gov.au/Kindergartens

All Banyule
kindergartens
are open




Banyule
City Council



LIMITED VACANCIES AVAILABLE



FREE kindergarten

come and see
us at our
OPEN DAY
**SATURDAY 24TH
FEBRUARY
9AM - 12PM**

 9435 8752

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 31 PLENTY RIVER DRIVE, GREENSBOROUGH 3088

KIDS DANCE FITNESS CLASS

FREE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

**BRAND NEW KIDS CLASSES!
DANCE CLASS BUT DIFFERENT.
WE FOCUS ON HAVING FUN AND
GETTING ACTIVE. FOR THE
MONTH OF FEBRUARY OUR KIDS
CLASSES ARE COMPLETELY FREE.
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WE ALSO RUN ADULT CLASSES!**



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Macleod Community Hall

7 Birdwood Avenue
Macleod, 3085

Contact

0400508006
pitstopdancefitness@gmail.com

Boys & Girls
Welcome from
Under 8s and up.



Registrations
for 2024
Season
NOW OPEN



Registration & Open Day
Sunday 18th Feb. 10.00am – 2.00pm
Whatmough Park Greensborough
A great place to play footy with your friends in a family friendly environment.
Further Enquiries: EMAIL: football@stmarysgjfc.com.au

Saturday
FEB 17

**JACKSON CAR
ENCOURAGEMENT
MEET**

Jackson Car was a DVE Club member for many years. This meet is in memory of Jackson who sadly passed away in 2022. We are raising funds for the Olivia Newton-John Foundation in honour of Jackson.

SCAN TO SIGN UP!

Individual Events

Relay Events

**Olivia Newton-John
Donation Link**