



DATES:

Term 1, 2019 Dates:

Tuesday February 4th –
Parents & Friends
Meeting 7.30pm

Wednesday February 5th
– School Advisory
Council Meeting 7pm

Wednesday February 5th
– Foundation Student's
Rest Day

Wednesday February
12th – Foundation
Student's Rest Day

Monday February 17th to
Friday February 21st –
Meals On Wheels

Wednesday February
19th – Foundation
Student's Rest Day

Vision Statement:

*St. Mary's community,
with Jesus as our
inspiration, aims to
educate and nurture the
development of the
whole child.*

Mission Statement focus this week:

Catholic Culture

*As part of St. Mary's
parish, and inspired by
our Catholic faith, we
care for all people and
creation.*

WELCOME FOUNDATION STUDENTS:

Today, Isaiah, Anna,
Darcy and Abe
commenced their
primary school
education. The students
are settling in well and
we wish them every
success in their learning
and many happy times
at St. Mary's.



WELCOME JULIAN:

Today we also welcomed Julian to our
school.
Julian has joined our middle classroom
and we hope you have many happy times
at St. Mary's and enjoy many successes
in your learning. Julian will be officially
welcomed at the Start of Year Mass.



***On behalf of the students, staff and
families, we would like to welcome
Bindi & David to our St. Mary's
community and trust you enjoy your
time here.***

*We would also like to welcome Skye Abbott & Julian
Smith to the St. Mary's community. Skye & Julian will be
assisting the classroom teachers each day.*

SUMMER UNIFORM:

Boys' Summer Uniform (Terms 1 & 4)

- Light Blue Polo Shirt
(with school crest)
- Grey Shorts
- Maroon School Jumper
(with school crest)
- Grey Socks
- Black shoes

Girls' Summer Uniform (Terms 1 & 4)

- Light Blue Polo Shirt
(with school crest)
- Blue School Shorts
- Maroon School Jumper
(with school crest)
- White Socks
- Black Shoes

HATS:



A reminder
that during
Term 1 all
students are
required to
wear a hat
whilst
outdoors.



CONGRATULATIONS LITHIL, ANU & ANJALEE:

The Buloke Shire Australia Day 2020 presentation evening was a very exciting day for Lithil and his family, Mum Anjalee and Dad Anu, as they all became Australian citizens. We congratulate and celebrate this wonderful milestone with them. What a fantastic way to finish the school holidays. A small presentation of Australian books was made to Lithil this morning.



FORMS:

Today, an envelope containing several forms was sent home.

I am aware of the time the paperwork takes and thank you in advance for completing it. These forms are a school requirement.

Could families please complete the forms and return to the school no later than Friday February 14th.

Please contact the office if you have any queries or require assistance. Thanks again. Anne
Please note that the 2020 Parent Handbook will be sent home next Monday, February 3rd.

CAMPS. SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND:

Please find with this Newsletter a form regarding this funding. Eligible primary school students will receive \$125.00.

If possible, please return by the end of February to allow the Office staff to process applications.

This money will be deducted from the cost of Camps/Excursions/Sports travel this year.

Please contact the office if you have any queries.

MEALS ON WHEELS:

St. Mary's is rostered on for Meals on Wheels from Monday February 17th to Friday February 21st.

Anyone who would like to help with the delivery of meals is asked to contact the office. **All volunteers MUST have a valid Working With Children card.**

If you have any queries regarding Meals on Wheels or how to apply for a Working With Children check, please do not hesitate to contact Maree in the office.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place on Tuesday February 18th.

A timetable will be sent home to all families with times of interviews in the coming weeks.

Any family who requires a particular time for Parent Teacher Interviews, due to work commitments etc., is asked to contact the office by Friday February 7th.

Families unable to attend on this date are also asked to call the office to make an alternative time.

FOUNDATION STUDENT'S REST DAYS:

This year the Foundation students will have the following days off as rest days:

- Wednesday February 5th
- Wednesday February 12th
- Wednesday February 19th
- Wednesday February 26th and
- Wednesday March 4th.



The Foundation students will commence full time at school from Tuesday March 10th.

LIBRARY DAYS:

This year library day for all grades will be Thursdays.

Students are encouraged to borrow books regularly and will require a **LIBRARY BAG** to place their books in.



ART SMOCKS:

Don't forget to bring your art smock. There are some smocks left in the art room from last year. Please check to make sure you have yours at school and that it is named.

SPORTS' DAYS:

The students will participate in Sport on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** and are to wear their red sports t-shirt and navy shorts on these days.



SKOOLBAG APP & WEBSITE:

St. Mary's uses the Skoolbag App and website as a way of communicating with families.

The Skoolbag App can be found on I-tunes or, for android users, the Play Store. The St. Mary's web page can be found at www.smdonald.catholic.edu.au

The web page and App. include a calendar that shows what is happening throughout the year along with extra information and photos of activities undertaken. The App. provides updates of daily events, reminders, frequently used forms, such as absentee forms, permission forms, the tuck shop menu, parent information, newsletter, child safety documents and school policies.

If you require assistance with either the App or the web site, please contact the office.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL:

The School Advisory Council will meet next Wednesday, February 5th at 7.00pm.

The main role of St. Mary's Advisory Council is to assist with the preservation and promotion of the school's Catholic ethos and culture. It provides informed advice to the Governing Authority and assists with planning for the present and future operation of the school.

VICTORIAN EDUCATION ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES:

During 2017 the Minister for Education reviewed the Attendance Guidelines. An updated Attendance Guideline document has been completed. A copy of the full document will be placed on the School App and Website.

- Schools must advise parents/guardians of unexplained absences on the same day, as soon as practicable.
- In accordance with the Education and Training Reform Act 2006, schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6-17 years.
- **Families are reminded that they can use the School App to record absences, ring the school from 8.30am (54971116) or email principal@smdonald.catholic.edu.au**

Please note that if you have not contacted the school by 9.30am to advise of your child/children's absence, the school will make contact with you, either by a telephone call or a text message.

CONTACT DETAILS:

In the coming week a form will be sent home regarding how you would prefer to receive information from St. Mary's e.g. newsletters, permission forms etc.

We understand that with technology advancing that paper may not be the best way for families to receive information any more.

Please complete the form and return to school with your preferences.

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Wednesday February 5th – Foundation Student's Rest Day
Wednesday February 12th – Foundation Student's Rest Day
Monday February 17th to Friday February 21st – Meals On Wheels
Wednesday February 19th – Foundation Student's Rest Day
Tuesday February 25th – Shrove Tuesday
Tuesday February 25th – Swimming Carnival Practice
Wednesday February 26th – Ash Wednesday
Wednesday February 26th – Swimming Carnival Practice
Wednesday February 26th – Foundation Student's Rest Day
Thursday February 27th – School Photos
Friday February 28th – Swimming Carnival
Wednesday March 4th – Foundation Student's Rest Day
Friday March 20th – Summer Sports in St. Arnaud
Friday March 20th – School Fete 4.30pm
Monday March 9th – Labour Day Public Holiday – NO STUDENTS
Friday March 27th – Last Day of Term 1 - 2.30pm finish