

St Mary's Primary School

Week 4 Term 1: Issue 2
Thursday 20th February 2020

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Maffra, Vic 3860**
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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 4

Friday 21st February

- St Mary's House Swimming

Week 5

Tuesday 25th February

- Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday 26th February

- NO PREPS TODAY
- Ash Wednesday Mass 10am
& presentation of leadership
badges

Friday 28th February

- HDSSA Swimming
Carnival @ Sale pool

Week 6

Monday 2nd March

- PREPS ATTEND FULL
TIME

Wednesday 4th March

- Wellington Zone
Swimming Carnival
@ Sale pool

Week 7

Thursday 12th March

- Gippsland Regional
Swimming Carnival
@ Warragul pool

Sunday 15th March

- St Mary's School Family
Mass

Dear Parents,

This week we started the first stage of the building refurbishment. It has been a long time coming and the school is very confident that Benson Industries will be meeting all of our needs. As explained previously we have to be flexible for the first semester at St Mary's in order to have a fantastic long term gain of a first class educational facility. In working closely with the builders and the Catholic Education Office we have already used our school closure day at the start of the year to remove asbestos from the top window frames. Notification of a further one day will be decided over the weekend to remove the final stage of asbestos. The builders require a three day block so either a Monday or Friday will be needed in order to complete the job. A letter will be sent home next week after I have spoken with Industrial Relations and the builders on an agreed date. Your cooperation is much appreciated in this matter.

Next week we welcome two new staff members to St Mary's. Kathy Maclean will be our full-time Grade 4 teacher for the rest of this year. Rebecca Halley will join Tara Battista in Grade 2/3 and teach every Monday and Tuesday. I know that both new staff members will bring many talents to share with us all in our school community. I thank Sarah Wheeler for completing a short-term contract with us at the start of the year. The children in Grade 4 have certainly had a smooth start. We wish Sarah well as she commences a travelling holiday in Queensland.

This week I attended a series of meetings on the Diocesan Agenda of working towards all students having an accelerated rate of progress under the care of the teacher who is providing expert teacher practice. The building program has the central aim of creating an environment with quality resources and flexible learning spaces. It will be furnished accordingly to accommodate all students who can move throughout a larger space or work within quiet smaller areas depending on the activity. As teachers, we are all dedicated to supporting the children in our care. With clear instructions and point of need teaching we are confident that all of our children continue to flourish at school. Some themes from these meetings that are discussed back at school include leaders creating strong organisational climates so that the climate of teaching is high. If these conditions are created and in full swing then teacher practice will be consistent and the collaboration amongst staff is positive.

Well done to those children who have made the commitment to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Learning to forgive and be forgiven is hard for us all. By learning and talking together about life experiences it is amazing to hear what our children understand. We live in a society now where teachers must recontextualise the message from the Gospel. By this I mean make the experience meaningful and relevant in today's world. Late last year I was part of a class who acted out the Last Supper with finger puppets. To see the children engaged and learning was brilliant. Rich tasks and authentic teaching will see the children tackle all challenges.

As this has been a bit of a 'messy' start to the year we have not conducted Information Nights or Parent and Teacher Interviews. With classroom space at a minimum and the employment of staff we will have a 'Meet and Greet' afternoon on a date to be advised very shortly. A letter regarding this will be sent home next week.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Jason

Staffing 2020:

Principal: Jason Slattery

Senior Leadership Positions

Deputy Principal/Curriculum Co-Ordinator: Liz Coleman

Religious Education Leader: Dianne Austin

Administration Officers: Kylie Bennett
Sacha Hennig

Art Teacher: Ness Power

LOTE (Japanese) Teacher: Jess Uldrich

Integration/Teacher Aides: Kathryn Bennett,
Kris Bradley, Linda Allman, Sacha Hennig,
Tracy Christensen, Shona Osborn, Lindie Anderson and
Gerard Bennett.

Library Assistant: Jenny Robson

Cleaning Staff: Irene & Peter Onley

Foundation	Kerry Barton
Grade 1	Virginia Hellings
Grade 2/3	Tara Battista Rebecca Halley
Grade 4	Kathy Maclean
Grade 5/6A	Di Austin
Grade 5/6B	Kate Donald Serrin Stobie

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.



