



Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic School Wellington

14 February 2025
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Welcome back for 2025

***"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you." Psalm 32:8***

Dear St Mary's Families,

We are back for action in 2025. As we launch into a new school year each student at St Mary's is focusing on their learning and striving to do the best that they can. Our Kindergarten class is enjoying "big school" and have settled into their new school routines beautifully. It was wonderful to watch them wave goodbye to their families with big smiles on their first day of school.

We have a number of new families who have joined St Mary's this year across the school and we welcome them also to our St Mary's family. In our school office we have two new faces, Ms Kylie Robinson and Ms Lizzy George, who are embracing their new office roles.

Our opening school Mass is on Thursday 20 February at 1.30pm, followed by class information sessions after school. Please come along and support your children at these important events. Further details are in this newsletter.

This year we look forward to preparing for our school play Shrek and are excited to be starting rehearsal shortly. More information soon about our performance dates.

Thank you for trusting our teachers in the fostering of a love of learning in your children.

God bless,
Mrs Leanne Clarke
Principal



VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Catholic School is a Christ centred, inclusive community where individuals are supported to learn at high levels and to grow spiritually, socially and physically.

"We have gifts that differ, according to the grace given to each of us."

(Romans 2:6)

DIARY DATES

Term 1 Week 3

Mon 17 Feb Year 10 Visit Maranatha House 2pm

Tues 18 Feb Secondary DIO Touch Trials | P & F Meeting 5.30pm Hall Classroom

Wed 19 Feb

Thur 20 Feb Opening School Leadership Mass and Leader Induction 1.30pm | Family Welcome and Information Sessions after school

Fri 21 Feb

Term 1 Week 4

Mon 24 Feb SRC workshop 1.30pm

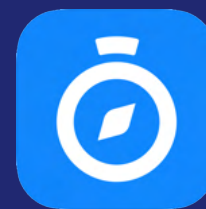
Tues 25 Feb

Wed 26 Feb Buddy Reading Session

Thur 27 Feb Primary Western Swimming Carnival

Fri 28 Feb

Sat 1 March Parish Student leaders and Staff Mass and BBQ 6pm



COMPASS APP

Please ensure you have Compass, the school app, on your phone as this is where alerts and important information is posted.

2024 School Term Dates

Term Dates 2025

Staff Development/Pupil free days

Friday 31 January and Monday 3 February 2025

Monday 24 March

Monday 19 May

Friday 5 September - Staff retreat/Spirituality day

Monday 13 October

Term 1	Year 1-10 commence Tuesday 4 February - Friday 11 April Kindergarten commences Thursday 6 February - Friday 11 April
Term 2	Monday 28 April - Friday 4 July
Term 3	Monday 21 July - Friday 26 September
Term 4	Monday 13 October - Friday 19 December



Monday 24 March - Staff Development day
Note: students will have a pupil free day



Religious Education

A very friendly welcome back to all our returning families and new ones too, and to new staff. It is wonderful to see our school growing, and the trust parents put in us with their beautiful, precious children. This is a space in the newsletter where you can learn about our Catholic faith, what it might mean for your child and how you can engage with it. Growing the whole child includes a sense of their spiritual self.

St Patrick's Church

Wellington

Weekly Mass Times

9am Monday to Friday

6pm Saturday

8am 2nd & 4th Sunday

10am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

*"Give of your
hands
to serve
and your hearts
to love."*

Mother Teresa

Sacramental Programs

Students who are Catholic (have been baptised) are invited to continue the sacramental journey with the following sacraments:

- First Reconciliation for Year 2 (or older) on Thursday 13 November - 6:00 pm,
- First Communion for Year 3 (or older) on Saturday 21 June - 5:00 pm and
- Confirmation for Year 5 (or older) on Saturday, 25 October - 6:00 pm.

A more detailed sacramental calendar will be shared soon. All religious events dates are on the school calendar, which can be viewed at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/2p992kv2>

Opening School Liturgy and Induction of Leaders

All student leaders will be inducted at our opening school Mass on Thursday 20 February at 1:30 pm. Parents will pin the leader's badges to their uniforms at this Mass. Our Kindergarten students will also make a special welcoming entrance during Mass with their Year 6 buddies. All parents, carers and friends are invited to come along, with light refreshments following Mass.

