Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely weekend and got to share some precious family time together.

Last week saw our students venturing out into the wider community. The 3/4 level continued to be wildlife warriors by visiting Healesville Sanctuary to learn more about our indigenous species. As you can see from the photos, the students made the most of their learning opportunities whilst having fun and being positive ambassadors for our school. Hopefully they will continue that school spirit as the Grade 4 students participate in Hoop Time on Friday.

Last week the 5/6 students visited the Arts Centre to learn how to create music. Today they also got to see the final rehearsal of the musical, Wicked, at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. I am sure many budding performers will aspire to one day be on that stage also!

A reminder that next week there are many extra-curricular activities across the school. We have a school closure day on Monday 12th August as staff work through mandated requirements of data collection and reporting.

We also celebrate Book Week on Tuesday 13th August with a performance for the students at 9 a.m. Students are encouraged to come dressed as a book character and we will share those costumes with a parade at 2.30 in the hall. The theme for Book Week this year is: “Reading is my Superpower.”

On Thursday 15th August we will celebrate our school feast day, the feast of the Assumption. This will begin with a mass, which you are all welcome to attend.

Congratulations to our students of the week:

PF: Arya L  PR: Lilah H/ Annaliese C
1/2P: Samuel M  1/2M: Jacinta H  1/2H: Fraser R
1/2D: Lila H  3/4F: Mika C/Kaedon H  3/4M: Dorina P
3/4G: Emily C  3/4R: Harry F  5/6B: Matilda S
5/6P: Levi S  5/6T: Teneal W  5/6F:

Have a blessed and productive week,
Veronica Fraraccio,
Deputy Principal
**TERM 3 DIARY FOR YOUR FUTURE PLANNING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Monday, 5th August</th>
<th>8.45am</th>
<th>School begins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, 7th August</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, 9th August</td>
<td>9.30am -2.30pm</td>
<td>5/6 Level MLMC Musical</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.30am -12.30pm</td>
<td>Prep Incursion – Toy Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Ed Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Level 4 Hoop Time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Monday, 12th August</th>
<th>3.30pm</th>
<th>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – STAFF PD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday, 13th August</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Book Week Celebrations &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday, 15th August</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Book week Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, 16th August</td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Feast Day – Whole School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2019 FEES STATEMENTS**

Please check your bank to confirm that your payment agreement has been actioned.

Please contact the office if you did not get your fee statement.

St Mary’s BSB/ACCOUNT Details

St Marys Primary School BSB 083-347 Account Number 676054930

There are still a number of fee agreements outstanding. If you have not returned your fee agreement, please contact the office immediately.
Child Safety Code of Conduct

St Mary’s endeavours to create and maintain an environment where child safety is paramount and there is zero tolerance of any form of child abuse.

What is the purpose of a child safety code of conduct?

A child safety code of conduct is intended to promote child safety in the school environment. A child safety code of conduct spells out professional boundaries and acceptable and unacceptable adult/child relationships and behaviour, professional development and training. A child safety code of conduct helps schools, staff and volunteers to raise behavioural issues. It provides a reference point for discussion when there may otherwise be confusion, uncertainty, or a lack of confidence about boundaries for appropriate behaviour with children. The code specifies behaviour unacceptable for a professional relationship between a teacher and a student. All parents, relatives and caregivers attending St Mary’s Primary School to help within the classroom must hold a current Working with Children Check and must have read and signed the Code of Conduct. Please go to our website for more information. CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCTS CAN BE COMPLETED AT THE OFFICE.

2019 FEES

ST MARY’S require every year a new fee agreement form to be returned with your up to date payment details. Always check your statements carefully and confirm they are correct.

St Mary’s BSB/ACCOUNT Details

St Marys Primary School
BSB 083-347
Account Number 676054930

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Unexplained Absence forms have been sent home. Please complete them and return ASAP so they can be processed. If you did not receive one, please contact the office on 9736 2219.
NO NUTS AT ST MARY’S

We have children attending our school with severe (life threatening) peanut allergies. As always, we are concerned for the safety of our children, and ask everyone to avoid bringing any items that may contain peanuts to school, as the smallest amount of peanut or proteins of peanuts on benches, etc., can affect an allergic child. Whilst we can appreciate that there may be children who just love to have their Nutella and Peanut butter sandwiches or bars alternatives must be given.
Year 7 2021 Enrolments

Is your child in Grade 5 this year?

