



## DATES:

### Term 1, 2019 Dates:

Wednesday February  
12<sup>th</sup> – Foundation  
Student's Rest Day

**Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> –**  
Assembly – Grade 6  
leader Speeches

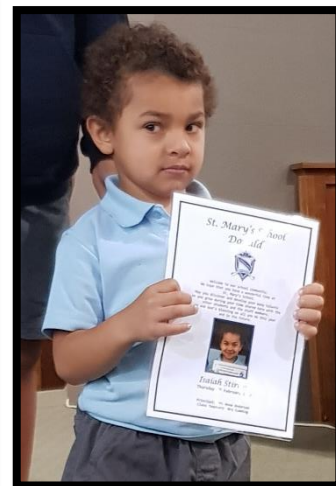
Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> to  
Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> –  
Meals On Wheels

Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> –  
Parent Teacher  
Interviews

Wednesday February  
19<sup>th</sup> – Foundation  
Student's Rest Day

## START OF YEAR MASS:

Today we celebrated our Beginning of Year Mass. Father Eugene welcomed our new students and staff, including our Foundation students. He also welcomed our Grade 6 leaders this year, Cam, Delilah, Ethan & Jaya and officially inducted them as the 2020 school leaders. The focus of the Mass was to ask God to bless all members of the school community throughout the year and to help each of us to respect each other and support each person in their learning. More photos can be found on the App and website.



### 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:

#### Learning & Teaching

*Provide opportunities for each student to achieve their academic potential in an engaging, contemporary educational environment.*

## WELCOME SHEREE:

Today we welcomed Sheree Carroll to our St. Mary's community. Mrs. Carroll will be working with the Senior classroom on a Thursday each week. We welcome Sheree and hope she enjoys her time at St. Mary's.



## **SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the School Advisory Council will be held on **Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7.00pm**. The Term One general meeting will follow on from the AGM.

There is currently a vacancy on the School Advisory Council. Any parent interested in nominating is asked to fill in a nomination form and return it and be in attendance at the AGM. For any queries regarding the School Advisory Council, please contact the office.



## **MEALS ON WHEELS:**

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

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.

## **FORMS:**

Last week several forms were sent home to each family.

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 15<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact the office if you have any queries or require assistance. Thanks again. Anne

## **PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING:**

The first Parents and Friends meeting for this year will be held on **Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm**. All families are encouraged to attend.

The main agenda item for the meeting will be the Fete, to be held on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **FAMILIES ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE CARD:**

Families are reminded to provide a copy of their Health Care Card to the Office to be allow for Family School Fee discount to be noted on your Fee Statement. The Eligible family annual fee will be reduced to \$520.00

## **PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:**

**Parent Teacher Interviews will take place on Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup>.**

A timetable will be sent home to all families with times of interviews next week.

Any family who requires a particular time for Parent Teacher Interviews, due to work commitments etc., is asked to contact the office by Monday February 10<sup>th</sup>.

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



## HARMONY DAY:

On **Tuesday, March 17th** the school will celebrate Harmony Day.

The Theme of the week is **'Everyone Belongs'**.



St. Mary's Community is very blessed to have many different cultural backgrounds which greatly enrich our school.

The day will commence with sharing a meal celebrating the different foods different cultures enjoy. During the afternoon students and staff will participate in games from different countries.

**Any family who is able to prepare a meal from their culture to share at lunch time is asked to contact the Office.**

**Students and Staff are invited to wear clothes that represent their culture / National Dress of their culture. If preferred students and staff are invited to wear something **orange** - the colour of Harmony Week.**

**More information will follow in the coming weeks.**

## SWIMMING:

This year's swimming carnival will be held on Friday February 28<sup>th</sup>. Prior to this day, students will be practising for the swimming carnival on Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Students will require the following for swimming each day:**

- Bathers
- Swim Top
- Towel
- Thongs/Sandals  
(to walk to & from the pool, if available)



*Sunscreen will be provided by the school, but if you have a preferred brand, you may send this with your child/ren.*

A BBQ lunch will be provided FREE of charge on the day.

*If any families are able to help on the day, could you please contact the office on 54971116.*



## FOUNDATION STUDENT'S REST DAYS:

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

- Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> and
- Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>.



The Foundation students will commence full time at school from Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>.



## **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.

## **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.



## **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.



## **SCHOOL PHOTOS:**

School photos will be taken Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. In the coming weeks each student will receive a photo order envelope. **These order envelopes need to be returned to school even if you are not ordering photos.** If you do not receive an envelope, please contact the office.

**If you would like family photos, please call the office for an order form.**

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

Attached to this newsletter is a form 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.

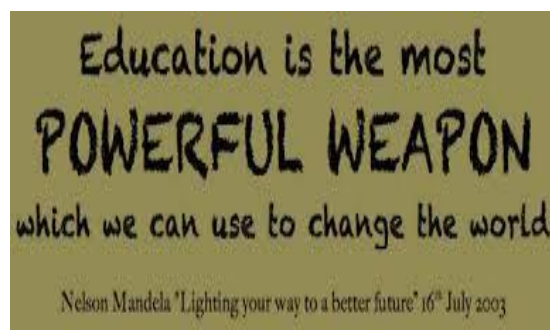
Please complete the form and return to school with your preferences.

## **SCHOOL DATES TERM 1, 2019:**

Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Student's Rest Day  
Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> – Grade 6 Leaders Speeches 9am  
Monday February 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> – Meals On Wheels  
Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Interviews  
Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Student's Rest Day  
Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup> – Shrove Tuesday  
**Tuesday February 25<sup>th</sup> – Swimming Carnival Practice**  
Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday  
**Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> – Swimming Carnival Practice**  
Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Student's Rest Day  
Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup> – School Photos  
**Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> – Swimming Carnival**  
Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Student's Rest Day  
**Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> – Labour Day Public Holiday – NO STUDENTS**  
**Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> – Harmony Day at St. Mary's**  
Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> – Summer Sports in St. Arnaud  
Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> – School Fete 4.30pm  
Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of Term 1 - 2.30pm finish



Are calling for names for Junior players for 2020 season. Players  
Born in 2007,08,09 are eligible to play in the 13&Under competition.  
If you are interested or have any questions  
text the players Name, Date of birth and Contact Number  
to Sara Adams 0438 971266



## **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](mailto: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.

# ST. MARY'S COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES



At St. Mary's, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact and, as part of this, we are asking families to answer a few questions on the way you would like to receive notices/information from us.

Could you please provide current mobile phone numbers and email addresses and who they belong to and answers to the below questions and return to school by **Friday February 21st?**

Please note that all information/updates will continue to be provided on the Skoolbag App. as usual.

If you have any queries, please contact the office on 54971116.

Thank you

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone number 1. \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone number 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address 1. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address 2. \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my newsletter via:

1. Skoolbag App
2. St. Mary's website
3. Paper

**Please circle**  
**your**  
**preferred**  
**option**

I would like to receive permission notices via:

1. Skoolbag App. (forms can be filled in, signed and returned within the App.)
2. Paper

If my child is absent I would like to be contacted via:

1. Mobile Phone (text message)
2. Mobile Phone (phone call)
3. Home Phone
4. Email