

## St Mary's Catholic School Wellington

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### St Mary's Catholic School

St Patrick's Parish

37 Percy St Wellington NSW P: 02 6845 1822

E: stmaryswellington@bth. catholic.edu.a



#### "Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud"

Dear St Mary's Families,

On Wednesday 18 September, the St Mary's community will come together for our school NAIDOC. "...as we kindle the sparks of pride and unity, we will share the cultural heritage that enriches our nation..." Check out information for the day later in the newsletter and please join us for the celebrations.

Congratulations to the students and staff of St Mary's for an amazing showcase of talent across K-10 last night. Delicious sweet and savoury nibbles, creative displays and entertaining performances were enjoyed by us all. A huge thank you to our Creative Arts committee and talented staff who supported our students and to our families for being our best supporters. Bravo!

Our St Mary's P&F have coordinated a garden makeover in the K-2 area. What an amazing effort. Keep watch in the coming months for further changes when school holiday planting is complete. Great to see our school community coming together, caring for our school.

Today we farewelled Ashleigh Parkes who has completed her teaching placement in Year 4. We wish Ashleigh all the best with her studies and teaching career. I will be taking leave for the remainder of the term and Mr Jones will be acting principal during this time.

Looking forward to catching up with you all for Term 4. Kindest regards,

#### **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 9

Mon 16 Sept K-10 Assembly in Quad 8.50am | P&F Donut Day |

**CCC Athletics** 

**Tues 17 Sept** 

Wed 18 Sept NAIDOC | P&F Meeting

Thur 19 Sept

Frid 20 Sept Primary Netball Gala Day in Mudgee | Yr 10 Job Ready

(First Aid Component) at PCYC

## Term 3 Week 10

Mon 23 Sept Year 8 Visit Maranatha House 2pm

Tues 24 Sept Yrs 7-10 Stile Escape Room

Wed 25 Sept

Thur 26 Sept 2:20pm K-10 Assembly

Frid 27 Sept 9:10am Mercy Day Mass | Teachers v Students |

Colour run | Newsletter



#### **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 Day (Pupil Free Day) Monday 14 October - Staff 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





# St Patrick's Church Wellington Weekly Mass Times

9am Monday to Friday 5pm Saturday 8am 2nd & 4th Sunday 10am 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

"Fair doesn't mean giving every child the same thing, it means giving every child what they need."

Rick Lavoie

## **Religious Education**

## **A Strong School Community**

Last Saturday, I joined St Mary's parents and friends at the working bee to beautify the gardens leading down the side of the school at the main entrance and around the K-2 block. The results of the work are a much more welcoming space, with more improvements to come. It is the joy of seeing a school community come together, support each other and give their time and energy to create this wonderful outcome. We had many little ones, students, mums and dads and some grandparents helping out too. This was a marvellous model for these students to see and great lessons learnt, an outcome maybe more valuable than the gardens themselves. I see God at work here, working through each of us. My great gratitude to all those involved and the P&F for their organisation and foresight.

## **Bible Formation Opportunity – Join Us!**

Are you ready to deepen your understanding of Scripture and grow in faith? Our Diocesan Bible Formation is not far away with the numbers growing:

19 September Dubbo: 10 participants20 September Orange: 9 participants21 September Bathurst: 17 participants

There's still time to register and be part of this wonderful journey! Whether you're just beginning or have been studying the Bible for years, this program offers something for everyone.

We encourage you to invite family, friends and fellow parishioners to join in –

For more information and to register, visit: formationformission.bth.catholic.edu.au/the-bible.html or reach out to Carmen at 6334 6407

## **Confirmation Spirit Day**

Thank you to the Year 5 and 6 students and Lara and Summah Gersbach for their involvement in the Spirit Retreat Day on Wednesday. The students participated respectfully and with a genuine sense of the importance of the occasion. It was wonderful to hear about the Saints and their amazing stories. Please keep the following students from St Mary's making the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday in your prayers; Jackson Angell, Arthur Baxter, Oliver Eagleston, Flynn Feringa, Ryan Finn, Stephanie Frogley, Lara Gersbach, Summah Gersbach, Ellie Heywood, Pippa Horton, Ariana Johnston, Caylee Johnston, Paddy Jones, Geordie Mason, Jim Nugent, Olivia Potter, Annabel Roberts, Evie Whiteley, Isabella Whiteman and Sophie Wykes.

## **Mr Christopher Stevens**

Leader of Ministry and Mission



#### **SCHOOL Information**

## Uniform- Final weeks of Term 3

With warmer weather beginning to set in, students are permitted to wear their summer or winter uniform in the final two weeks of Term 3 (Weeks 9 & 10). This should not be a combination of both. A reminder that 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.

