



Important Dates

P&F School Disco

Friday 21 October

Year 5 Camp

October 26 - 28

Wednesday 26 October

Year 6 Camp

November 1 - 4

Tuesday 1 November

Book Fair -

November 7 & 8

Monday 7 November

Book Fair

November 9 - 11

Wednesday 9 November

Pupil Free Day

Monday 14 November

Sports Day

Friday 18 November

Year 4 Camp

November 23 - 25

Wednesday 23 November

**R-6 Swimming
Week**

Monday 28 November

End of Year Mass

Wednesday 7 December

Carols Night

Thursday 8 December

Year 6 Graduation

Tuesday 13 December

**Last Day of the
Year. 3pm finish**

Wednesday 14 December

Pupil Free Day

Thursday 15 December

Pupil Free Day

Friday 16 December

Introduction

There is always something special about returning to school after a holiday break. Our students and staff are well rested and re-energised and students are excited to reconnect with each other – there is a special buzz in the playground and classrooms! With the sun shining on Monday as it was, it made for an even more exciting start to Term 4. When we met for our whole school notices which occur on Monday mornings, I described the noise as students entered as an 'excited chatter'. It is great to be back. Welcome to Term 4!

From the Principal



A BUSY, BUSY TERM:

As I have recently mentioned in correspondence to you, Term 4 is shaping as a particularly busy one. I often say the most important way families can be 'involved' in their child's education is to ensure that they know what is going on. I also acknowledge that you are often inundated with information and constant messages from us here at school. If you are also engaged at other schools with other kids – the amount of information often doubles and triples in nature!

As we navigate the next few weeks however, I would ask that you support us by ensuring you read carefully about and are aware of the many pieces of information we will send to you. In most cases this will take place via email or See Saw. Please ensure you check your email regularly and read and action the items which require it.

Please see the important whole school, class and cohort dates that are outlined in the newsletter and other correspondence.

SOCTOBER INITIATIVE THIS FRIDAY:

These events kick off with our Year 5 Soctober initiative occurring this Friday. As part of our commitment to supporting Social Justice initiatives and in particular in this case those who are much less fortunate than us, we are supporting Catholic Missions in their work. More information about this was posted on See Saw earlier in the week.

In short on Friday:

- Students are invited to wear a favourite sporting team top or socks.
- Each class will participate in a game of soccer organised by our Year 5s - with a twist! The balls they will use will be made of recycled socks and plastic bags to drive home the message that we often take for granted what we have to use in our everyday life.
- We are asking that families donate a gold coin (in person) or a small donation (via the QKR! App).
- Families are also invited to send in any plastic bags they have lying around or odd socks. These will also be donated to Catholic Missions so more soccer balls can be made.

Thanks for your support of this initiative.

DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH:

What do Richard Branson, Whoopi Goldberg, Picasso, Dick Smith, Tom Cruise and Steve Jobs have in common? They are all very famous (and some very rich) people who were also diagnosed as having dyslexia. Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction.

We are learning more and more about dyslexia and the number of people who have being diagnosed with dyslexia is increasing significantly. It is believed that is because we are becoming more and more aware of it, and many people in the past (and today) have probably had dyslexia but never been diagnosed with it.

October is Dyslexia awareness month. This is a great opportunity to shine a light on dyslexia and we are encouraged to spread the word about ways to support people living with dyslexia, by sharing their stories and planning activities that support their learning.

As I am sure you would know we pride ourselves on ensuring we have in place excellent support structures and knowledge around best practice in supporting students with dyslexia.

ANOTHER STATE CHAMPION TEAM:

Our sporting trophy cabinet is going to need an upgrade! Yesterday our Senior Girls Basketball team became the third Stella Maris sporting side to be crowned as SAPSSA State Champions, taking out the championship with a commanding 5-0 whitewash of other schools throughout the day. This is a fantastic achievement by the girls.

We thank Helen Minnear, Kym Hill and Larry Clark for their coaching, support and preparation of the girls throughout the year.

KATHY GROAT:

Over the holidays, our Finance manager Kathy Groat had a nasty fall and dislocated both bones leading to her elbow. I hear this is as painful as it sounds. While Kathy is now recuperating and recovering comfortably at home, as you can imagine, she will need to have some time away from school as she does so. Kathy will be continuing to do some work from home, so if you need to get in contact with her, please do so via email in the first instance. With Tony also away on camps over the coming weeks, please bare with us as we may be a little short staffed in the front office.

