



# Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic School Wellington

30 August 2024  
TERM 3 WEEK 6

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St Mary's Catholic School  
St Patrick's Parish  
37 Percy St Wellington NSW  
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***“Be grateful for the amazing father figures that we have as part of our lives”***

Dear St Mary's Families,

Great things have been happening out and about in our school. How amazing was our Book Parade with our Year 10 play and super book character costumes across the year levels.

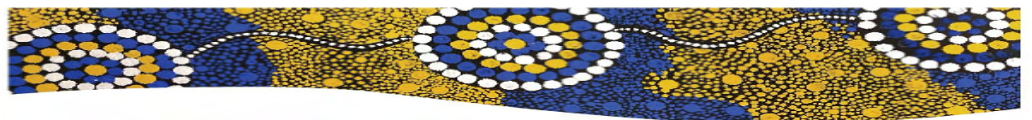
Thank you to parents and students who attended our Taste of Secondary and Elective Information evening. It was an opportunity to showcase our Secondary schooling opportunities, staff expertise and the wide range of electives that are available at St Mary's.

Congratulations to St Mary's students who participated in the Science@Heart School Science & Art Engagement as part of National Science week. Our artwork decorated the walls of the Western Plains Cultural Centre. St Mary's was the runner-up in the competition and received a \$2,000 voucher for Science resources.

Past student Ashleigh Parkes has joined our Year 4 class as a prac teacher and we welcome Ruth Brown who has joined St Mary's as our new Centacare counsellor.

May hope for the future fill your hearts.

**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 3 Week 7

Mon 2 Sept Year 10 Job Ready  
Tues 3 Sept  
Wed 4 Sept  
Thur 5 Sept VALID 6 Science Test  
Frid 6 Sept Christmas Art Awards & Exhibition  
Sat 7 Sept P & F Garden Working Bee

## Term 3 Week 8

Mon 9 Sept Year 8 Visit Maranatha House 2pm  
Tues 10 Sept VALID 10 Science Test  
Wed 11 Sept Confirmation Spirit Day  
Thur 12 Sept St Mary's Showcase Evening | Year 7 & 10 Immunisation  
Fri 13 Sept Newsletter | Polding Athletics | Stage 2 Old Dubbo Gaol Excursion  
Sat 14 Sept Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm



## 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 Professional Learning Days

## Staff Professional Learning Days 2024 (Pupil Free Days)

Monday 14 October - Cultural Awareness day

## Term Dates 2024

Term 1 Thursday 1 February - Friday 12 April  
Term 2 Tuesday 30 April - Friday 5 July  
Term 3 Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September  
Term 4 Tuesday 15 October - Friday 20 December





# Religious Education

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## St Patrick's Church

### Wellington

#### Weekly Mass Times

9am Monday to Friday

5pm Saturday

8am 2nd & 4th Sunday

10am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

*"A good father knows how to wait and knows how to forgive from the depths of his heart. Certainly, he also knows how to correct with firmness. The father who knows how to correct without humiliating is the one who knows how to protect without sparing himself."*

Pope Francis

## Confirmation Update

With two weekends of normal Masses left until the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 14 September, candidates are well into their preparation requirements.

### Reminders:

It is essential that candidates attend weekend Mass. There are 5 masses in the preparation period. If you have not been able to make this commitment, please contact Father Carl at the Presbytery to discuss your options. Students should have chosen a Saint (which becomes their chosen confirmation name) and be working on their poster presentations, ready for the Spirit Day on Wednesday 11 September.

All enrolment forms and payments should now be submitted to the school. The enrolment form will include the chosen confirmation name and other information needed to prepare paperwork for the Bishop. Please continue to engage with your child through the parent Confirmation material shared with you.

## Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy

This morning, it was wonderful to see the community supporting our Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy, especially the many dads, grandads, step dads etc who were able to spend some time with us. We shared a short liturgy to pray for our dads and remember dads we have lost and dads who have lost children. We wish all our fathers and father figures a very happy Father's Day.

## Year 5 and 6 Prayer Through Music

Recently, our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the Diocesan Praise and Worship Music event in Dubbo. They joined hundreds of students from the Diocese and had fun singing and dancing and using music to express the message of love and understanding for others.



