



Important Dates

Reception
Transition morning
Friday 17 June

Principal's Tour
Tuesday 21 June

Reception
Transition half day
Friday 24 June

Reception
Transition full day
Friday 1 July

P&F Milo & Muffin
day
Friday 1 July

Whole School Music
concert
Thursday 11 August

P&F Bogan Bingo
Saturday 13 August

School Photo Day
Thursday 1 September

Pupil Free Day
Friday 2 September

Year 5 Camp
October 26 - 28
Wednesday 26 October

Year 6 Camp
November 1 - 4
Tuesday 1 November

Pupil Free Day
Monday 14 November

Sports Day
Friday 18 November

Year 4 Camp
November 23 - 25
Wednesday 23 November

End of Year Mass
Wednesday 7 December

Last Day of the
Year
Wednesday 14 December

Introduction

We celebrate the Birthday of the Church with a return to the Church, we are excited to announce our first 'Music concert', our students are 'out and about' once more and we continue to unpack The Stella Learner through our Capabilities work. This is Week 7 of Term 2.

From the Principal

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH:

The great feast of Pentecost occurred last Sunday and as a school we celebrated this significant feast by finally gathering together back in the Church for the first time in over 12 months. It was a delight to have students back in full voice in this sacred space – for many the first time they have been in the Church. During this celebration, we are told of the “coming of the Holy Spirit” to the disciples of Jesus. The Holy Spirit gives the disciples courage and new talents to be able to carry out their mission of spreading Jesus’ message and carrying on his vision for a world of peace and unity. I once heard it best described through the use of the analogy of an asthma puffer for the Holy Spirit. The puffer gives it’s ‘patient’ the extra “boost” of air required when they need it – when they feel short of breath or are having difficulty breathing. In the same way the Holy Spirit can give us an extra “boost” when we feel scared or lonely or afraid – as is

what happened on the day of Pentecost.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND FORMATION DAY:

Last Friday we held our first Professional Learning and Formation day for the year. We are entitled, after permission from our School Board to hold 5 such days each year. Generally, we try our best to 'tie' them in to times that suit families – hence the 'long, long weekend'. It is certainly not a 'day off' for our teachers, in fact I am sure that if you asked them, they would say they work as hard on these days as any other during the year! We appreciate that this can cause inconvenience and difficulty for families, but I would also stress that these days allow for very rich and focussed learning for our staff. You can read more about what we did on Friday in Ella's report and I thank her for her ongoing leadership in our Learning and Well-Being area.

MUSIC PERFORMANCE:

As you would no doubt be aware, we have recently continued to enhance a strong focus on the Performing Arts here at Stella Maris. Every second year, we hold an annual concert which show cases the dance and drama talents of our students.

In consultation with Victoria Traeger, we have decided to showcase the musical talents of our school in the 'off year' of the concert. This will provide us with an opportunity for parents to see their child perform on stage on a more regular occurrence.

Our Music concert will take place at the Westminster College Theatre on Thursday August the 11th. Further details about this concert will be provided to families early next week. Please place this important date in your diary.

REPORTS:

We take our responsibility of 'reporting' to parents and families very seriously. Sending home official reports twice a year is one of a number of ways in which we provide you with important information about your child's progress and learning. Our teachers are currently completing the Progress Reports for this semester. In most cases it takes upwards of 80 or so hours to complete these reports. Teachers put a lot of time, energy, thought and discussion into completing these reports. To ensure that you receive the most accurate information about your child's progress in the first two terms of the year, we will once again be sending home the reports at the beginning of Term 3. This timeframe allows our teachers an extra few weeks to assess, evaluate and complete thorough and accurate reports. Following the reports, you are encouraged to organise a time to meet with the teacher should you wish to discuss any aspect of the report further.

READ ON...

I encourage you to read on through the rest of this weeks newsletter – there are some important updates and information about the goings on in our great school from various staff members.

Thanks as always,

James

From the APRIM

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION PARENT/CHILD MEETING 26 JUNE, 6.30PM HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

On Tuesday 26 June, 6.30pm at Holy Spirit Church, we will hold our next meeting for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. At this meeting we will be exploring more closely the Sacrament of Confirmation. We ask that all children preparing for these Sacraments are in attendance at this meeting, with at least one of their parents.

YEAR 3 CLASS MASS TUESDAY 21 JUNE 9.15AM HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

Parents of our Year 3 Students are invited to join us at our Parish Mass on Tuesday 21 June. Students will be involved in the Mass and will bring joy to the Parishioners with their singing which will be led by our music teacher, Victoria Traeger. We look forward to seeing those who are able to join us at this Mass.

RECEPTION CLASS MASS THURSDAY 23 JUNE 9.15AM HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

Parents of our Reception Students are invited to join us at our Parish Mass on Thursday 23 June. We look forward to seeing those who are able to join us at this Mass.



THE FEAST OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST ALSO KNOWN AS CORPUS CHRISTI

This Sunday, June 19, the feast of Corpus Christi is celebrated in the Catholic Church.