CANTEEN IS BACK:

I am pleased to let you know that our canteen will be back up and running from next week! After a relatively long hiatus due to COVID, we are very pleased to say that the canteen will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the term. At this point, we will be selling ice blocks for 50c.

2023 PREPARATIONS AND CLASS PLACEMENTS:

We are finalising our plans for the 2023 school year and in the coming weeks I look forward to sharing more information and details about the year ahead with you including teaching and ESO appointments.

I can let you know that for next year we will continue to have the same class structure as this year with two classes per year level from Year 1 – Year 6. Due to increased enrolment interest, we have accepted a third class of Reception students next year.

One of the very important aspects of our work in Term 4 is the organisation of classes for the following year. I can tell you from previous experiences, that this is very involved and time consuming work. There are many things which we consider when we place students in particular classes. Educational, behavioural, well-being and social needs and a balance between them is vital.

In the first instance I would ask that you trust that our teachers, who know your children in the school environment extremely well will put the time and energy and consideration into placing your child into what they would determine to be a suitable class for the following year.

If you would like any aspect of your child's needs in terms of class placements considered when we complete placements, I would ask that you put this in writing to me via email. I would ask that this is completed no later than Friday 28th October.

Please ensure that your request has a clear 'educational' reason behind them and if you need to discuss any further information with me about this, you are welcome to do so in person. I would also suggest that requesting specific teachers is generally unhelpful – as often there will be changes to the teaching structures and personnel we have in place from year to year.

REMINDERS:

The start of the term is always a good time to remind parents of important whole school practices.

LATE ARRIVALS:

As you know our gates are open from 8:15am and close at 8:50am. Our expectation is that students arrive at school anytime between 8:15am and 8:40am when our classroom doors open. Our day officially begins at 8:45am. Arriving on time is a very important deal. Often the first 5 – 10 minutes of each day involves important information and preparation for the day ahead.

We often find that when students arrive late, they are rushed and this impacts upon their success in the morning learning block – which is generally the core curriculum area of Literacy / English.

Please ensure that you are making the effort so that your child arrives on time to school.

PICK UPS AND DROP OFFS:

I am aware that we have had some cars parked in our Kiss and Drop/Pick up area in the first few days of the term. We have been unable to identify who this is, but believe it may be a new resident who has moved into the area. We have provided a polite reminder note about the importance of having this area free from parked cars during these times.

We'd ask that you ensure that you read and pass on these messages to any member of your family who uses our Kiss and Drop area in the morning or afternoon:

- Don't arrive prior to 3:00pm to pick your child up. There is no point, students do not leave classrooms until 3:00pm and you risk a \$192 fine for 'parking' in a no parking space. Instead, arrive between 3:05 – 3:15pm and this will ensure that you will be waiting for no longer than the 3 minutes allowed. We have staff on duty and supervising students until 3:20pm, so there is no need to rush to get to pick up time.
- If you arrive and the line in the Kiss and Drop in Mulga Street is full, do a lap of the block and wait until a spot in Mulga St opens up. It is both illegal and very dangerous to 'line up' down Ramsey Avenue.
- Ensure that if you are using the Kiss and Drop to collect your child, they can quickly, easily and without adult support get in the car, do their seatbelt up and allow you to move off from the line straight away. There really should not be a need for you to get out of your car at this time. If there is, we'd ask that you park and walk in to school to collect the students.
- We will keep reminding students of the need to be 'ready' and concentrating on knowing when your car arrives.

As always I thank you for your continued support of our school!

James

From the Assistant Principal -Religious Identity and Mission

PARISH MASS TUESDAYS TERM 4

This term students will join members of the St Ann's Parish at Mass on a Tuesday at 9.15am, in multiyear level cohorts and also together as a whole school.

The Masses will be held on the following dates;

- **Whole School Mass** - Tuesday 1 November – All Saints Day
- **Reception/ Yr 1/ Yr 2 Classes** – Tuesday 8 November
- **Yr 3/ Yr 4 Classes** – Tuesday 15 November
- **Yr 5/ Yr 6 Classes** – Tuesday 22 November
- **Whole School End of year Mass** - Wednesday 7 December – 9.15am

At these Masses the children will have the opportunity to participate and to bring joy to the Parishioners with their beautiful singing led by Ms Traeger.