## Mr Christopher Stevens

Leader of Ministry and Mission



## SCHOOL Information

### Taste of St Mary's /Elective Information Evening

Thank you to all Year 6 and Year 8 families who joined us on Wednesday evening for the 'Taste of Secondary/Elective Information Evening'.

Year 8 students will have the opportunity to nominate for their preferred elective subjects in the coming weeks. Elective information booklets will be available through the Compass newsfeed or in hard copy upon request.

### Uniform

A reminder that students are expected to wear their full Winter uniform during Term 3, with sport uniform to be worn on their sport/PE days only (K-6 Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 7-10 Monday, Thursday and Friday). If your child is unable to wear their uniform on a given day, please send in a note (or send an email) to the classroom/ Pastoral Care teacher.

**Mr Allan Jones**  
Assistant Principal

# Learning Matters

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## K-6

### DIBELS Short-Term Learning Initiative

At St Mary's, we use a number of formative assessments throughout the year to assess and inform the learning of our students. One of these is the DIBELS Assessment (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). The DIBELS assessment is conducted three times a year and allows staff to test a range of literacy skills and monitor student growth. The assessment is conducted in all grades from Kindergarten to Year 8.

Next week, a number of students in Kinder to Year 8 will begin a short, 6 week "booster" session, aimed at honing in on some of the literacy skills assessed in DIBELS. All parents can assist in the building of their child's literacy skills by continuing to encourage reading at home and aiming to assist their children with any sight word or fluency activities that may come home as homework.

**Mr John Nugent**  
K-6 Team Leader

## 7-10

Thank you to all Year 6 and Year 8 students and families who joined us on Wednesday evening for the 'Taste of Secondary/Elective Information Evening'. It was great to see so many families there showing interest in their children's learning and to see the interest in the wide range of electives on offer for 2025. Year 8 students will have the opportunity to make elective selections in the coming weeks. We were very lucky on the night to have some excellent class demonstrations from Mrs Nugent, Mrs Milgate and Mr Stevens. We also thank our secondary teachers for their preparation of engaging elective information displays.

We have had a lot of events in the past weeks that students have been involved in. Please be reminded of assessment deadlines and the expectation that all assessments need to be completed on time. If work is stacking up please see your classroom or pastoral care teacher for support and guidance.

**Mr Alistaire Thompson**  
7-10 Team Leader



# School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning “SPB4L”

## SPB4L Focus ‘Give it a Go!’

‘Give it a Go’ in the current whole school SPB4L theme, aiming to highlight the importance of attempting and completing work to the best of a student’s ability.

During this focus students will be encouraged to:

- Take risks in their learning
- Not fear making errors
- Always give their best
- Ask for help if needed
- Never give up



**Mr Allan Jones**  
Assistant Principal

*Only Goodness Makes You Noble*

**St Mary's**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL WELLINGTON

9 37 Percy Street, Wellington NSW 2820 ☎ 02 6845 1822  
✉ stmaryswellington@bth.catholic.edu.au

**Enrolling Now**  
For Kindergarten to Year 10



## 2024 Term 3 Sporting Dates:

**-13 September Polding  
Athletics**

**-20 September Netball  
Gala Day**

## Sport

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### Diocese Basketball

Well done to our Basketball Teams that competed at the Bathurst Diocese Basketball Carnival last Monday. All three teams enjoyed the day and were extremely competitive. It was an early start and late finish so a big thank you to Mrs Hawkins and Mr Doherty for transporting and supporting our students.

### Diocesan Athletics

Congratulations to all students who competed at the primary and secondary athletics carnivals in Dubbo last week. All of our students tried their hearts out in every event they competed in and represented the school with pride. Congratulations to Josie Hutchinson who has progressed to the NSW Polding Athletics Carnival for Shot Put in September.

### Wolf Pack Win Local Derby

On Thursday this week the two local high schools, St Mary's and Wellington High, met at Rygate Park to contest the Don Green Local Derby Cup. The Don Green Cup has been contested for over 20 years and more recently Basketball and Netball have been added to try and encourage our Wellington students to play sport. This year the Cup went to St Mary's who were victorious in Touch Football, Basketball and Netball.

