

St Mary's School

Faith - Respect - Challenge - Teamwork

From Mr Love...

Dear Parents and Community Members,

This week's newsletter finds us at the conclusion of Week Seven and quickly approaching the fourth Sunday of Lent. Wow! Where has time flown?

Character Strengths

As I hope you are aware, St Mary's school is adopting a strengths-based approach to behaviour engagement and student and staff wellbeing. Recently, the staff at St Mary's School were asked to undertake a personalised character strengths survey in order to showcase the personal strengths they each contribute every day. These strengths will be displayed in the staff room to enhance our understanding of the important role the knowledge and use of character strengths play in the pursuit of wellbeing and school improvement. Please see the results of Mr Love's top three-character strengths:

Love

Valuing close relations with others, in particular those in which sharing & caring are reciprocated; being close to people.

Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence

Noticing and appreciating beauty, excellence, and/or skilled performance in various domains of life, from nature to art to mathematics to science to everyday experience.

Teamwork

Working well as a member of a group or team; being loyal to the group; doing one's share

Harmony Week

At St Mary's School, we are so very blessed to have such a diverse range of cultures within our school community. And so very blessed to actively witness our children leading the way in what Harmony Week is calling each of us to do.

On Monday 18, the staff will organise activities which will help our students to become more aware of cultural discrimination and prejudice and to also celebrate the cultural diversity we have here at St Mary's School. All students are invited to wear orange clothing or orange accessories to school. Please be reminded that students will still need appropriate sun protective clothing and closed in shoes. Let's all light up the school in orange next week!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 7

Fri 15 Mar FACTION Swimming

Carnival

Week 8 NAPLAN Testing

Mon 18 Mar Whole School Morning

Prayer 8:50am

HARMONY DAY

Tues 19 Mar Sacrament of First

Reconciliation 9am

Wed 20 Mar Reconciliation

Yr 4.5.6

Fri 22 Mar NCVISSA Swimming

Carnival

Week 9

HOLY WEEK CLASS LITURGIES

Mon 25 Mar Palm Sunday K.PP

Tues 26 Mar Washing of Feet Yr 1.2

Wed 27 Mar Last Supper Yr 3.4

Thur 28 Mar Stations of the Cross

Yr 5.6 ASSEMBLY

TERM ONE FINISH

Fri 29 Mar Good Friday

PO Box 138

Northampton 6535 Phone: 08 9996 7100

Email: admin@smsn.wa.edu.au Website: www.smsn.wa.edu.au REMINDER

Online LUNCH ORDERS need to be in by 10AM please.

From Mr Love cont...

2024 CEWA Leaders Forums

Last week, I and members of the St Mary's School staff had the privilege of attending a number CEWA Leadership Strategic Planning days. These meetings invited all leaders from the 163 schools within Catholic Education Western Australia to meet and discuss system level and school level improvement. Upon completion of these days of strategic planning and dialogue, it solidified to me how important our little school is to the CEWA system and the bold goals our system is asking of us.

St Mary's School will continue to be a place where the face of Christ will be seen in all our students. A 'one size fits all' approach is not what we do here at St Mary's School! Although this hard work, our staff are actively aware of our calling of being child focussed in a Christ-centred way. I thank you for working in partnership with us.

STMs Swimming Carnival

Tomorrow, we hold the St Mary's School Swimming Carnival. This year, the carnival will be held at the Geraldton Aquarena with events commencing at 10.00am. Like always, volunteers will be required to assist in the running of events and as an added layer of safety in the water. Please let the Office know if you are able to assist. Good luck to the competitors of Nagle and Kelly!

NCVISSA Summer Carnival

Next Friday 22 March, St Mary's School will be participating in the NCVISSA Swimming Carnival. This swimming carnival will be held at the Geraldton Aguarena. Parent volunteers will be requested, and I thank you in advance if you are able to assist.

Work, Health and Safety

St Mary's School endeavours to provide a safe environment for staff, students, parents, carers and visitors. We aim to:

- ensure the safety, health and welfare of all employees and non-employees on school premises
- develop, promote, and maintain a safe and healthy school premises that seeks to minimise the risk of injury or illness for employees and non-employees
- create a culture of safety that encourages the development, maintenance and promotion of healthy school premises
- ensure that adequate financial, physical and human resources are available to support the management of occupational safety and health on school premises.

If a hazard is observed, that is anything that may result in an injury or harm to the health of a person, we request that it is reported to the School Office in a timely manner. Staff have a form that they are required to complete, students are encouraged to speak to the Staff and parents/carers/visitors are requested to report their concerns to the Office so the hazard can be addressed in a timely manner. Thank you for working with the school to keep everyone safe.