## NAIDOC Celebrations 2024

St Mary's will celebrate
NAIDOC on Wednesday
18 September (Week 9) with
a number of engaging
cultural activities which will
run throughout the day. K-10
students may wear casual
clothing in the colours of the
Aboriginal flag (red, black
and yellow) on Wednesday.
A free BBQ lunch will be
provided for all students.

**Mr Allan Jones** Assistant Principal

## **Learning Matters**

## **K-6**

#### **End of Term**

We have a very full and busy end of term 3, with a number of events and happenings going on, in and around the school. Thursday night kicked off our events with the St Mary's Showcase evening. Thank you to all students, parents and friends of St Mary's who came along to make the night a special occasion. Next week, we have our NAIDOC liturgy and activities and then we conclude the term with the Primary Netball Gala Day, as well as our Mercy Day Mass and activities. The final day of the term will also include a colour run, which should be a lot of fun. Year 3 and 4 will also have a visit to the Dubbo Gaol at the end of this week.

With so many things going on, it is also important for students to realise that at the end of each term there is likely to be assessments of the content learnt throughout the term, so it is vitally important that students stay motivated and work at their best right through till the end of the term.

## Spirit Day / Sacrament of Confirmation

On Wednesday, Year 5/6, as well as some of our older students and visitors from Wellington Public School, had their Spirit Day retreat. Spirit Day is the final day of preparation for the students to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Students presented their Saints posters, completed some artwork and practised some of the routines needed at Mass on Saturday night. The Confirmation Mass will take place at 5pm on

Saturday evening 14 September at St. Patrick's Church, with the final practice for candidates and their sponsors being at 6pm on Friday 13 September.

#### **Mr John Nugent**

K-6 Team Leader



## 7-10

#### **End of Term**

A big week this week with everyone preparing for our school Showcase and again next week with NAIDOC activities. A reminder for students to finish the term on a positive note by making sure all their assessments are complete and to a high standard. Please see classroom teachers if you need support or extensions for work. We will finish the term on a high as always with the celebration of Mercy Day, the famous Teachers v Students game (which the teachers won last year. ) and a school colour run.

#### **Mr Alistaire Thompson**

7-10 Team Leader



# School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning "SPB4L"

#### SPB4L Focus 'Give it a Go!'

This week the school wraps up its current 'Give it a Go' SPB4L focus. During the focus, students were given the challenge to identify something they would normally find difficult or confronting, and write it down on a 'Give it a Go Ticket'. Teachers displayed many of these tickets in their classrooms to encourage their students to see this challenge through.

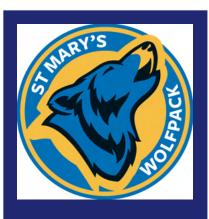
## **Cub Credit Shop**

A reminder that new items are often added to the Cub Credit shop. If your child has a suggestion for items that could be added to the shop, please encourage them to talk to their classroom teacher or SRC representatives who will pass these suggestions on.



## **Mr Allan Jones** Assistant Principal





2024 Term 3/Term 4 Sporting Dates:

-20 September Netball Gala Day

-14-15 November
Summer Trials

-25-26 November
Sport N Rec Year 7-8

## **Sport**

## **Polding Athletics**

A shout out to Josie Hutchinson who competed today at the NSW Polding Athletics Carnival in Newcastle for Shot Put. This is a great achievement.

#### **Primary Netball Gala Day Mudgee**

The Primary Netball Gala Day on 20 September is at Glen Willow Sports Complex, 58 Pitts Lane, Mudgee and will be commencing at 8:45am. The last game will conclude at approx. 2:30pm. Ms Crean has emailed all students involved. Please respond asap so we can finalise transport arrangements and organise costs.

### **Summer Trials**

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Summer Sports Trials.

Cricket, Touch Football, Softball - 14 November.

Basketball and Tennis - 15 November.

The parent/carer must nominate firstly at school level if their child wants to trial for one of the Diocesan Sports. The school will either run a trial for the sport or approve the nomination and ask for the student to be registered on the CSNSW website. If you are interested in nominating your child for any of the above sports please contact Mr Thompson at the school by the end of this term.

## Gymkhana at St Mary's Warren

A fabulous experience for our 3 students, Violet Mitchell, Billy Mitchell and Annabel Holland who represented St Mary's with determination and pride at the Gymkhana held at St Mary's Warren. Billy and Violet were awarded Reserve Champions in their age group. Annabel Holland placed in several events. Congratulations on these achievements.

#### **Mr Alistaire Thompson**

**Sport Coordinator** 









## **Year 10 Job Ready**

Year 10 students were offered a number of courses run by our local PCYC. The first course was a "Job Ready" course run by the PCYC staff on 26 August. On this day, students learnt about how to dress appropriately, write a resume and how to interview.