### Players Players for the Day:

Netball: Millie Jones and Sophia Edgell

Girls Touch: Maddison Higgins and Siar Bullock

Boys Touch: Callen Smith and Darren Stanley

Boys Basketball: Lennox Bennett and Theo Calocaouras

A big thank you to both Wellington High School and St Mary's staff and students for making the day such a huge success. Special mention to Jo Hodges, Sarah Doherty, Millie Hibberd, Danielle Sears and Jo Ivey for their amazing support and help. And of course to big Don Green for making the trip over to Wellington and awarding the trophy.

### Mr Alistaire Thompson

Sport Coordinator





# Showcasing St Mary's

Thursday 12 September

A variety of performances from across the school.

Doors will open at 6pm with an art and craft display and nibbles provided by our TAS students. Entertainment will then commence at **6.30pm** with musical, drama and dance performances along with demonstrations and slideshow presentations from our agricultural, science and sport departments. A **gold coin donation** is appreciated to help support our creative and performing arts across St Mary's.



St Mary's Wellington would like to invite you to attend our

## NAIDOC DAY Celebrations

Wednesday 18th September 2024 1pm - 3pm

Bring your chairs or a picnic rug to join us for a picnic lunch.

Please RSVP for catering to [d.sears@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:d.sears@bth.catholic.edu.au) or [j.hodges4@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:j.hodges4@bth.catholic.edu.au)

This National NAIDOC Week Activity is funded by the following organisations

**KEEP THE FIRE  
BURNING  
BLAK, LOUD, AND PROUD**

@belyeadeb  
zeyawgub.com.au



# 2025 Taste of Secondary and Electives Evening

Enthusiastic students and parents came along to our information sessions last Wednesday night. Science experiments, Maths number games and creating timber robots were highlights. Year 8 students viewed information displays of elective choices for 2025.



# Father's Day Breakfast & Liturgy



# National Science Week 2024 at St Mary's

On Friday 16 August students participated in a K-2 STEM Challenge and schoolwide Clue Hunt to celebrate National Science Week! Thank you to everyone for such enthusiastic involvement!

Prize winners were:

Year 3, Year 9 and Year 10 for their fantastic class participation.

Kindergarten: Jarlirah Vering, Jack Sears, Mackenzie Smyth, Camilla Holland, Bodhi Harrold, Toby Spradbrow, Paul Cornish, Reagan Brown.

Year 1: Farrah Ridley, Alice Redfern, Eva Stevenson, Grace Whale, Imogen Ryan, Georgia Prendergast, Lachlan Ney, Ned Frogley.

Year 2: Tommy Sears, Noah Whale, Henry Wright, Margo Baxter, Fred Redfern, Eden Brindley, Ivy Ryan-Lousick, Macey Roberts, Rochelle Fisher, Connor Byrnes, Eva Spradbrow.

Year 3: Ari Ryan-Lousick, Mia Stevenson.

Year 4: Indianna Taylor, Brodie Frogley, Ebony Ryan.

Year 5: Evie Whiteley, Olivia Potter, Elijah Hawkins, Ryan Finn.

Year 6: Annabel Roberts, Miley Chown-Boland, Lina Kelly, Hayden Smith, Jim Nugent.

Year 7: Patrick Angell, Lochlan Salmon.

Year 8: Kora Smyth, Lily Roberts.

Year 9: Brydie Chandler, Georgie Power, Ella Wykes.

Year 10: Bella Sheridan, Caleb Hawkins.

Staff: Mr Stevens and Mr Nugent for their participation in the Clue Hunt and Mrs Frogley and Miss Hibberd for their amazing efforts filling in the Staff Science Week Quiz!

Congratulations everyone!

**Mrs Nicola Prendergast**  
Teacher



# Literacy Coaching

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This semester our Year 7-10 classes have been having a big focus on vocabulary (which is just a fancy term for words). Through the CEDB's literacy coaching program driven by Ms S-K, students are encouraged to break down the key words they need to know for each subject because it turns out their growing brains are forced to take in thousands of new words every year!

Whether it's Maths, Science, Technology or PDHPE, there are so many words our students are picking up every day. Our teachers are working towards making sure every student knows the words they need to (and how to use them)!