St Patrick's Day - 17 March

On the 17th March, the Church celebrates the feast of St Patrick. St Patrick was born in Britain in the late 300s or early 400s. Pirates captured him when he was sixteen. They sold him as a slave in Ireland, where he worked as a shepherd for six years. He then escaped and returned home.

After years of religious training, Patrick went back to Ireland. There he converted many people to Christianity. There are several legends about St Patrick. One legend says that he drove away all the snakes in Ireland. Which is untrue, no snakes have ever been native in Ireland.

St Patrick is most known for using the three parts of a shamrock leaf to explain the idea of the Trinity. The Trinity refers to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit of our Lord. One God, three persons.

Project Compassion - Caritas Australia - For All Future Generations

As we continue to support the Project Compassion fundraiser, a reminder that all family Project Compassion boxes are asked to be returned to the Office before the end of term. Thank you in advance.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation Candidates

Please keep select Year Three students in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation on 19 March.

Good News Story

This week's good news story must go to the students in Year 3 and 5 who have performed so admirably during the scheduled NAPLAN Assessments. While NAPLAN is not the be-all and end-all we still want our students to give it their best. These students have done that and should be applauded for their effort.

Take care, Brett

2024 SCHOOL FEES AND UNIFORM ACCOUNTS

2024 School Fee Statements have been sent home. Attached there is a form to complete and return to the school if you wish to pay your school fees via a Payment Plan. Existing Payment Plans can continue.

2024 STUDENT DETAIL, MEDICAL RECORDS AND PERMISSION FORMS

Each family will have received a copy of their Full Student Details Report and Medical Records along with the Collection of Student Images, Movie Permission and IT Usage Agreement forms. Please check and if necessary, update the details on the Medical Details Report, <u>sign all forms and return to the school office as soon as possible</u>. Thank you to those who have already returned their completed forms.

If you need to advise the school of new medicals details, please request a form from the school office.

FOOTY TIPPING

Congratulations to Ange Cripps who is our "Round Zero" footy tipping winner!

There is still time to join our footy tipping competition! Please see the flyer in this newsletter and **NOTE OUR NEW COMPETITION NAME** and **PAYMENT DETAILS**. As this is a new competition, you will have to register to tip with us, even if you have tipped with us in the past. Our previous competition is now obsolete.

Entry into the competition is \$50.50, there is a \$50 prize for the best tipper each week, overall winner takes home \$800, second prize is \$300, and third prize is \$100. Please go to the ESPN Website to register in our competition. https://www.footytips.com.au and search for **St Marys PandF.**

Term Dates 2024

Term 1
Wed 31 Jan
Commences
Thurs 28 Mar
Finishes

Term 2

Tues 16 April Commences
Fri 28 June Finishes

Term 3

Tues 16 July Commences

Thurs 19 Sep Finishes - Students

Term 4

Tues 08 Oct Commences

Fri 06 Dec Finishes – Students

Pupil Free Days 2024

Monday 15 April	Staff PD Day
Tuesday June 4	Catholic Day
Monday July 15	Staff PD Day
Friday Sep 20	Staff PD Day
Monday Nov 4	Staff PD Day

BIRTHDAYS

Bailey S 18 Mar 18 Mar Nate 26 Mar Serah

24 Mar Miss Harrison

Public Holidays 2024

Thurs Dec 26

Fri Mar 29 Good Friday **Easter Monday** Mon April 1 Thurs April 25 **ANZAC Day** Mon June 3 WA Day Sept 23 King's Birthday Mon **Christmas Day** Wed Dec 25

Boxing Day

DID YOU KNOW?

Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to operate a 100watt bulb for 4 hours, a computer for 25 minutes, power a TV for 20 minutes, or power a washing machine for 10 minutes

DID YOU KNOW?

Water is the only substance on Earth that can be found in 3 different forms - solid, liquid or gas

Put some CRUNCH into your day!

Australian children are not eating enough vegetables. Primary school aged children need between 4 and 5 serves every day. Eating vegetables will benefit:

- bones and joints
- heart and circulation
- skin

brain and nervous system

energy and metabolism

- hydration immunity
- vision

AND they taste great!



Why not pack some fresh vegies for Crunch&Sip®? Try carrot sticks, cherry tomatoes, snow peas, broccoli and cauliflower pieces, celery or cucumber.