Mass for Leaders and Staff

Fr Carl Mackander and the school invite all 2025 student leaders, their families and staff to celebrate Mass with the parish community on Saturday, 1 March at 6.00 pm. Fr Carl would like to introduce the student leaders to the parish. We will follow the Mass with supper on the grounds outside the convent.

Leaders are asked to attend to support their school, parish and fellow leaders. Leaders are required to wear their school uniforms to the Mass.

Have a joyous weekend and a wonderful 2025

Mr Christopher Stevens

Leader of Ministry and Mission





SCHOOL Information

Family Welcome & Information Sessions 2025

St Mary's School would like to invite K-10 parents/carers to join us for parent information sessions on Thursday 20 February. Sessions will commence after the conclusion of the Opening School Leadership Mass, with a shared afternoon tea held in the school quadrangle from 3:20pm. Information sessions have been staggered to allow families to attend multiple sessions across the afternoon. Please see Compass for session times and locations.

NAPLAN 2025/ Parent Information Session- 20th Feb.

St Mary's students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will sit NAPLAN from the 12-14 March 2025. Students absent from any assessments will have the opportunity to complete these the following week. Parents/carers wishing to learn more about NAPLAN Online and how best to prepare their child for these assessments are invited to attend a NAPLAN information session, to be held at the conclusion of the Welcome and Information Sessions next Thursday 20th February from 4:50pm in the Year 5 classroom.

Mr Allan Jones
Assistant Principal

Learning Matters

K-2

Welcome back

'As soon as I saw you I knew adventure was about to begin!'

Welcome back to all K-2 students and families for 2025. It is so lovely to be greeted every day with huge smiles and hellos from students and families at drop off and pick-up times. A special big welcome to our Kinder students as they join our St Mary's family and embark on an exciting adventure. Our 1/2 classes have settled in well to the new structure we have put in place for 2025. Our amazing K-2 staff are so excited to be working with all students covering many exciting themes and working to cater for all levels of learning within each classroom.

Ms Kellie Rich

K-2 Leader of Learning

3-6

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our wonderful Year 3-6 St Mary's students and staff. I hope everyone has had a refreshing and enjoyable break. For the first time in many years, we do not have any "fresh new faces" on our teaching staff. Some roles have changed and some staff are returning from a break, but all staff are familiar with the structures of St Mary's and ready to hit the ground running. It has been great to hear the buzz of the students in and around the school grounds again.

Pre-Assessments/ Diagnostic Testing

As part of the learning cycle, our Year 3-6 classes are using the first few weeks to knock over a few of the regular tasks that take place at the beginning of the school year, such as getting to know each other, completing title pages and setting up the class expectations and routines.

A number of pre-assessment tasks are also being completed during these initial weeks, especially in English and Math. These tasks allow staff to see where students are at, as well as allow them valuable data to review in staff meetings in order to make plans of how to best help our students with their individual learning needs throughout the year. Your students may have come home mentioning some of these assessments such as our Renaissance Star Reading Assessment (comprehension skills), DIBELS (reading skills and fluency) and Essential Assessment (Maths).

Mr John Nugent

K-6 Leaders of Learning



Learning Matters Year 7-10

Welcome back to everyone for the start of 2025. All Year 7-10 staff are well rested and keen to start. Mr John Nugent has taken on the role of the English teacher and Literacy Coach and will be working with Year 7-10 teachers on effective literacy strategies in our classrooms as well as teaching English.

We welcomed new students and have been supporting them to settle into St Mary's. Please remember if you need any information make the first contact point your child's Pastoral Care Teacher.

Pastoral Care Teachers for 2025:

Year 10: Mr Nugent and Mrs Newman

Year 9: Mr Stevens and Mrs Nugent

Year 8: Mrs Milgate and Mr Doherty

Year 7: Mr Thompson and Mrs Hughes

Mobile Phones

A compass note was sent home and all students should have registered their mobile phones. These phones are collected in Pastoral care and locked away for the day. They will be returned at the end of the day. This is in line with state regulations and will ensure our students are not missing any learning time due to distractions. If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself or any of the leadership team.

Uniform

Reminder secondary students will be wearing Full school uniform Tuesday and Thursday and Sports uniform Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please remind students to wear a hat in Term 1, they will not be allowed in the sun without a hat. Students participating in practical subjects such as Food Technology, Timber and Agriculture will need to wear enclosed leather shoes for these lessons.