There will be lots of initiatives happening as we wrap up Term 3 and start preparing for Term 4 but we would love to hear from you! If you have any ideas on how we can further support your child when it comes to learning and unpacking key words, please reach out. We love hearing from our school community so shoot any suggestions you have through to [h.stewartkoster@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:h.stewartkoster@bth.catholic.edu.au)

**Ms Helen Stewart-Koster**

Head of English

# Bell Shakespeare

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Last week St Mary's was fortunate to have a visit from Sydney's Bell Shakespeare company. Students from Years 5-10 were immersed in the world of Shakespeare and learned lots about why we still study this "old dead guy". Students and staff had a laugh, got involved, and learned lots about the influence Shakespeare has had on the English language. We even got to see Miss Pace trying her hand at acting (she was amazing of course)! We are so grateful to Bell Shakespeare for making the trip out to Wellington and hope to work with them again in the future.

**Ms Helen Stewart-Koster**

Head of English

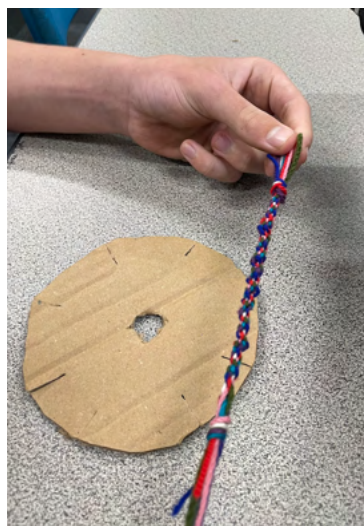
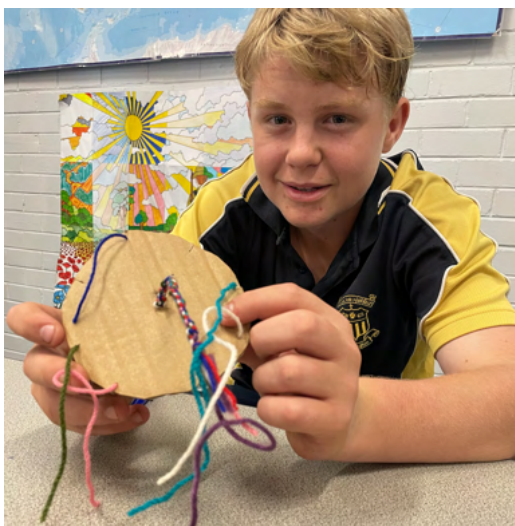


# Year 7/8 Viking Trolen Wheel Braiding

Students have been studying the “Vikings” in History this term. They learned how to make a Trolen disc to make their own braid. Vikings used braids for their clothing, making belts, small ropes for sachets etc.

**Mrs Tammy Nugent**

Teacher of TAS/History/Geography and Careers Advisor



# Bathurst Diocese Basketball Carnival

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## Praise & Worship

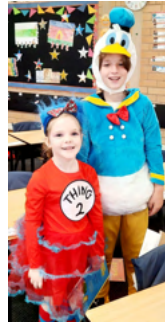
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Students from Year 5 and 6 attended the Praise and Worship workshop in Dubbo last week. Students had the best time connecting deeper with their faith through music and dance. We also had the opportunity to write our own prayers at the end of the day. Some students even recalled the day as “This is the best day ever”.