We would love to have families join with us at these Masses.

SOUTHERN CROSS

The current edition of the Catholic newspaper put out by the Archdiocese called, 'The Southern Cross,' is available at; www.thesoutherncross.org.au

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Our children are like mirrors – they reflect our attitudes in life.

God's Blessings,

Paula Clark

APRIM

Be You

On Monday 24th October we will be celebrating Diwali (Deepavali) here at Stella, a very important festival in India that is known as 'the festival of lights.' As it is also celebrated with colour - children are invited to wear traditional dress on Monday, or a splash of colour - such as socks, hair accessory, ribbon or bracelet. We will have fun activities for the children to participate in and will look at the meaning of Diwali.

Emily Hughes

Pastoral Care Support



Celebrating
125
years

BACK TO PARINGA

Sunday 6 November 2022

12.00pm - 4.00pm



Join us in celebrating 125 years of Sacred Heart College and saying farewell to Principal Steve Byrne at our family fun day!

Filled with live entertainment, historical tours of Paringa Hall, food trucks, bars, outdoor games and more!

\$10 TICKETS and receive a 125 Years Commemorative Glass upon entry. Free entry for those 18 years old and under.

Bookings essential via www.trybooking.com/CCVNX

Sacred Heart College, Marcellin Campus 195 Brighton Road, Somerton Park SA 5044



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INFORMATION



WEEKENDER



Australian Childhood Anxiety TREATMENT STUDY

Free home-based assessment and treatment for 7 to 12 year old children with fear and anxiety disorders.

Does your child become very afraid of certain situations or objects, worry about a lot of things, get very distressed, or try to avoid things they fear?

About the study

Our team at Griffith University may be able to assist you. We are conducting a nationwide study that includes the following services at no cost to families:

- A thorough assessment of your child's anxiety with a trained psychologist via the telephone;
- Your child receiving one of two kinds of home-based treatments delivered on a PC, laptop or tablet; and
- Two follow-up telephone assessments with a trained psychologist 6- and 12-months after treatment to track your child's progress.

The study aims to find out if these two treatments are as effective as each other, and which children have the best response to each kind of treatment. This will mean that there are more evidence-based treatments available for helping anxious children.

About the treatments

Each treatment involves your child completing treatment sessions at home on a PC, laptop or tablet.

Each treatment involves your child learning practical strategies to better manage anxiety.

- One treatment helps children learn to control the focus of their attention on helpful things around them.
- The other treatment helps children learn to think differently and approach things they fear.

Each treatment includes information, telephone or email support for parents in assisting their child to better manage anxiety.

Prior studies have shown that children who complete each treatment experience significant reductions in anxiety.

Contact us

This study is being funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and is led by Professor Allison Waters and a team of experts in childhood anxiety disorders.

For more information about our study and our team, or if you would like your child to participate, please contact us:

 (07) 3735 3351

 cadrp@griffith.edu.au

 griffith.edu.au/childhood-anxiety-treatment-study



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council



Queensland, Australia

GU Ref No: 2019/146

Student Absence Notification

Please use one of the following three options to notify the school that your child will be absent:

Absentee Text Line: 0408 279 478

Absentee Phone Message: 8306 4888

Absentee Email: contact@smps.catholic.edu.au

Uniform Information



The new Active uniform can be fitted (by appointment only) and ordered at at our offsite uniform shop:

<https://belgraviaapparelschools.com/collections/stella-maris-parish-school>

Their uniform warehouse is located at 10 Newton Road Campbelltown

phone: 0451 725 600

email: campbelltown@belgrviasports.com.au

The full range of uniforms and sizes are available for fittings at SMPS. Please contact Tony in the office to make an appointment time.

WHS Inductions for Volunteers

These are conducted at 2:30pm on Tuesday afternoons and 9am on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Tony or Cathy in the Office to make an appointment time.

Holy Spirit Church

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 9am - 2pm

Phone: 08 8298 1044

Email: stannparish@adam.com.au

Address: 24A Ramsay Ave Seacombe Gardens SA 5047

PARISH MASS TIMES:

St Bernadette's Church:

Sunday 10:45am

Wednesday & Friday 12 noon

Holy Spirit Church:

Saturday 6pm

Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am
