



# St Mary's Primary School

**Week 2 Term 1: Issue 1**

**Friday 7th February 2020**

**4-12 Duke Street,**

**Maffra, Vic 3860**

**Phone: (03) 5147 1334**

**[principal@stmmaffra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stmmaffra.catholic.edu.au)**

## ***Our Mission:***

At St. Mary's School Maffra, we are a Catholic School that strives to be authentic to the teachings of Jesus and the teachings of the Church. We aim to be an inclusive and nurturing community that respects, values and empowers each person to fulfil their dreams and potential. We envisage a School that provides challenging, relevant and child-centred learning experiences. We believe that the social, emotional, moral, spiritual and physical wellbeing of our students is pivotal to student health, safety, learning and success.

## **2020 Term One**

### **Week 3**

#### **Tuesday 11th February**

- St Marys Swimming Carnival

#### **Wednesday 12th February**

- NO PREPS TODAY

#### **Thursday 13th February**

- Parent Meeting for Reconciliation 7pm

#### **Sunday 16th February**

- Commitment Mass for Reconciliation @9am

### **Week 4**

#### **Monday 17th February**

- School Closure Day

#### **Wednesday 18th February**

- NO PREPS TODAY

#### **Sunday 23rd February**

- Commitment Mass for Reconciliation @9am

### **Week 5**

#### **Wednesday 26th February**

- NO PREPS TODAY

#### **Friday 28th February**

- HDSSA Swimming Carnival @ Sale pool

#### **Tuesday 5th March**

- Wellington Zone Swimming Carnival @ Sale pool

Dear Parents,

I formally welcome you all to the start of the 2020 school year. What a difficult period it has been for Gippslanders over the summer period. I am sure we have all been touched by the bushfires and probably know someone that it has impacted in some type of way. I know even within my own family one of my boys in an anxious way spent the summer on the Vic Emergency App. To complicate things even more, the coronavirus outbreak in China is now spreading throughout the world. Please make sure you read the letter that provides important information about the virus and if it applies to you or someone you may have been in contact with who has travelled in China.

It was great to see all of the Foundation students and new children in other levels commence last week. We hope your time at St Mary's Maffra is fulfilling and a positive experience. To all of our parents, please remember that myself and all of the teachers are here to help. If you require support in any way please don't hesitate to see one of us. My door is always open and I try to be as 'hands on' as I can. If you need to consult any of the teachers, please work out a time that is available so we can support your children.

An updated staff list will be available once we have made further appointments. I do need to let you know that I am thrilled that Liz Coleman has joined our staff as Deputy Principal. Liz and I worked together at St Thomas' in Sale and her professionalism, dedication and knowledge to support children and families will be fantastic for our school. Many of you will get to know Liz as she will be coordinating students learning plans, support meetings along with other administration. Please make yourself known to Liz if you haven't already. We are extremely fortunate to have her on staff, especially with her experience in supporting all children.

Over the holidays our proposed building refurbishment gained momentum. Benson Industries from Sale have been awarded the contract and we had the first site meeting last week. The first part of the project will involve the removal of windows from the classrooms that face Duke Street. In these windows are elements of asbestos which will be removed on our **Student Closure Day on Monday, 17th February**. This date was advertised in last year's final newsletter edition and was the reason why we didn't have any testing days at the start of the year. Staff will be collating data and notes over the first three weeks to analyse where and if further testing is required for individual students. With the removal of asbestos completed on this day the school site will need to be closed to staff as well as students. We may need one further day in March and if this occurs I will let you know as soon as possible.

Well done to all of the children in Grade One through to Grade 6 who completed swimming lessons this week. Under adverse conditions at times they were brave and got through.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Jason

— WELCOME —  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**



### ***Welcome to Our 2019 Foundation Class:***

Alice Bagguley, Addison Bainbridge, Pippa Boyle, Patrick Butcher, Owen Crutchfield, Archer Donald, Henry Gately, Myah Henry, Harper Lee, David Magallon, Emily Murphy, Hadley Parer, Casey Roberts, Payton Robson, Luke Vardy.