**Ms Hannah Pace**  
Teacher



# Book Week Parade

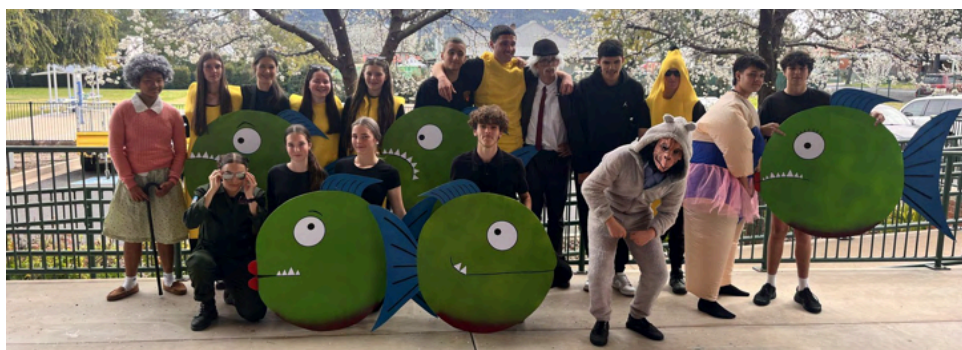






# Year 10 Book Week Play - Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas

by Aaron Blabey



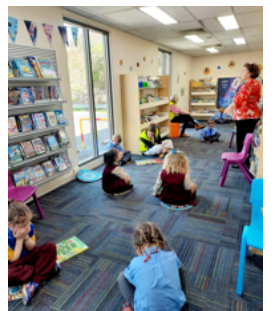
# Book Week Buddy Reading



# Town Library Visit - Reading is Magic!

St Mary's K-2 students enjoyed a visit to the Wellington Library as part of Book Week celebrations. This year's Book Week theme is 'Reading is Magic' and there was lots of magic happening in the library when we visited. Students used their imaginations to go on a flying carpet ride and visit some of the places they saw in all the beautiful books. It was magical and so much fun!! A big thank you to Wellington Library for having us.

**Mrs Hayley Jones**  
Librarian



# Library News

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Wow - what an amazing Book Week we celebrated last week. Our K-3 students enjoyed some special visits to the town library, where we imagined going on a magic carpet ride and visiting a few of the magical places from some of the beautiful library books we had seen. Our Wednesday, celebrations kicked off with Buddy Reading in the morning. It was wonderful to see our buddies so excited to share a book, show off their costumes and enjoy some time catching up. The highlight of our Book Week celebrations was definitely our Book Parade- Maleficent thought it was magnificent! A sea of book characters filled our hall full of excitement, eager to celebrate books and show off their amazing costumes. Year 10 gave an award winning performance of 'Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas- The Musical', loosely based on the book by Aaron Blabey. The play not only featured some very funny piranhas and cool bananas, but there were also some camos with monkeys, chickens, grandmas and even a song from the OG Wiggles! Afterwards, it was time to parade. It was fantastic to see students have so much fun parading their costumes and enjoying their moment up on the stage. During the parade, an array of Radical Reader awards were handed out to students. These awards are awarded for excellent work in all different areas of literacy.

Congratulations to- **Caylee J, Jackson A, Toby S, Jarlirah V, Paco C, Jim N, Imogen R, Grace W, Annabella B, Thomas S, Maggie C, Hugh C, Violet M, Ari RL, Georgie P, Zane H, Frankie M and Lily S.**

The following students were also awarded a very special Radical Reader Award for volunteering and giving up some of their lunchtime to help out with this year's Book Fair. A big Thank you and congratulations to-**Sophie W, Joanne O, Pippa H, Willow D, Genevieve P, Ebony R.**

This year, as part of Book Fair and Book Week celebrations, students were invited to take part in a fun competition, designing a new 'Don't let the pigeon....' book cover. All students are to be commended on their very creative entries. The judges had a very hard time selecting the winners of this competition, as there were so many clever designs entered. Congratulations to our first place winners-**Emma H- Don't let the pigeon be a chef, Oliver S- Don't let the pigeon be a fireman, Stephanie F- The pigeon goes on a date, Cooper R- Don't let the pigeon go back in time, Aubree O- Don't let the pigeon drive the party bus, Noah W- Don't let the pigeon work at dominos, Dominic B- Don't let the pigeon be Santa Claus.**

Congratulations to our Second Place winners- **Hamish W- Don't let the pigeon play basketball, Vinnie R- Don't let the pigeon be the grinch, Lewis B- Don't let the pigeon front flip, Angus P- Don't let the pigeon be a cowboy, Elsie G- Don't let the pigeon be a teacher, Lily N- Don't let the pigeon watch a scary movie alone, Ebony R- Don't let the pigeon perform surgery, Ruby M- Don't let the pigeon into the olympics, Paco C- Don't let the pigeon play football, Phoenix B- Don't let the pigeon be an artist.**