Applications for Year 7 2021 at Mount Lilydale Mercy College are due no later than

FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 2019

Application forms are available from your primary school office or by contacting Mount Lilydale Mercy College on 9735 4022.

College Tours

Tours are an opportunity to see the College on a typical day and to meet our staff and students. You will be greeted by the Principal or a Deputy Principal, who will be available to answer any questions. Through this experience you will discover our unique approach to learning and personal development and our excellent facilities and beautiful grounds.

Tours of the college are open for bookings online. Please visit our website to make a booking.

http://www.mlmc.vic.edu.au/enrolment/Tours_booking
CURRICULUM DAY PROGRAM!

While our teachers are working hard on their curriculum day, come to our program!

St Mary’s Primary School
Outside School Hours Care
Monday 12th August, 2019
From 6.30am to 6.30pm
$67 for the day

Bookings contact Sally & Joy
on 0427 288 435

Booking Form Curriculum Day Program

Child/children’s Names:

Parent/Guardians Signature:

Date:

Important:
- Please note that there are limited places available for each day.
- Children must wear clothing appropriate to the activity planned for the day. No singlets or thongs.
- Please bring a nutritious lunch and a water bottle (and a back pack for excursion days).
- This program is for St Mary’s children only.

Please note: The program will only run on the days that we received sufficient bookings. Please speak to Joy or Sally if you have any questions.

bestchance Child Family Care is an independent not-for-profit organisation which has been providing support to children and families since 1895.

Please provide completed form to Sally or Joy or the School Office or email to stmarysoshc@bestchance.org.au
Working Bees at St Mary’s are fundamental to maintaining safe and orderly learning environments for our students. There are so many tasks to do with such a large school ground that we need all the help we can get!

To assist planning for this year we are asking each family to attend **ONE Working Bee** and to indicate which session (listed below) suits best.

As an incentive this year the families that attend a Working Bee date will be rebated the **$100.00** working bee levy from their account.

In an effort to cater for everyone, we will hold Working Bees across a range of days and times. If these dates do not suit you please contact the office and schedule a time that will be appropriate. If you are a tradie, we would appreciate your expertise at times, so please let us know your skills below.

We looking forward to seeing you all,

Veronica Fraraccio
Deputy Principal

**Please complete and return to school**

Family Name: ________________________________  Eldest Child’s Grade: ______________

I have particular skills and expertise in the area of ____________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Please circle your selected date below or nominate a date of your own - ____________ 2019

**Saturday 14th September – Production**  8.00am - 12.00pm
**Thursday 17th October**  1.00pm - 3.00pm
**Tuesday 12th November**  9.00am - 11.00am
**Thursday December 5th**  1.00pm – 3.00pm
**Uniforms**

All St. Mary’s students are required to wear the full correct school uniform. We believe that the wearing of uniforms promotes the children’s pride in their school and self-discipline. Uniform items can be purchased or made at little cost. The uniform shop at St. Mary’s carries all uniform items, including school and library bags. There is a small amount of second hand uniforms available in the shop.

**Children are expected to have a school bag with the St Mary’s School logo.**

*Please ensure that your children bring their correct school bag.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls’ Winter Uniform</th>
<th>Boys’ Winter Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy tunic or tailored pants</td>
<td>Navy Trousers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(no jeans, jean style or cargo pants)</td>
<td>(no jeans, jean style or cargo pants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s polo shirt</td>
<td>St Mary’s polo shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s windcheater</td>
<td>St Mary’s windcheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy socks or tights</td>
<td>Navy socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black polished shoes</td>
<td>Black polished shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(no sneakers/runners)</td>
<td>(no sneakers/runners)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy gloves and scarf (optional)</td>
<td>Navy gloves and scarf (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls’ Winter Sports Uniform</th>
<th>Boys’ Winter Sports Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy track suit pants</td>
<td>Navy track suit pants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s windcheater</td>
<td>St Mary’s windcheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy unisex sports shorts or</td>
<td>Navy unisex sports shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s polo shirt</td>
<td>St Mary’s polo shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White St. Mary’s sports socks or plain</td>
<td>White St. Mary’s sports socks or plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White socks and runners</td>
<td>White socks and runners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*St Mary’s School logo school bag
No jewellery – single sets of plain studs or sleepers, and watches excepted.
No make-up
No extremes of hairstyles
Long hair to be fully tied back at all times with navy ties and ribbons
No nail polish

**An important note on Uniforms.** Whilst it is not compulsory to purchase uniform items only from our uniform shop, we trust that parents will only purchase items that are of the same as sold in the shop. We would ask that you continue to support us as we strive to ensure a disciplined atmosphere in our school, by ensuring that your children do wear the standardised uniform.

