

St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 1 – Thursday 30th January 2020

15-33 Bridlington Ave, Echuca, VIC 3564 | Principal: Brendan Atley
PH: 5482 1342 info@smechuca.catholic.edu.au



At St Mary's all children have the right to feel safe and be safe all of the time.

Catholic identity

'Different Pathways to a Common Outcome'. [Marie Clay]

We used a scripture passage for our Day 1 Staff Prayer which matched this theme well:

1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

There is a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit,

There are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord;

Working in all sorts of different ways in different people,

It is the same God who is working in all of us!

The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts,

is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, And one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

This is a beautiful passage. It speaks to us of the individual giftedness of everyone - parents, students and staff. It speaks of inclusiveness, of community, of reciprocity, teamwork, of service, of respect for each other.

Every individual has gifts to offer as we work at becoming more and more -

**A faith community, learning together, spreading the Good News of Jesus
Through positive relationships, trust and love.**

St Brigid's Feast Day

As you know, St Brigid's is one of our House Teams. We give the children an opportunity to learn about their particular Saint and to celebrate on or close to their Saints Feast Day. St Brigid's Feast Day is this Saturday. We will celebrate her Feast Day at School on **Wednesday 5th February**. Students who belong to St Brigid's House can wear a touch of **red** on Wednesday.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is critical to the development of the whole child.

If your child is unwell or not attending school for a specific reason please register this on PAM or call the office before 8:45am.

More details regarding the school attendance procedures will be shared in coming weeks.

Swimming

Year 3-6 will have Swimming commencing Monday 3rd February in preparation for our school swimming carnival. Information will be sent home on the first day of Term 1.

School Lunch Ordering 2020

School lunch ordering will resume as of the morning of Monday 3rd of February 2020. Lunch orders are available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

There are daily specials that are available only on each of these days e.g. pizzas on Fridays.

There are two options - the brown bag system and an on-line ordering system.

To reduce the risks of lost lunch orders / money, it is preferred if parents can move towards the on-line system. The 2020 menu is provided on the on-line system.

How to register for on-line ordering

Molloy's (our school lunch provider) and the school, partner with School Lunch Online to help take the stress out of ordering lunch. To log in, type www.schoolonline.com.au in your browser, click 'register now'. Be sure to include each child's GRADE LEVEL, (**Current families please log on and update your child's year level**) to ensure the food arrives to their classroom.

Once you have registered you will receive an email with further details. The site provides FAQs and contact numbers if you have any issues.



What are reasonable excuses for being absent?

- illness or accident
- Attending or observing religious event
- Bereavement

Sustainability News

At the end of last year St Mary's registered to participate in the Resource Smart Schools program. This is a Victorian government program that supports schools to embed sustainability. One of the first areas we are focusing on in our sustainability journey is Waste. With the leadership of our St Mary's Green Team we aim to reduce the waste we generate as a school community.

One of the most important habits we hope to instil is to follow the Nude Food approach to ensure minimal food packaging. At St Mary's we encourage students to bring food in reusable containers. If packaging does come to school we ask that students take their rubbish home. Not only will this reduce the rubbish on the yard, it will promote a conscious 'take in, take out' approach. The waste we 'take in' to school, we take out'. Any food scraps will go to our grateful chickens, guinea pigs and worms!

We look forward to working as a community to lead the way in reducing our landfill and lightening our ecological footprint. By actioning this, it will play a significant role in St Mary's receiving our first Star accreditation in RRS as well as giving all our students the opportunity to 'be the change' in their day to day choices.

2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 1

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 31 st Jan | Foundations first day 8.45-12noon |
| 31 st Jan | Tea & Tissues Foundation parents 8.45am |
| 3 rd - 7 th Feb | Swimming Year 3-6 (NO swimming Thurs 6 th) |
| 3 rd Feb | Grade 1 Gymnastics |
| 4 th Feb | Whole School Assembly 2.05pm |
| 10 th Feb | Grade 4 Gymnastics |
| 14 th Feb | Swimming Carnival Year 3-6 |
| 17 th Feb | Grade 3 Gymnastics |
| 18 th Feb | Information Evening Welcome BBQ 6.00pm – 7.30pm |
| 20 th Feb | Grade 6 Open Water Swimming |
| 21 st Feb | Campaspe Swimming Carnival |
| 24 th Feb | Grade 2 Gymnastics |
| 25 th Feb | School Photo Day |
| 2 nd March | Grade 1 Gymnastics |
| 3 rd March | Learning Conversations |
| 6 th March | Campaspe Lawn Bowls |
| 13 th March | Campaspe Tennis Trials |
| 27 th March | End of Term. |

SPORTS REPORT

Active kids = Happy kids

Some of our students have been busy over the holidays participating in the Echuca Moama Triathlon Multisport Festival.

Saturday morning there were many keen faces at the junior Duathlon. The following students participated - Jaxon Key, Ned O'Neale, Audrey Stewart, Xavier Stewart, Sierra Stewart, Ashlyn Carter, Harrison Whan, Sam Whan, Sam Henson, Ben Henson, Ky Henson, Finn Cullen, Darcy Cullen, Archer Weeks & Jobe Murphy.

They all worked hard and pushed themselves to be their best.

Congratulations to Harrison Whan who took out 1st place in the 7-10 year old, just in front of Ben Henson in 2nd place.

Ex student Ky Henson also took out 2nd place in the 11-14 year olds.

We then had a brave team - The St Mary's Stars that took on the full triathlon as a team.

Stella Fraser - swimming 700m in the river.

Eliza Fraser - 20kms on the bike

Darcy Cullen - 5km run

They took on older and more experienced athletes and smashed the race to claim 3rd place in their category. Fully out of their comfort zones and experiencing new things.

We are super proud of all our students that participated over the weekend.

Thank you to David Cunningham at The Caledonian Hotel Echuca and Chris & Nic Lee at Echuca Printers for their sponsorship and support; both families (past & present) of our amazing community ❤️.

*If you know a child at our school that we need to celebrate in the sporting arena, please let me know.
Carri Carter