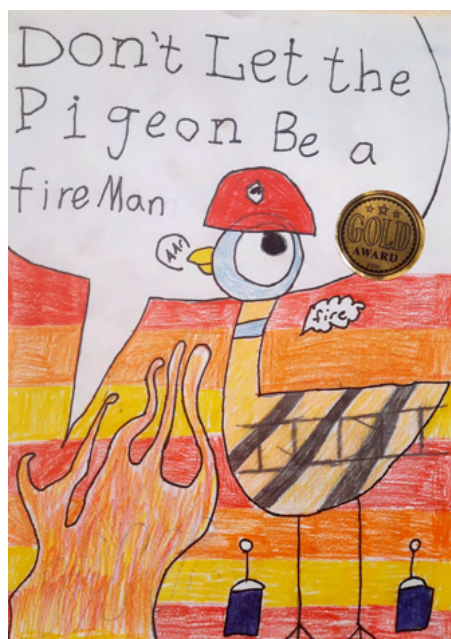
Congratulations to our Highly Commended recipients-**Summer W- Don't let the pigeon drive the plane, Ileyana M- Don't let the pigeon rob the bank, Breanna P- Don't let the pigeon be a Pokemon, Eden B- Don't let the pigeon be a parent, Reagan B- Don't let the pigeon on the skateboard, Mila W- Don't let the pigeon wear makeup, Hunter H- Don't let the pigeon use dynamite, Ariana J- The pigeon needs to take his medicine, Paddy J- Don't let the pigeon travel to Australia, Elijah H- Don't let the pigeon become a dictator, Ryan F- Don't let the pigeon drop a nuke Max K- Don't let the pigeon go to space.**

The last award of the day was awarded to one of our teachers. At the beginning of Term 3, I set out the challenge for staff to create a display or run an initiative in their rooms that would inspire students to read more. Mrs Clarke and I went on a learning walk in Week 4, with the aim of finding anything in classrooms which showed that students were being inspired to pick up a book. We saw lots of evidence of this, from literacy posters and books being kept on desks to read as soon as work is complete or for settling times, to cosy reading nooks and 'Wow' displays. There were quite a few that really stood out. Little Saints had an amazing display with all their work around the text 'Diary of a wombat'. Year 1 and Year 2 also had amazing displays all around this year's Book Week theme 'Reading is magic'. Kinder had decorated their door also around this theme and were running an initiative where students were to bring in their favourite books wrapped up and each day they would unwrap one and share it with the class- lots of fun!

Miss Pace has a lovely display of books in her room for students to choose from and Miss SK has a wall for students to add their favourite books too. It's great to see so many teachers and support staff inspiring our students to develop a love of literacy. However in the end there could be only one winner and Mrs Clarke and I decided that Mrs Aleksandrovics was this year's winner. Mrs Aleksandrovics' display just had the winning edge, in that not only did it look fantastic and was sure to inspire students to read, but it was also interactive and required students to be reading. It also rewarded students for any completed reading. We have clearly seen this term, a change in Year 4 with their reading and borrowing and it is very clear that this initiative is working. Congratulations to Mrs Aleksandrovics on her award but also to all teachers who continue to inspire students to develop a love of reading.

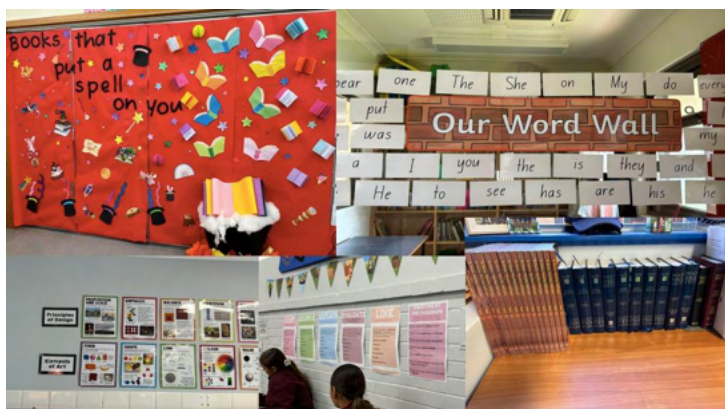
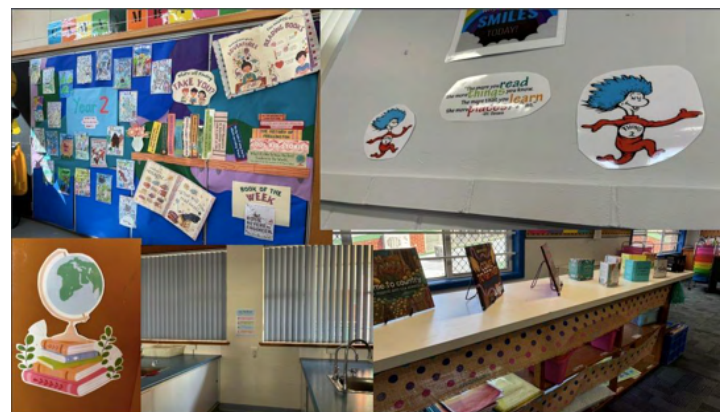
Lastly, I would like to give a VERY BIG thank you to everyone who helped make our Book Week celebrations happen. To Margot from the town library for running our visits to the Wellington Library, Miss SK for helping coordinate the Year 10 Play, Mr Jones for being the MC and helping with all the parade set up. Mrs Hawkins, Ms Crean and Mrs Sears for helping hand out awards and assisting students up on the stage and Mr Doherty for giving a hand on the day. Thank you also, to you, our parents and friends for your work with costumes, coming along and supporting our students and helping create great excitement about books!