Your children may, at times, tell you that it is okay because, “others do it” or “have it”, but this is a good signal that it is NOT okay!

**A note about hair.** As we are a primary school, we feel that any change of colour is inappropriate for children. In the spirit of our practice at St Mary’s, to keep children as children, we ask that you cooperate with this and leave the hair colouring as something that they can look forward to in their older age. We also differentiate between “weekend hair” and “school hair”. The use of hair gel, etc., and spikey styling is considered to be a “weekend hair” practice. Not only does this give a more disciplined and uniformed approach, but also saves you time and money!
Other news in Religious Education:

- Class Masses this week: Thursday 8th August 9am 3/4 F and 1/2 H. All welcome.
- Whole school Mass for the **Feast of The Assumption of Our Lady, Thursday 15th August, 9am.** You are welcome to bring flowers to place at the statue of Mary. Thank you.
Creating a consistent parenting storyline

POSITIVE PARENTING by Michael Grose

"My partner needs to hear this!"

This is typical of many comments I’ve been hearing lately from participants at my Anxious Kids workshops and seminars. It’s a healthy recognition that parent consistency is a significant element in successful parenting, particularly when facing a child’s behavioural or wellbeing challenge. It’s also recognition that one of the biggest challenges for many couples is creating the same parenting storyline. You may be strict, while your partner is lenient. You may value family mealtime highly, while your partner is ambivalent about breaking bread as a family. Differences in parenting are natural, reflecting past parenting experiences, gender differences and personal experiences of children. They are a sign of independent thinking, and can provide a sense of balance to family life.

Parents who work together need to know when to compromise, when to keep out of the way and when to present a united front. Knowing when to take each approach takes practice and depends on the issues at hand, your parenting styles and your individual values.

Differences can be stressful

Different approaches can cause discomfort, stress and anxiety to one or both parents, particularly when communication and empathy levels are down. In some cases, the differences can lead to inconsistent parenting where there is no agreement on rules and standards of behaviour and inconsistent follow-through when kids behave poorly. It’s like driving a car when there are two sets of road rules. There’d be accidents in the first five minutes. Similarly, there is chaos in a family when there’s more than one set of rules. The rules and boundaries the govern children’s behaviour and family life need to be agreed upon. Parents who work together need to know when to compromise, when to keep out of the way and when to present a united front. Knowing when to take each approach takes practice and depends on the issues at hand, your parenting styles and your individual values.

Creating the same storyline

Agreeing to the same parenting storyline as your partner takes work. It can be done whether you and your partner live together or not.

Here are some ideas to help

Keep your partner informed

It helps if the primary parent can keep partners informed about what’s going on in children’s lives. These can include updates about behaviour, educational achievements and their general well-being.

Defer to your partner

Kids have a habit of putting their parents on the spot, particularly with issues such as going out or buying the latest fad. Rather than responding to children’s requests yourself, get into the habit of deferring to your partner. Not only does this keep your partner in the communication loop, it helps you work as a united front.

Share insights with your partner into your own childhood and family

These types of reflective conversations can lead to a deeper level of understanding and often reveal why you both feel strongly about different parenting matters.

Divide areas of responsibility

Don’t keep all the responsibilities to yourself. Bring your partner into the loop, and give them a share of the parenting jobs.

Communicate concerns to your partner about differences

Avoid disagreeing openly in front of the children. Find a time later to air any concerns you may have and generate alternate strategies or ideas for your partner to try.

Work out your family brand

In my book *Thriving*, I showed parents how to establish a strong family brand. That is, work out the type of family atmosphere you’d like to establish; the values and attitudes that are important to you; your preferred parenting style and identify the family traditions and rituals you’d like to nurture. From my experience, parents can get away with parental differences when kids are young, however it can become a big problem in adolescence. Some teenagers are become adept at driving a wedge between parents who are on different wavelengths. They generally go to the parent who will give them the answer they require when it comes to the tricky areas such as going out, access to alcohol and relationship issues.

That’s why one of the greatest gifts you can give your children is the consistency they experience when both parents work together using the same parenting storyline.