Parent Information Night and Assessment Information

We are inviting all parents and carers for a meet & greet session next Thursday afternoon, 20 February to meet their child/ren's teachers and to run through the Assessment policy and hand out the Assessment booklet. We look forward to seeing you then!

Mrs Tammy Nugent

7-10 Leader of Learning

Free Pathways Webinar

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to the first in a series of free online webinars on helping children find their passions, pathways and careers. This is in collaboration with BEYOND, who offer a free, highly personalised careers that helps students discover their interests and pathway.

For our first session, we kick off with DREAM BIG, a webinar for primary school parents and carers that will help you nurture your child's interests and imagination. Don't miss this chance to empower your child's future! Grab a sandwich and a cup of tea and sit down to listen and get some great tips at this lunchtime session:

Wednesday 5 March 2025

12.30pm - 1pm

Use the QR code to register





Term 1 Sporting Dates

14 February

School Swimming Carnival

18 February

Secondary Diocese Touch Football Trials

27 February

Primary Western Swimming Carnival

4 March

Diocese Secondary Soccer Trials

10 March

Secondary Diocese Swimming Carnival

11 March

Primary Diocese Swimming Carnival



Sport

Swimming Carnival

Thank you to everyone who helped out at our carnival today. Congratulations to Patrick in first place with 935 points, Xavier in second place with 863 points and Dominic in third place with 719 points. Also a big congratulations to our age champions.

School Touch Trials

Thank you to all our students that trialled for our school touch football teams last week up at Rygate Park. The trials were in very hot conditions but that did not deter our students' spirit playing some fast touch and demonstrating some excellent skills. Teams will be posted next week and training starts in early March.

Diocesan Touch Football Trials

We have diocesan touch football trials here in Wellington next week, Tuesday the 18 February. Good luck to Brydie Chandler, Sophie Wykes, Annabella Brown, Makenzi George, Annabel Roberts.

Primary Western Swimming

St Mary's will be hosting the Western Swimming carnival for the next 2 years, here in Wellington. We are asking for helpers to assist in running the carnival. Anyone available please contact the school.

Mr Alistaire Thompson

Sport Coordinator

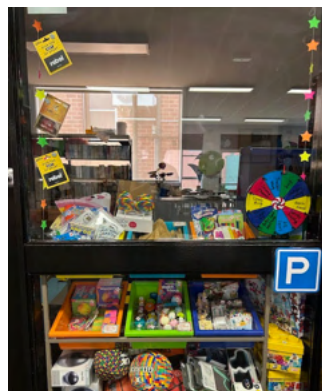
School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning "SPB4L"

SPB4L Focus- 'Be Organised'

Our Term 1 SPB4L focus will be launched during next week's K-10 assembly. The 'Be Organised' theme aims to assist students to develop and maintain good learning habits and make maximum use of their learning time throughout the week.

Cub Credits Shop

The Cub Credits Shop is up and running again for 2025 and can be accessed by Years 3-6 students on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. A number of new items have been added to the shop in Term 1.



Mr Allan Jones

Assistant Principal

Thursday February 20 - Opening School Mass

The St Mary's Opening School Leadership Mass will be held next Thursday February 20 at 1:30pm in St Patrick's Church. We invite the St Mary's community to join us for this annual event in which we commission our new student leaders (School and Primary Captains, SRC, House Captains and Year 10 students) and welcome our Kindergarten class of 2025. Our 2025 leaders will be presented with their badges during the Mass.

All school student leaders are asked to wear their formal school summer uniform.

The Opening School Mass will be followed by our Family Welcome and Information Sessions for 2025 to be held in classrooms. A NAPLAN information session will also be held during the afternoon for interested parents of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.



Tuesday Lunches (fundraiser)

This term students will be supporting us to offer lunch orders each Tuesday. We are asking students to write their name and order on an envelope or paper bag and hand this in to the front office.

Menu for Week 3 - Tuesday 18 February

Spaghetti Bolognese \$5

Zooper Doopers \$5

Welcome to our new office staff

Welcome to Kylie Robinson and Lizzy George, our new smiling faces in the office.