Please see below an article written by Fr Andres Hamilton SJ, that I found on the pray.com.au website that unpacks this feast. Pray.com.au is a free daily prayer service, providing reflections on the day's Gospel readings as well as other articles exploring people's experiences of God. Each day there are reflections on the Gospel readings of the day to help you connect with God in your life and the blog is updated weekly. The service is supported by Madonna magazine, and the Australian Jesuits.

The Feast of Corpus Christi - Fr Andres Hamilton SJ

The feast of Corpus Christi celebrates Christ's gift of the Eucharist. Corpus Christi focuses on Christ's presence under the form of bread and wine. This focus was shaped by disputes within the Church in the Medieval period when the Feast began. In Europe at the time the religious beliefs of some groups called for deliverance from material things into the world of spirit. They dismissed Catholic sacraments in which God was seen to work through material things such as water, bread, wine and oil. These groups were focused in local areas and were seen as a threat both to the rulers of Europe and to the Church. Crusades were launched against them with great savagery.

For Catholics the presence of Christ in the transformation of bread and wine became a central emblem of true faith and a rallying call. They found support in miracles where the Eucharist was seen to be turned into Christ's human flesh and human blood.

The Feast itself was first celebrated in the 13th century, inspired originally by the mission of Julien of Liege, a Religious Sister. The great theologian, Thomas Aquinas, lent support to the campaign. The feast began locally, and the Pope of the time made it available for the whole Church. It encouraged reverence in church where the consecrated host was preserved in a prominent place for worship and for ceremonies like Benediction where it was the focus of attention. It also became a proud statement of Catholic identity. Processions of the Blessed Sacraments took place in towns where Catholics were a majority, and more recently huge public celebrations during the Eucharistic Festivals have showcased the universality of the Church.

For many Catholics such devotions deeply nourish their faith and they continue to have an important place in the Church. As in other aspects of Catholic life, however, different periods call for different emphases. Over the past century, and particularly in the Second Vatican Council, the Church has emphasised more strongly the presence of Christ within the community, which Paul called the Body of Christ. In this vision, all Catholics are active as well as receptive in the celebration of the Eucharist. It has also given strong weight to Christ's action in the Eucharist. Christ is present, not simply in the consecrated bread and wine, but as the one who forgives, speaks, feeds, gathers together and makes present his offering on the Cross. In this fuller understanding of the Eucharist Christ is present in the bread and wine because he is active in the Church. In the Eucharist he calls us to prayer and reverence. He also calls us to follow his way in feeding the poor and giving spirit to the excluded and in taking up our own cross.

The Feast of Corpus Christi is a feast of its time. It is also a Feast for every time that encourages us to pray, to wonder at Christ's continuing gift to us through his presence and his continuing activity, and to follow him in giving ourselves to those in need.

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:

The secret to happiness is being content with what you have.

From the APL&W

Classroom Pulse Check In

As a school and sector, we recognise that your child's relationships, identity, belonging and learning are essential to their happiness and success at school. We are committed to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all students, in order for them to thrive.

One of the many tools that we use to support the health and wellbeing of our students is the Classroom Pulse Check In, which is completed by all students in week 5-6 of each term. This Check In is in the form of a brief survey, which has been developed to ascertain how students are currently feeling about their experience in school. It provides us with an immediate snapshot of how they are feeling, which assists us in supporting any social, emotional, or learning needs that they may have. Furthermore, it is tailored to allow your child's class teacher to check in and provide immediate feedback to support them.

A sample of the Classroom Pulse check in can be found at the following link: <https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/news/wellbeing-initiative>

Pupil Free Day

Our Pupil Free Day on June 10th was a great opportunity for staff to gather for professional learning in the area of literacy. The day began with a presentation by Marney Yeates (Speech Pathologist) focusing on literacy best practice across R-6. This presentation highlighted some of the significant changes to early years literacy practices over the last couple of years and ways that we can continue to build on this in years 3-6. We focused on explicit instruction, spelling rules and teaching techniques and we were very fortunate to have Marney share her great expertise with us.

Following this, we spent some time unpacking 'The Writing Revolution', a new writing resource that we will be using at Stella. This approach is aimed at improving students' writing skills by developing their foundational skills in writing complete and interesting sentences, paragraphs and multi-paragraph texts. This approach is explicit and gives students the opportunity to develop their writing skills within the content of what they are learning about, across all subject areas. We look forward to continuing to unpack this resource through ongoing professional learning opportunities.

Assessment

At Stella Maris, assessment is an essential element of our teaching and learning programs. We see assessment as the process of identifying, gathering and interpreting information about student achievement for a number of purposes. These include assisting students with their learning, evaluating and improving teaching and learning programs and providing information on student learning and progress in relation to the achievement standards. Teachers expertly gather all sorts of data in order to get to know students, what their needs are and the best ways to ensure progress with their learning. To ensure consistency across R-6, we have developed an assessment schedule, which identifies the key, research based assessments that we use to measure student growth over time in literacy and numeracy. Some of these assessments include DIBELS screening (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) for literacy and Booker pre and post tests for numeracy.

These types of assessments along with the ongoing observations, conversations and connections etc that teachers make- all contribute to teachers knowing your children extremely well- which is something we pride ourselves on at Stella Maris.