**Mrs Hayley Jones**  
 Librarian



# Learning Walk

As part of Book Week, Mrs Jones and Mrs Clarke conducted a learning walk around the school to spot literacy on display or at work within all areas throughout the school.



# Music around the school

Students in Year 4 are learning about beat and rhythm within Calypso music. They are enjoying experimenting with different percussion instruments.



Kinder have been enjoying playing percussion instruments in the music room.



# Aboriginal Education

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## NAIDOC

On behalf of St Mary's, the cultural committee would like to invite families along to attend our NAIDOC picnic lunch celebrations on the **18 September at 1pm**. Join us for some curry and Johnny cakes. There will be an afternoon of family activities.

## Cultural Experience

Our years 3 & 4 continue their journey of expanding their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture through stories and dance. We are hard at it practising and getting ready to perform at our school showcase in Week 8 and also Fong Lees Lane. Keep an eye out for this talented bunch of creative kids.



## Cyber Education

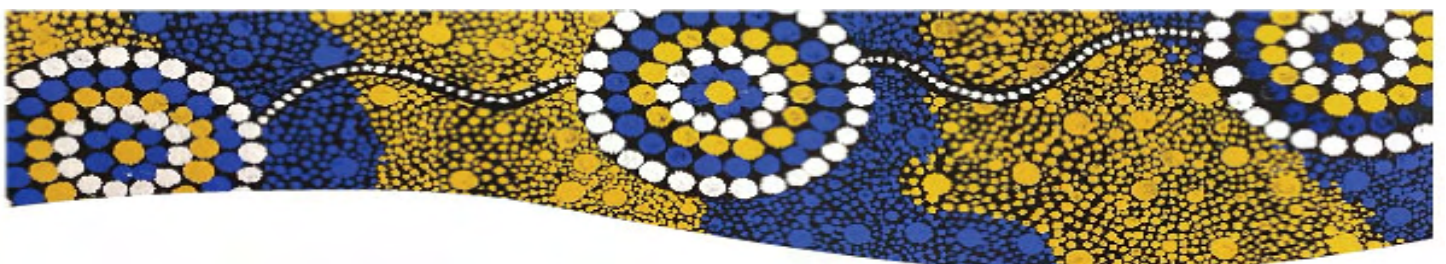
St Mary's had the pleasure of hosting the NSW Police department and Plus Community on 7 August to discuss personal safety around cyber education, stranger danger, safe device practice and knowing our obligations when participating in online games and apps.

The students were given strategies and advice around the parameters of online communication and where to get help if required. Students were also informed that there is no expiry date on online content shared for the Police to have access. It stays accessible forever.

If you require assistance please contact the eSafety Commissioner for assistance with matters online (eg removal of photos or posts). <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

There is also a fantastic app parents can use to monitor their children's online activities via the app Family Link. Family Link helps you to monitor your child's online content as well as place a parental lock on devices and many more features. It can be downloaded for free via the app store on devices.

If anyone has any ideas or would like a Yarn please call the office or email Mrs Sears or Ms Hodges [d.sears@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:d.sears@bth.catholic.edu.au) & [j.hodges4@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:j.hodges4@bth.catholic.edu.au)





# Maranatha House Visit

On Monday, Year 10 students had their first visit this year to Maranatha. As the seniors of the school they certainly put in the extra effort. They took up the challenge of new activities gently guiding and sharing their knowledge with the elderly. Then some of the students got an extra bonus and became the impromptu birthday singers for Bill who just turned 100! Bill was able to entertain with stories of life before McDonald's, his experience at the Sydney Harbour Bridge opening (in 1932!) and his role in World War 2. As the students left his room he said he was looking forward to seeing them in a couple of year's time. Bless them all.