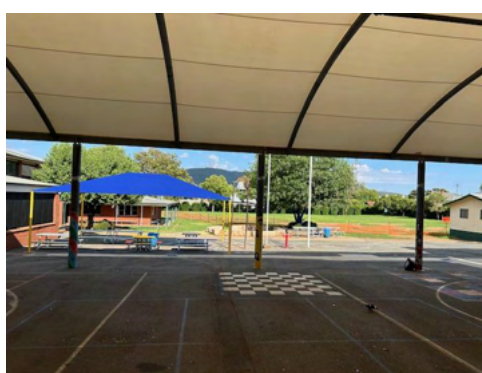
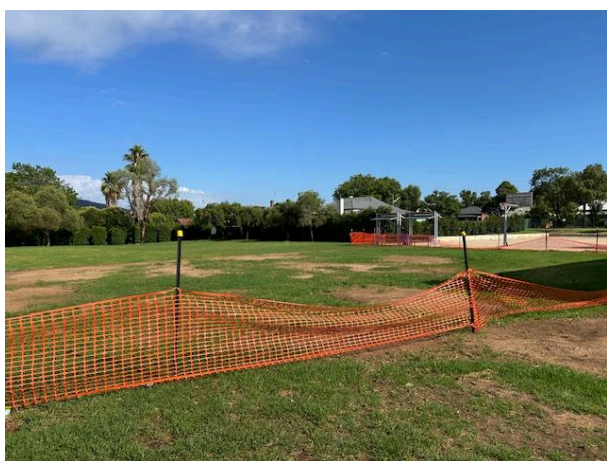
School Fees 2025

The Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst is committed to providing quality Catholic education to all students in Diocesan schools. The Diocesan School Fee increase has been kept consistent with the recent CPI of 3.8% for 2025, whilst the 2025 Capital Works Levy per family has been limited to an increase of 2.5%. The School Fee increase has been set at a level that is consistent with current inflation rates but below significant cost increases experienced over recent years, particularly in the areas of materials, construction and wages. The 2025 School Fee increase equates to an average of \$1.48 per week for a primary student and \$2.81 per week for a secondary student for the 42 billing weeks of the school year.

Fee relief remains available for those parents who are facing financial hardship through the Catherine McAuley Bursary. If you have not done so already, please contact your school for a Fee Relief Application. There are also Health Care Card concessions for eligible parents. You may also contact the Fees Liaison Officer at Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst at floceo@bth.catholic.edu.au for assistance with concessions. Please do not hesitate to discuss with your school principal the concessions available. Thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic Education at St Mary's.

Oval Improvements

Our school oval was levelled, irrigation installed and turf put in place during the school holidays. In a few weeks students will be able to re-enter this much improved space. Thanks to our groundsman John Walters for coordinating this project. During the holidays Mrs Whale painted activity stations in the K-2 area and we thank her for some amazing creative designs. Mrs Whale is also supporting students to plant a sensory garden for our students to interact with.



Changes to Mobile Phone Policy 2025

In 2024 Year 7-10 students were allowed to store their mobile phones in their lockers and school bags for the day, turned off. Due to changes in policies across NSW schools and pending Government changes regarding age limits for social media platforms we will be changing our mobile phone processes in 2025. Students are to either leave their phones at home, or if they do bring a phone to the school it will be secured in the school office for the day. Under no circumstances are phones to be stored in personal lockers or school bags or be carried by students.

Expectations for Students

1. If a mobile phone or mobile device is brought to school, it must be turned off and secured in the student's bag until the Pastoral Care period. During pastoral care each morning, student devices will be collected and secured in the school office. **Note:** Smartwatches are not to be worn to school.
2. As devices are secure students should not have their mobile device with them in a classroom or on the playground during recess and lunch.
3. Students in K-6 who need to bring a mobile phone to school are to hand this to the class teacher each morning and collect it in the afternoon.
4. At the end of the school day, students at the school bus stop may access their phone only to briefly check for a message from parents/carers and to respond appropriately.
5. Students are reminded that they should always adhere to diocesan and school policies regarding bullying and harassment. Bullying and harassment are never acceptable and electronic devices should never be used to bully or harass others.
6. Students are responsible for care and security of their own electronic devices and St Mary's Catholic School is not responsible for damage or theft. Electronic devices are expensive items and each student makes their own choice knowing the risk of bringing them to school.