Excursions

It has been great to see our students having opportunities once again for excursions after a slow start to the year due to COVID. Our year 3 classes recently went to Adelaide Oval and our Year 5/6 classes attended the World Environment Day event at the Botanic Gardens. There have also been a number of sporting carnivals that students have enjoyed. These events would not be possible without the organisation and hard work of teachers, along with our wonderful parent volunteers. Thank you for helping us to make these events possible for our students. We look forward to seeing further opportunities for excursions and incursions as the year progresses.

We deeply value the home-school connections that we have within our Stella Maris community, which helps to support the needs of students. As always, I invite you to contact me at any time if you have any concerns related to your child's learning and/or wellbeing.

Kind Regards

Ella Kirkham

Assistant Principal (Learning & Wellbeing)

ella.kirkham@smps.catholic.edu.au

Stella Capabilities

Welcome to this fortnight's newsletter component of "The Stella Capabilities." I will continue providing an insight into the aim of our 7 capabilities and how our students will demonstrate progressive development in each of these areas throughout their learning journey here at Stella Maris. Today's focus capabilities are:

- Critical and Creative Thinkers
- Ecologically Aware
- Collaborative and Self-Aware
- Responsible Digital Citizens
- Inspired by Faith
- Globally Minded
- Literate and Numerate

Through the teaching programs offered at Stella Maris, students develop their critical and creative thinking capabilities through varied learning experiences. Students are given opportunities that allow them to imagine a range of different possibilities, consider alternatives and create innovative solutions. The range of behaviours and skills we are seeking and developing in our Critical and Creative Thinkers learners are:

- Using learned skills and strategies to solve problems.
 - Using creative thinking skills to seek solutions and generate creative ideas.

At Stella Maris, we are very aware of the importance of being environmentally friendly. The encouragement of bringing 'nude foods' (wrapper free) items in our lunch boxes and the use of compost bins to help our environment, are just a few examples. The 'Ecologically Aware' capability encourages our students to be continually attentive to the importance of being an environmental ambassador. It draws attention to the 'bigger picture' of environmental conservation and encourages behaviours of empathy and consideration towards others by protecting our shared planet. A behaviour and skill we are seeking and developing in an Ecologically Aware learner is:

- A demonstration of respect for our environment and using our resources responsibly.

Once again, the criteria for the 'Critical and Creative Thinkers' and 'Ecologically Aware' capabilities are clearly defined. Each capability and their elaborations are clearly displayed in each classroom, allowing students a visual reminder of what skills and experiences they need to focus on during lesson time, to grow and develop further in each of the capabilities. Our teacher's quality teaching and learning programmes contain the content that will provide students with a multitude of opportunities to demonstrate their ability to apply these skills confidently and effectively in their learning.

Next week, we will explore the last components that make up our 7 "Stella Capabilities." These final elaborations will bring together the work that is occurring to ensure the development of the whole child, here at Stella Maris.

Kindest regards,

Louise Perry

Capabilities Leader



Community Satisfaction Survey 2022

The City of Marion is currently running a survey to hear from you about what is important in your community and how satisfied you are with the services we offer.

By completing our survey, you will be helping to build a better future for you and your community.

Responses are anonymous and are limited to one per person.

Please scan the QR code or visit a facility location for a printed copy to participate.





NEW
JULY
holiday
program

A **Wellbeing** program designed specifically for students with **dyslexia**

This is a rare and valuable opportunity for your child to learn strategies for dealing with dyslexia in a fun and supportive environment.

Alongside peers, they will work on improving self-esteem, resilience and assertiveness, and developing effective coping strategies.

YEAR 3/4 STUDENTS
11-13TH JULY, 1-3:30PM

Topics covered include:

- Self-awareness
- Effective and ineffective coping strategies
- Goal setting
- Problem solving
- Managing stress
- Positive thinking
- Assertiveness

Learn coping strategies

Have fun!

Meet new friends!



Presenter: **Alice Kleinig**
Special Education Teacher,
Consultant and Tutor

FOR
PROGRAM COST &
BOOKINGS:
spelsa.org.au



This IS ME

Ethan Hall



Songs from stage and
screen and in between
Marion Cultural Centre

July 10 - 2pm - \$20
287 Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park

@ethanhallofficial

GLENELG BASEBALL CLUB

BASEBALL COME & TRY



**FREE FOR
AGES 5-15**

THURSDAY, JULY 14
10am-12.30pm
DIAMOND SPORTS, WEST BEACH
Limited Spots - Bookings Essential

*Have you ever wanted to try baseball and to see if it's right for you? Or are you already playing baseball and looking to join a new club?
This is your chance to come along and try out Glenelg Baseball Club. Receive expert tuition from coaches and division one players.
There will also be a free sausage sizzle lunch for all parents and participants from 12.30pm - 1.00pm.*

FOR MORE INFO - Grant Wilson (Junior Development) 0411230694 or grant_a_wilson@arnotts.com

Uniform Information



The new Active uniform can be fitted and ordered at at our offsite uniform shop:

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

Their uniform Shop is located at 10 Newton Road Campbelltown

phone: 0451 725 600

email: campbelltown@belgraviasports.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

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