### ***Welcome to Our New Families:***

We welcome Monte (1) and Rafe Loadman-Morgan (2/3), Harri (2/3) and Charli Phillips (5/6A) and Winton Ochieng (5/6A). We also welcome back Georgia Rawson (2/3).

### ***Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF):***

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

**new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.

**changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

**See Page 6 of this week's newsletter for further details or contact the School Office.**

## **SCHOOL ABSENCE**

If your child is absent from school please email, ring or use the school app to let us know by 9:30am each morning. We have very strict procedures to account for all children each day.

- • • Call the school on 51471334
- • • Use the Absentee Form on the app
- • • Email [principal@stmmaffra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stmmaffra.catholic.edu.au)

### **Handy Hints**

Just a note for parents as some were unaware that the app has a "Forms" page. When you go into the app you will notice a + sign. Press this as there are more menu options that will come up on the screen. Here you will find Forms, press this to find Absentee Note.

Also, please make sure that you have push notifications selected on your phone settings so that notifications are shown on the front screen of your phone.



# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



*Happy birthday to the Following  
children who have celebrated  
birthdays so far this year!*

### **January**

3rd Ashley Davis 5/6A  
Georgia Rawson 2/3  
7th Ashlyn Harrington 5/6A  
12th Asher Garoni 2/3  
17th Rafe Loadman-Morgan 2/3  
Gus Weatherley 5/6A  
20th Oliver Dyer 5/6A  
28th Lenny Batalha 4  
Bella Smyth 2/3  
31st Alice Bagguley Foundation

### **February**

1st Olivia Hunt 4  
Archie Fulford 2/3  
5th Chloe Murphy 4  
Roman Delipoulos 5/6A  
Phoebe Delipoulos 5/6B  
6th Sam Phillips 5/6A

### ***School Times:***

**School Begins: 9am**

**Recess: 11am - 11.30am**

**Lunch:**

Children Eat: **1pm - 1.10pm**

Lunch Playtime: **1.10pm - 1.50pm**

**Dismissal: 3.20pm**

Although children arriving on the early bus will supervised from 8.20am, we ask that all other children not arrive before 8.30am.

A teacher will be on duty in the mornings.

Classrooms will be open from 8.45am each morning.



### ***Sign In/ Sign Out Book and Visitors Registers:***

To ensure the safety and accountability for each child we have a **"Register of Late Arrivals/ Early Departures Book"**.

Children arriving late are to be signed in and parents wanting to take their child/children from school during the day e.g. for an appointment, must also sign them out at the office. If they are returning to school, they must sign them back in. The book is located outside the office. If someone other than yourself is to pick up your child from school, or if bus or car arrangements have changed for the day, please notify the school or your child's classroom teacher.

You will also find a **"Visitors Register"** located outside the office. We ask that all visitors entering the school building after 9am, i.e. after the start of the school day and including classroom helpers, use the front entry and sign their name on the register. This allows us to monitor who is in the school for safety reasons.

**These books are very important in accounting for all children and visitors as part of our School Displan / Emergency Procedures.**

### ***School Entry and Exits:***

**Children are not to enter or leave the school via the front office entrance**, unless accompanied by an adult. The front office can be a very busy time before and after school, so we would appreciate you encouraging your children to follow this rule.

Children are asked to assemble at designated stations before leaving the school grounds. Children leaving with parents by car are to wait at the car gate in Duke Street. Town Bus children and those children walking are also asked to use Duke Street gate.

Children are not to leave the school grounds unless dismissed by a teacher. All children being picked up are asked to be accompanied across the road by an adult. Country Bus children and bike riders are to use the back gate located on Laura Street. Again children are not to leave the grounds unless dismissed by the teacher.

### ***School Absences:***

Parents are requested to contact the school office and explain student absences before 9.30am. You can inform the school or your child/ren's absence by School App, email or phone call to the school office. If contact is not made by 9.30am the office will contact parents by phone or text message. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated



### ***Allergies:***

We have children within our School Community with specific allergies that may require the use of an epi-pen. **We ask you to speak to your children about not sharing their food**, due to traces of specific ingredients that may be harmful to others.