2025 Middle Leadership

Middle Leadership Team

We are welcoming a new middle leadership team in 2025 with Leaders of Learning across 3 sections of the school. These school leaders will be responsible for leading initiatives and direction in their areas of the school

Leader of Learning Junior School (K-2): Ms Kellie Rich

Leader of Learning Middle School (3-6 & transition into Year 7 initiatives): Mr John Nugent

Leader of Learning Senior School (7-10 & transition beyond Year 10): Mrs Tammy Nugent

Behavior Support: K-6 Ms Mary Crean and 7-10 Mr Alistaire Thompson

Administrative Support: Mrs Maureen Milgate

Please find the Information Handbook for Families [here](#).

Kindergarten's First Day - Tea & Tissues Morning Tea





Kindergarten First Week

What an incredible start to Kindergarten! Our St Mary's Kindergarten students have already amazed us with their curiosity, enthusiasm and kindness. They've embraced new challenges, made friends and jumped into learning with big smiles. It's been a joy to watch their confidence grow in such a short time. Thank you, parents and families, for your support as we begin this exciting journey together. We can't wait to see all the amazing learning happen this year!

Mrs Nicola Prendergast
Kindergarten Teacher



Library News

Welcome back to the Library for 2025. A very special welcome to our Kindergarten students and all our new St Mary's families. Students have been in and out of the library over the last two weeks borrowing books, checking out all the new items in our Cub Credit Shop and taking part in library lessons. Below is a timetable of when classes have their library lessons. If students in Kindergarten to Year 6 could please bring in a library bag (preferably waterproof) each week to lessons for borrowing and returning books. Students are encouraged to borrow two books each week. For our K-2 students they are asked to pick a book of their choice and also a reader (Kindergarten students will start off just picking 1 book of choice) and our Yr 3-6 students are asked to borrow a Renaissance book and another book of their choice. Mr Nugent and our secondary classes have been visiting the library this week too. Our secondary students are also being encouraged to pick two books, one a Renaissance book to read at school and the other a book of choice to read at home. It is vitally important that ALL students are dedicating time everyday to read at home and reading for a minimum of 20 minutes, however the more, the better!! The hope is that by setting up good reading practises, it will become a habit. But please don't stop there, reading together, reading aloud and having book conversations with children is just as important. Celebrate the small successes and encourage your child to persevere, even when they are frustrated. Reward your child's reading efforts and what better reward than a good book! While reading is a crucial life skill and delivers wide-reaching educational value to children, it doesn't have to be boring. On the contrary, it should be fun! Our ultimate aim by working together is to develop in students a love for reading.

Ways you can support student reading at home:

Have time each night designated for reading-

- *Infants students- reading aloud home readers and reading with or listening to a book of choice*
- *Year 3 to Year 10- Renaissance reading (20-30mins) Before bed is the ideal time as helps relaxation*

Book conversations-

- *Infants readers have some great parent notes in the front and back of each book, including questions to ask after reading the story.*
- *Year 3 to Year 10 students- Ask them about the book they're currently reading, When they finish reading any book encourage them to jump on and see if it's on Renaissance and do the quiz, ask them about quiz results and what book they might read next? Talk about books you enjoy reading or loved at their age!*

Encourage and reward-

Offer encouragement with reading, make it a fun and rewarding task.

- *Infants students- After reading aloud to you, get them to pick a book they love for you to read to them (don't forget to use some crazy character voices!!) Picking a new book from the shops is a fantastic reward for reading successes!*
- *Year 3 to Year 10- not watching the movie, until they have read the book and making a fun night of it. Finding a series they love and buying the next book to keep them going, finding books you love and encouraging them to read it too and again books make a great reward!*

Renaissance Reading

Renaissance Reading kicked off this week with our Yr 3-6 students sitting their Star Reading Assessments. These assessments provide teachers with a range of data in regards to how students are performing with reading. This assessment also provides students with their ZPD levels (Zone of Proximal Development), they then use their given zone to pick a book from the Renaissance section of the library. I've attached at the end of this newsletter a flyer that explains what Renaissance Reading is and how we're using it at St Mary's. If you use the QR code on the flyer there is a video of myself explaining Renaissance Reading. This video was made a couple of years ago but is still very relevant and is a great introduction to Renaissance Reading.

Please note that our school Renaissance address has changed since the flyer and video was made it is now-

<https://global-zone60.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/1543596>

This is the website St Mary's students need to go to in order to complete quizzes.