## Louise Hennessy

Community Wellbeing Program Manager



# Flu Vaccinations

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The 2024 flu vaccine is available now. Influenza (flu) is serious, but your yearly flu vaccine offers the best protection against getting really sick - so you can keep doing the things you love.

Getting a flu vaccine is quick, easy and recommended for everyone aged 6 months, and is free for:

- Children aged 6 months to under 5 years
- Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy
- Aboriginal people aged 6 months and over
- Anyone aged 65+
- People with serious health conditions, including heart disease, chronic lung conditions (including severe asthma), kidney, and liver disease and diabetes.

Book your flu vaccine today with your doctor, local pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS) through [healthdirect.gov.au/nswfluvaccine](http://healthdirect.gov.au/nswfluvaccine).

Everyone aged 5 years and older can get vaccinated at their local pharmacy.

For more information, visit [health.nsw.gov.au/respiratory](http://health.nsw.gov.au/respiratory).

## Reminder - Parking At The Front of School

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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.

During the school holidays we had a new gate installed near the K-2 play equipment for parents to have access for drop offs and pickups. We hope this will be operational soon. This will ease the congestion at the front of the school.

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

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### 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

# School Uniform

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- **All students should be wearing full winter uniforms.**
- 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**

# 2024 School Fee Information

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Fee relief remains available for those parents who are facing financial hardship. 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.

# Active and Creative Kids Voucher

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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](#).

# School Focus Areas for 2024

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**Our Annual School Improvement Plan focus areas for 2024 are:**

**Faith:**

*Students, staff and families feel connected/engaged to school and community through a rich and authentic Catholic faith, inclusive of Aboriginal spirituality, Mercy heritage and other faith traditions.*

**Learning:**

*Students know what they are learning, when they are successful and where to seek help. At St Mary's, students are learners, initiating and introducing peer and self assessment and individual goals.*

**Stewardship:**

*Students, staff and families implement and support agreed practices across the school.*

# 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

<b>Breakfast Club</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 8.30am - 8.50am School Canteen - free for all students Donations welcome
<b>Lunchtime Clubs</b>	Lego Club: Monday and Tuesday Chess Club: Friday Creative Club: Thursday (Cooking, Art, Garden)
<b>SPB4L Cub Credits</b>	SPB4L Club Credit Shop: Wednesday and Thursday
<b>Cattle Showing</b>	Tuesday 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.

### 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](http://www.stmaryswellington.catholic.edu.au)



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

# We're in town

See you soon, Wellington  
Thursday 19 September



**Wellington Library**  
Mobile Blood Donor Centre  
Corner Percy & Maughan Street  
Wellington NSW 2820  
Open 9.15 am until 3.15 pm

Book your donation now



 **13 14 95**

 **give blood**

Catholic  
Schools  
Guide

# TREASURE HUNT

ONE FAMILY WILL WIN  
\$2,000 IN SCHOOL FEES

Competition Closes:  
Friday 6 September 2024

## Find The Treasures To **WIN BIG!**

Catholic Schools Guide is giving one lucky entrant the opportunity to win 2 amazing prizes worth over \$2,000!

Every student attending a Catholic school in Australia is invited to enter this competition to win:

**Prize 1 is for your Family:**

\$2,000 worth of School Fees paid directly to your school.

**Prize 2 is for You:**

\$100 Roblox Robux voucher.

**Runner-up prizes:**

25 runner-up entries will receive a \$20 Roblox Robux voucher.

**Simple steps to enter:**

1. Go to Catholic Schools Guide website [catholicschoolsguide.com.au](http://catholicschoolsguide.com.au)
2. Follow the clues to find the 3 treasures
3. Then complete the entry form and tell us in 50 words or less tell us something special about your school's Past, Present or Future.

Competition Closes 5.00pm Friday 6 September, 2024.

Visit our website to enter

[catholicschoolsguide.com.au/competition](http://catholicschoolsguide.com.au/competition)

**Happy Treasure Hunting!**

[www.catholicschoolsguide.com.au/competition](http://www.catholicschoolsguide.com.au/competition)

P&F committee would like to  
invite you to our  
**WORKING  
BEE!**

We would love for you to join us in a fun  
filled day of garden preparation for our  
beautiful School.

**Saturday 7th September @8am**

BBQ lunch and refreshments provided.

RSVP for catering is recommended.