At the moment, we recommend that children only bring fresh fruit, dried fruit and **no nuts** for their Fruit Stop, and that we are wary of the food items we are placing in lunch boxes. It is very difficult to monitor trace elements of nuts and eggs which are the main triggers for our children, however if we make an effort to monitor our food items, we reduce the possibility of a severe reaction in those children who come in contact with these foods and oils. Children who may have items containing nuts or eggs are to wash their hands thoroughly, with any used containers or wrappers placed carefully in the bins.

Some parents have asked about the sharing of birthday cakes, as some of the ingredients may have traces of nuts, so we strongly encourage you to talk to the class teacher before bringing in any food.

### ***Medication Register:***

Any prescription medication that a child must take during school hours must be signed in at the school office. NOTE: All medication must be prescribed by a Medical Practitioner and have the child's name and dosage on the bottle.

### ***Working With Children Checks:***

All workers and volunteers at any Catholic School in our Diocese are required to have this check as a minimum safety measure. We strongly encourage all parents to obtain their WWCC card. To apply, please log on to <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>, Volunteer cards are free. Please include St. Mary's in your details when applying. We keep a record of your WWCC at school and notify classroom teachers so that they are aware of who has their check and can participate in the classroom program.

### ***School App:***

Our School App is available to download via the following links:

App Store: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/st-marys-primary-school-maffra/id723234085?ls=1&mt=8>

Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fraynetwork.vcsws.stmmaffa>

### ***Mobile Devices and Electronic Equipment at School:***

A reminder that children are asked not to bring mobile devices to school or any school events, (devices include iPads, mini iPads, iPods, laptops, e-books, phones, DS's or any other electronic equipment) unless they are specifically part of your children's education plans (Individual Learning Plan.) Even if this is the case, they should only be using them in the classrooms. If you have any queries with regard to this, please don't hesitate to speak with myself or the teachers personally.

### ***Uniform:***

St. Mary's School takes pride in its official uniform. It has been established over many years and is recognised as an economical and practical code of dress. The school uniform identifies students as members of the St. Mary's School Community. The children are encouraged to wear their uniform with pride, and behave in a manner which reflects creditably on themselves, their families and their school. Parents are required to ensure that the full uniform is worn at all times.

#### **Boy's Summer Uniform**

Grey shorts, mid thigh length  
Pale blue shirt  
Grey socks  
Navy pullover with school emblem  
Black leather shoes  
School hat

#### **Girl's Summer Uniform**

Blue/white check dress, white collar and cuffs  
White socks  
Navy pullover with school emblem  
Black leather shoes  
School hat

#### **Sports Uniform**

School polo shirt (with emblem)  
Navy blue mid thigh length shorts  
Tracksuit – navy blue with school emblem  
White socks

We understand that during the holiday season and at weekends children enjoy wearing decorative jewellery, nail polish and make up occasionally, however, we do ask parents to assist the school by ensuring that these decorative items are not worn during school hours. Sleepers or studs are acceptable.

*Parents will be notified if their children are not in correct uniform as stated above.*

#### **School Hats**

Until **30th April**, it is compulsory for children to wear an approved school hat for all outdoor activities as stated in our school's Safety and Health Policy. We ask that parents support us in our efforts to ensure our policy is adhered to. Please note that the hat must be an approved St Mary's school hat.



### ***Swimming Carnival Dates:***

**St Mary's School House Swimming Sports:**  
***Tuesday 11th February 2020 @ Maffra Pool***

**HDSSA Swimming Sports:**  
***Friday 28th February 2020 @ Sale Pool***

**Wellington Zone Swimming Sports:**  
***Wednesday 4th March 2020 @ Sale Pool***

**Gippsland Regional Swimming:**  
***Thursday 12th March 2020 @ Warragul Pool***





## Parish News:



### WEEKEND MASSES:

#### Heyfield:

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
1st & 3rd Sunday Cowwarr 11:00am

#### Maffra:

Sunday: 9:00am  
2nd & 4th Sunday—Newry 11:00am  
5th Sunday—Dargo 12:00pm

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

#### Heyfield:

Tuesday 9:30am

#### Maffra:

Wednesday 5:00pm  
Thursday 9:30am  
Friday 10:00am  
every 2nd Friday—Stretton Park 10:00am  
Saturday 9:30am