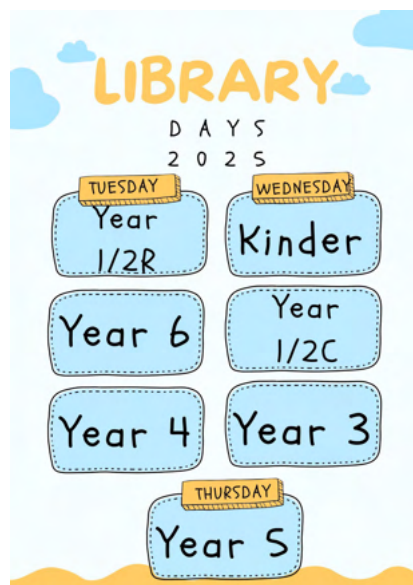
If you ever have any questions regarding Renaissance Reading or reading in general, please don't hesitate to contact myself or your child's class teacher.

Book Club

Book Club Issue 1 should have been sent home with students this week, if you missed out please ask class teachers for a copy. The School gains free resources from any purchases made from Book Club by families. You are under no obligation to buy, although if you would like to place an order you can either register online or send your order into the school office.

Details to order online are on the back page of the catalogue. If you are having any difficulties with orders, please contact the school. **Issue 1 orders are due next Thursday, February 20.**

Mrs Hayley Jones
Teacher Librarian



First Day Back

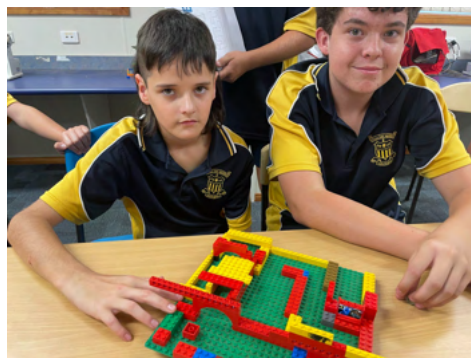




Technology Mandatory: A-MAZE-ING Lego

Year 7 & 8 students are studying a unit of work titled "A-MAZE-ING". Students will be making several physical mazes as well as understanding the maze of computers and coding to ultimately make their own 3D printed maze. Students started looking at the design process to make a marble run out of lego, they were then given a marking criteria for success, evaluated everyone's design and then had time to re-design!

Mrs Tammy Nugent
Teacher



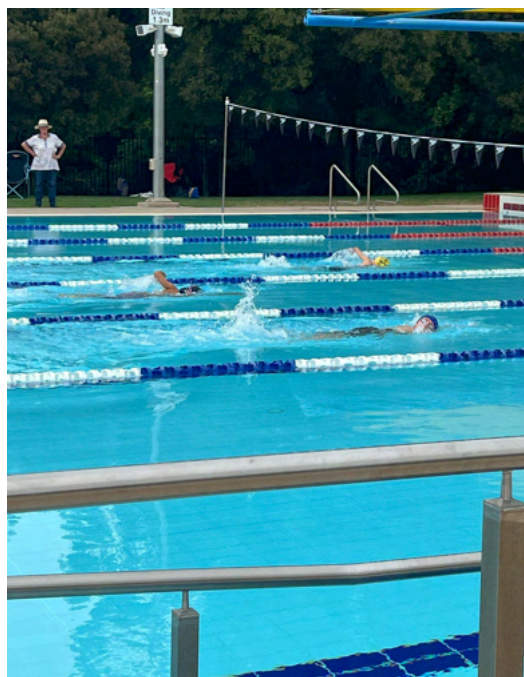
Food Technology - Palmier Hearts

Year 9/10 Food Technology elective students started the year with a valentines inspired practical. They made "Palmier hearts" from puff pastry and learnt how to make icing using raspberries for colour and simple piping techniques.

Mrs Tammy Nugent
Teacher



Swimming Carnival





Cybersafety

We are increasingly dealing with social media and cybersafety issues at school with **over 90%** of these incidents occurring out of school hours. We ask you as parents to regularly check your child's social media access and to monitor the Apps accessed and who they are contacting. **Please note that Snap Chat and Tik Tok (and numerous other sites) should not be used by children under 13 years of age in Australia.**

If your child is a victim of misuse of technology this is what we recommend that you do:

- Save and store the offending material on your computer, mobile phone or other device
- Print a copy of the material and immediately report the incident to the school
- If the material is pornographic or sexualised immediately report this to the police

<https://www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au/parents/>



EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Attendance below 90% puts a child's academic achievement at risk.