Learn more at crunchandsip.com.au



MERIT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the Merit Certificate recipients for Term One, Week 6



Year K/PP Elina

Elina, it is lovely to see you enjoying being part of our class! You have made a fantastic start to Kindy, joining in all activities with an enthusiastic smile and a great attitude. I am very impressed with your excellent counting and number recognition, and the sounds you already know. Keep up the amazing work!

Year 1/2 Charlie W

For always displaying super work habits and group work skills during all tasks. Charlie, you take responsibility for yourself with a positive enthusiasm, and always strive to give 100% to all

you do. Thank you for constantly beginning your work quickly and quietly without disruptions. We love how you enter the classroom each day with a huge smile and willing to learn something new every day. What a wonderful way to start Year Two. Congratulations, Charlie!



Harvey

For identifying that the Bible has two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. You were also able to tell me that God made the world in the Old Testament and that Jesus was born and died on the cross. Harvey, you were also able to sort Smarties by colour, show the data on a column graph, and interpret the information, independently. Thank you for displaying such a great attitude to everything you do and always giving it your very best. Way to go, Harvey!

Tait

For always joining in with discussions and sharing your thoughts. Tait, you did a fantastic job in retelling the story of The Jigaree. You could tell me all the verbs the Jigaree was doing. In Maths, you can read numbers into the hundreds as well as identify 10 more and 10 less in a hundreds number. What a terrific start to Year One. Continue to shine in our class, Tait!

Year 3/4 Bailey

For the consistent focus and effort that you have been putting into your learning. Bailey, you are really applying yourself. Your patience, as you learn new concepts, is impressive. Keep it up!



For the way you are settling down to work, making sure you do your best and really trying hard is awesome to see. Grace, you are demonstrating impressive concentration skills and remaining focused on your work. Keep up the awesome attitude!

Year 5/6 Layla

For demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities. Layla embodies the essence of leadership by effortlessly encouraging her peers to work collaboratively towards shared goals while fostering positive relationships within the group. Her proactive approach and unwavering commitment to helping others exemplify her outstanding character strength. Always at the forefront of any task.

Layla sets a remarkable example for her classmates, demonstrating initiative, organisation, and a genuine dedication to the success of the collective. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

William

For the recognition of his outstanding demonstration of fairness. William consistently upholds the principles of justice and equality, treating all individuals with respect and ensuring everyone receives fair treatment. His ability to remain unbiased and considerate in decision-making



showcases his remarkable character strength. William's commitment to fairness sets a commendable example for his peers and enriches our school community. Congratulations on this well-deserved honour.

Good Sportsmanship Awards: Oakley, Charlie T, Zavier, Blake

Principal Awards: Mason and Blake





PARISH NEWS

Fifth Sunday of Lent in Ordinary Time - Year B

Jesus was greatly troubled as the hour of his suffering and death approached. He was tempted to ask the Father to save him from this hour. But he knew that his death would be a source of new life for all. Today's liturgy invites us to share in Jesus' self-sacrificing love. For ourselves, as for Jesus, the grain of wheat must die in order to produce a rich harvest.

Project Compassion: The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind the scenes every day to create a better future for their communities. Your donation can be given through the Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available at the back of the church or donate online by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or calling 1800 024 413.

Our Aged and Sick; Pray for Fr. Brian Ahearn, Win & Ray Bowman, Nell Cripps, Col Constantine, Paul Leeson, Betty Thompson and all the residents of Brookview

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES 2024				
Holy Thursday	March 28th	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Northampton	6.00pm
Good Friday	March 29th	Stations of the Cross	Northampton	9.00am
		Passion Liturgy & Reconciliation	Northampton	3.00pm
Easter Sunday	March 31st	Mass of the Resurrection	Northampton Kalbarri	8.30am 5.00pm

Gems of John Cyril Hawes: Here is your chance to spend a relaxing afternoon on **April 26th** discovering all the hidden gems of Monsignor Hawes in Geraldton. Join members of the Geraldton parishes and visit the Cathedral Crypt, The Hermitage, view the artwork inside the chapel at the Utakarra Cemetery and enjoy the hospitality of the Irish Club. Join a Coach Tour of these and other buildings and learn more about Monsignor Hawes. Book online www.monsignorhawes.com or phone Gerry on 0417912997. **Cost \$75**.

Palms Australia: Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from ALL sectors to share their skills with those who have had little opportunity for formal training. You too will learn and grow within a most welcoming community. Experience the joy as you assist to change lives. Join our two week tour to Timor-Leste on 06 May, 2024 to see Palms program participants and our local partner communipalms@palms.org.au ties in action

together. Contact: 02 95605333