### RECONCILIATION:

Maffra: Saturday – After Mass 10:00am

Heyfield: Saturday—Before Mass 5:20pm  
Or any other time by request

## February School Masses

**24th February ~ Start of the Year Whole School Mass @ 10am**

## SACRAMENT NEWS

All parents should now have indicated if you would like your child to receive a sacrament this year. If you haven't replied, please ensure your form is in by Wednesday, 12th February. Thank you

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent Meeting**

**Thursday, 13th February @ 7pm in the Grade 2/3 Classroom**





## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit  
[www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



# ★ SUFC JUNIOR ★ Preseason Training

**AND  
COME & TRY  
SESSION**



**Raglan St**

All Current & New Players, Both Boys & Girls, Aged 7 - 16 Years Are Invited To Our First Training For The Season. A BBQ Will Be Held Following The Session. Please Bring Appropriate Footwear, Shinguards And Water Bottle. All Players Must Register Through The Link. Any Questions Call Laurel - 0409144757

Register Your Name Here: [HERE](#)

**Saturday  
15<sup>th</sup> Feb  
10:30am -12pm**

## **Katherine Fraser Dance**

Classes in Ballet (Royal Academy of Dance)  
Contemporary  
Pre-School Dance  
Jazz Dance  
Adult Ballet  
Limber/Conditioning  
Katherine Drewe-Fraser; B.A, M.T. (Dance)  
Examiner of The Royal Academy of Dance, London  
**0477 446 233 or [katherinefraser-dance@gmail.com](mailto:katherinefraser-dance@gmail.com)**

Venue: Uniting Church Hall, 7 Pearson St Maffra

**Want to give your child a head start  
with essential life skills?**

*It's easier than you think*

Did you know that participation in drama classes builds confidence and fosters creativity, problem solving skills and resilience?

**CLASSES RESUME FOR 2020 ON  
FEBRUARY 8TH**

Saturday mornings at the Hua Room at The Wedge

9: Juniors (Prep-Year 2)

9:45: Intermediates (Years 3-6)

*(Limited places available)*

11: Seniors (Years 7-10)

*(Limited places available)*



To enrol, call 0458450777 or find us on



**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**



# **Stratford Pony Club Interschool Equestrian Challenge**

## **EV Affiliated**

**Primary & Secondary School**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**Maffra Showgrounds, MAFFRA 3860**

Enquiries Phone: Kalinda Wade 0407 439 077 or Kylie Gault 0438 322 944

Email: [mandkwade@bigpond.com](mailto:mandkwade@bigpond.com)

**Entries Close: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**FULL CATERING ALL DAY**

**Equestrian Victoria State Interschool Qualifier**

In 2020 this event forms part of the Stratford Interschool Series – points will be accumulated over the series to award a Champion School and Champion Rider for each year level at the end of 2020.

### **Prizes**

Winning team – each rider of the winning team will receive a sash and rug.

Sashes for teams to 6<sup>th</sup> Place.

Individual Winner and Runner Up in each level will receive a sash and prize.

Ribbons 1-6<sup>th</sup> in each event.

Sections -Prep/1, Years 2/3, Years 4/5, Years 6/7, Years 8/9, Years 10/11/12

### **Events**

**Event 1** - Games – Bending Race

**Event 2** – Games – Mug Race

**Event 3** - Games – Golf Ball Race

**Event 4** – Showjumping – Two Phase

**Event 5** – Showjumping – Grand Prix

**Event 6** – Rider

**Event 7** – Handler

**Event 8** – Pleasure Mount

**Event 9** - Ridden Pony under 12 hands

**Event 10**– Ridden Pony 12 hands and under 13 hands

**Event 11** – Ridden Pony 13 hands and under 14 hands

**Event 12** – Ridden Galloway 14 hands and under 15 hands

**Event 13** – Ridden Hack 15 hands and over

**Event 14** – Horse or Pony any height for led riders only

**Event 15** – Obstacle Course