Continuous learning. Continuity is essential for effective learning, as concepts build upon each other over time.

Development of Learning Skills. Skills are developed through active participation in the learning process.

Establishment of Routine. Consistent attendance helps establish routine, promotes organisational skills and time management.

How missing school adds up



1 day

(per fortnight)

equals to

4 weeks

(per year)

equals to

Over 1 year

Missed across K-12

School Student Travel



School student travel information for parents and students

School Travel Passes

Applications are now open for 2025 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel.

Students living in rural and regional areas will receive their travel pass from their nominated transport operator. It may be issued via their school or be sent directly to them at home. Note: Some rural and regional operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Terms of Use

All students are required to comply with the [Student code of conduct](#). The code of conduct aims to ensure the safety and well-being of school children and other passengers. It is important that parents ensure their child is aware of this, as failure to comply with the code of conduct can result in a suspension from travel.

School Uniform

- **All students should be wearing full summer uniforms in Term 1.**
- SMCS blue bucket hats for all students (**no maroon hats please**) / Year 7-10 only optional SMCS baseball hat.
- Sport uniform will be worn 3 days a week / official school uniform 2 days a week as below:
K-6 wear sports uniform on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
7-10 wear sports uniforms on Monday, Thursday and Friday

Reminder - Parking At The Front of School

We ask that all our parents, carers and visitors to the school adhere to our parking regulations to keep our children safe.

- **Avoid parallel parking/ double parking or asking your child to cross the road unassisted**
- **Do not park across or in the disability parking spaces unless you display a disabled permit**
- **Do not park in bus zones during bus service times**

These restrictions are required to maximise parking opportunities for everyone and to keep children safe.

The new gate has been installed near the K-2 play equipment for parents to have access for drop offs and pickups. This will ease the congestion at the front of the school.

Parents are asked to ensure younger siblings do not play on the play equipment.



St Mary's Community Google Calendar - Keep up to date with upcoming School Events

Compass Portal

St Mary's School has an online calendar. It syncs with the Compass portal. You can see school events on Compass. Click the calendar icon at the bottom of your screen (Phone App version), or top of your screen (web browser version of Compass). As is often with mobile devices, things can be difficult to navigate. The online version is better.

Webpage

To access a more user-friendly version of our school calendar, online users can click this link: [St Mary's Catholic School Community Calendar](https://tinyurl.com/ybyu5qs6). (<https://tinyurl.com/ybyu5qs6> if you're using a paper copy of the newsletter).

It would be a good idea to save it/ bookmark it/ favourite it.

Add to a Google Account

For those that have a Google account (G-mail), you might like to add the calendar to your Google calendar. Use this link: [Google Account Link to School Calendar](#) (online users only)

If you would like assistance, pop in and see Mr Chris Stevens next time you're in the school.

Mr Chris Stevens

ICT Support

Active and Creative Kids Voucher

The new Active and Creative Kids voucher is now available, helping to make activities more affordable for eligible NSW families. Families of eligible school-aged children will be able to use two \$50 vouchers per calendar year.

- Vouchers are available to those receiving **Family Tax Benefit Part A**, or **Family Tax Benefit Part B**, or both.
- Vouchers can be downloaded as a QR code and used toward either an eligible physical or creative activity.
- The \$50 vouchers will be issued in school term 1 and school term 3.
- Vouchers must be redeemed before their expiry date.

For more information, visit [Active and Creative Kids](#).



P&F Canteen

Canteen Menu

Pie \$4.50
Sausage Roll \$4.00
Pizza Roundas \$4
Ham & Cheese Toastie \$3.50
Butter Chicken & Rice GF \$5
Fried Rice GF \$5.00
Lasagne \$5.00
Yummy Drummy \$1 each
Mac & Cheese \$5.00
Banana Bread \$2

Drinks

Apple Juice 375mls \$3.00
Apple Juice 200mls \$2.00
Orange Juice \$3.00
Strawberry Milk \$2.50
Chocolate Milk \$2.50
Water \$2

Treats

Icy Cups Apple/Orange \$1.00
Frozen Yoghurt \$2
Lemonade Ice Block \$2
Chips Small Plain or Honey Soy \$1.50
Chips Large S&V, Plain or Chicken \$2.50

Canteen Information

We have now joined Flexischools online ordering system. Please place orders by FRIDAY 9am. All menu items can be ordered using the app however students can still bring in money to purchase TREATS & DRINKS on the day.