February

13th Sam Nowak 5/6B
14th Stella Donald 1
17th Kate Hart 2/3
19th Charlotte Nikolajew 5/6B
20th Boyd Tappenden 5/6A



Awards:

Congratulations to the following children who received awards at assembly:

	Class Award
Foundation	Hadley Parer Addison Bainbridge
1	Anastasia Dwyer Chevy McMahon
2/3	Harri Phillips Rafe Loadman-Morgan Ada Phillips
4	Chloe Murphy Lenny Batalha
5/6A	Ashley Murphy
5/6B	Lucas Felmingham Olivia Phelan Stephanie Hart Jack Garoni

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.

To purchase and order new uniforms, please visit Jolene at Kidz Biz, 84 Johnson Street in Maffra. Please visit in store to arrange pre-order of winter uniforms. The deadline for pre-ordering winter uniforms is Friday 28th February.

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:
Friday 21st 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

RECONCILIATION:

Maffra: Saturday – After Mass 10:00am

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

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

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday, 25th February

Pancakes made at school



Ash Wednesday Mass & Presentation of Year 6 Leader- ship Badges

Wednesday, 26th February @ 10am



St Mary's School Family Mass

Sunday, 15th March

Whole School Mass

Friday, 20th March
@ 10am



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

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

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.



SUNCORP

Sale Netball Association be running three 5 week NetSetGO programs this year.

Their first Wednesday program is perfect for brand newbies or for young players wanting to get match ready for the upcoming Saturday junior competition.

PROGRAM 1 – Wed March 4th – Wed April 1st 4.30pm – 5.30pm

PROGRAM 2 – Sat May 9th – Sat June 13th (excluding the long weekend) Time to be advised

PROGRAM 3 – Thurs Oct 15th – Thurs Nov 12th 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Players must be registered with Netball Victoria and Sale Netball Association to participate. Once 2020 NV and SNA registrations are paid, the cost for each 5 week program will be \$5.

2020 NetSetGO Online Registration Cost

NV \$68, SNA \$12

Participants receive a pack with a netball in their favourite Suncorp team colours and a Suncorp NSG t-shirt that can be personalised for a few extra dollars.

Registration Link

<https://netball.resultsvault.com/common/pages/reg/welcome.aspx?type=6&prodid=386293&id=87988&entityid=39561>

At times there will be multiple NSG registration options to choose from via the link. Please read the description on each option carefully to make sure you register for the correct program. Contact SNA by email if you are unsure of which program you need to choose.

Please email Sale Netball Association before registering if your child is turning 10 this year and would like to participate in the skills sessions***

They can be contacted at salenetball@gmail.com if you have any queries ❤

*For more information regarding NetSetGO click on the following link

<https://netsetgo.asn.au/>



Did you know that Gumnuts ELC is now offering- Maffra Before and after school care?

***We run the service from the Maffra Primary School.
For BSC we walk the children from Maffra PS to St Mary's. For
ASC we collect the children from St Mary's and make our way to
Maffra PS where the program is run.***

***We provide before school care between the hours of 6:30am - 9am
We provide after school care between 3pm – 6pm***

For more information or to make a booking please contact Brendon or
Nadine on 51446952 or via email gumnutselc@netspace.net.au

MAFFRA TEAMS TRIATHLON

Sunday 1st March 2020

Kids Team Triathlons

Teams of 3 - each team member completes the full triathlon

20m / 500m / 300m (age 5-7)

40m / 1.5km / 600m (age 8-11)

Team Triathlon (age 12+)

Teams of 3 - each team member completes one leg of the triathlon

100m / 7km / 2km

Team Triple Triathlon (age 12+)

Teams of 3 - each team member completes the full triathlon

100m / 7km / 2km

Individual Triple Triathlon (age 15+)


Individual race - one person completes 3 triathlons back to back

(100m / 7km / 2km) ×3

For more information:

Email: rivtriclub@gmail.com

Web: www.rivieratriclub.com.au

 Riviera Triathlon Club

Pre-registration essential

All ages and abilities welcome

Kids races start 8:30 am

Senior races from 10 am

Check-in 30 minutes before race start



All proceeds to Maffra Gymnastics Stadium and Maffra Lawn Tennis Club redevelopment projects