Volunteers are warmly welcomed. If you can spare a few hours once a term for canteen duty please contact Sally Mostyn or Emily Redfern.

The P&F meets every third week of the month at 5.30pm. If you are interested in raising funds to assist with additional resources for your own child's education, get involved in our P&F.

"In supporting our school community,
St Mary's is a nut free zone"

Join the clubs

Breakfast Club	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 8.30am - 8.50am School Canteen - free for all students Donations welcome
Lunchtime Clubs	Lego Club: Monday Maths Club: Tuesday Science: Thursday
SPB4L Cub Credits	SPB4L Club Credit Shop: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
Cattle Showing	Tuesday and Thursday 3.30pm - 5pm

Lowes Online Uniforms



Lowes would like to remind the school community that parents can still access uniform purchases via our Schools Online in the comfort of their home with delivery. All orders over \$100 include free delivery and orders under \$100 incur a \$10 delivery charge. Visit

<https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online> and sign up at <https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online/st-mary-s-school-wellington>

Secondary Girls Skirts



Secondary girls' skirts in sizes 8,10,12,14 are available to try on at the school office. These skirts are a stock standard size. If you would like to purchase one, please contact: **Kingfisher School Gear, 151 Summer Street Orange. Phone 02 6361 2252** for orders and payment.

You can organise to pick it up or to pay for postage. Please allow 2-3 weeks for it to be made. The cost of the skirts is \$62 for standard sizes. If you require a skirt to be made to measure and any sort of alteration there will be an extra charge. All correspondence regarding organising and purchasing of skirts is to be between yourself and Kingfisher School Gear, **NOT** the school office.

Wellington Dance Academy

Wellington Dance Academy commences classes on Monday 10 February. Tuition by qualified teachers is offered in Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Contemporary to girls and boys from 3 years at 164 Percy Street, opposite the Library.

Enquiries to 0499 686 996 or danceacademywellington@outlook.com

Doreen Thompson - Co Principal

COMPASS APP

Please download the Compass App, search for Wellington and select our school

Login to the Compass Parent Portal where you can:

Monitor your child's attendance and enter an explanation for absence or lateness

Get alerts including the school newsletter, information about events and P & F Minutes

Communicate with your child's teachers

Update your family contact information

View your child's timetable and the school calendar

Download and view your child's Semester Reports and Progress Reports



www.stmaryswellington.catholic.edu.au



<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysWellingtonNSW>

THANK YOU TO OUR
MILK SPONSOR



RENAISSANCE®

A Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader

Renaissance Reading is a reading program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at their own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer - passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what has been read.



1 Choose a book within your ZPD



- Check that it is in your ZPD range
- Look at the cover
- Read the blurb
- Look for authors you like
- Read the introduction
- Read the first page



2 Read your book



- Read for 25 minutes everyday
- Record what you're reading in your reading log



3 Search for the quiz



- Go to your Renaissance Place and **select** Accelerated Reader, type in the book's quiz number and click **Search**
- You can find the quiz number on the **AR label**
- **Select** how you read this book
- Click **Start Quiz**



4 Take the quiz



- You will have 3, 5, 10 or 20 questions to answer
- Read the question and all four answers
- Ask a teacher to explain a question you don't understand.
- There are no time limits
- Click on the stars to rate the book
- Check your TOPS result



How can I support my child become a better reader?

As with anything, performance improves with practice. Research suggests, students who read at least 20 minutes a day see the greatest gains. Encourage your child to read at home, discuss books and ask questions about what they have read.

To find out more, scan the QR code.

Renaissance log in here: <https://auhosted2.renlearn.com.au/1543596/>

***It's Fine Free February
at Macquarie Regional Libraries!***

YES – it's true!

**Return long overdue books this month
and pay ZERO fines.**

**Some existing fines for previous late returns
may also be waived***

**We'd love to have those books back in our
collection – and we'd love to have you borrowing
again 😊**

**Talk to your friendly Wellington Library staff
for more information.**

***Terms and conditions apply**

**Visit us or phone
Wellington Library on 6840 1780**





**St Mary's
P & F Association**

AGM

Hall Classroom

**We invite all parents and friends to
come along and get involved in
supporting our school and its
students. Hope to see you there!**

5:30 PM

Tuesday

Feb 18th

2025