We then returned to the PCYC on 2 September for students to obtain their "White Card" accreditation. This ticket never expires and allows these students to go onto a worksite. The day was run by Fred and the students learnt all about safety and how to be safe in a workplace. We have one more day, a First Aid course which will be held on 20 September. We thank Wellington PCYC for offering these valuable courses for our students.

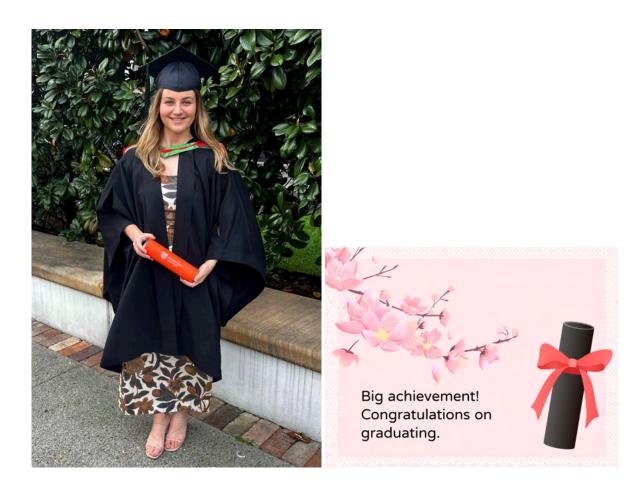


## Year 9/10 Timber Elective - Lego Man



## **Congratulations Hannah Pace**

Congratulations Hannah on your Graduation - Bachelor of Education!



## **P&F Working Bee - Bravo!**

























## **SRC News**

This year the SRC has elected to run the Christmas Box initiative (Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child). Each class has been given two Christmas boxes to fill - one for a boy and one for a girl, the same age as students in the class. We would love each child in the class to donate an item for one of the boxes. Thank you to those students who have already brought their item in! If all donations could please be brought to school by **Monday, 23 September** please, as boxes will be collected on Tuesday, 24 September. The SRC are very excited to be running this wonderful initiative in their classes and focusing on giving to others, especially those in need.

In the last week of this term, the SRC will be fundraising as part of our annual Teachers vs Students game. During the games, we will be selling cans of drink for \$2 each. We will also be running a raffle for 20 lucky students to receive VIP tickets to the game. VIP tickets will include a lounge chair with a prime view and an ice cold drink. To go into the draw to win one of these 20 special VIP tickets, students can purchase a raffle ticket from SRC students during recess or lunchtimes.



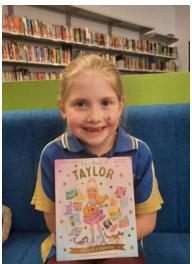


## **Library News**

Thank you to all students who have shared their favourite book in library lessons over the past few weeks. It's wonderful to see students eager to share and enjoy books together!











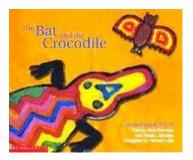








Last week, in Library lessons we celebrated National Indigenous Literacy Day. Indigenous Literacy Day aims to advocate, promote and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture stories and language. Students enjoyed hearing the Dreamtime story 'The Bat and the Crocodile' and learning some Wiradjuri words such as Gillang- which means story. We also created some bat-tastic artworks.



























We have definitely been going a little bit 'batty' in the library at the moment, with students researching and studying bats. Earlier this year, Mid Macquarie Landcare placed a special box in one of the trees at our school. This box collects bat signals and allows researchers to examine what bats are in our area and also the amount of activity over a period of time. Students were intrigued and wanted to learn more, so we have been developing our research skills in lessons and trying to gather as much information on bats that we can. We have already discovered so many interesting facts about bats. Did you know?

- Bats are the only mammal that flies.
- Bats can sleep not only upside down but also standing up or sideways
- The Flying Fox is the largest species of bat. Its wingspan can measure up to 1.8m
- The smallest bat is the Bumblebee Bat. It's body measures about 2.5cm and weighs about 2 grams

## Mrs Hayley Jones

Librarian

## **St Mary's Showcase**



























## **St Mary's Showcase**







































## **Aboriginal Education**

## NAIDOC, NAIDOC-

This week Mrs Sears and Ms Hodges have been very busy continuing the sharing of Aboriginal education and Binjang culture.

On Wednesday Little Saints visited the Culture Hub to have a Yarn about NAIDOC week, next week. They enjoyed Story time with Mrs Sears reading "Our Mob" by Jancinta Daniher, Taylor Hampton & Seantelle Walsh.



Ms Hodges taught some Wiradjuri language and the Maliyan dance, which was taught by Aunty Di to our Year 3 students through this term. Little Saints are very excited to visit the Culture Hub next year when they start Big School. Mr Broom's class has started portrait drawings in Art. Students are learning about influential Aboriginal people in Australian history through art. People included Albert Namatjira, Kathy Freeman, Greg Inglis, Jessica Mauboy and Eddie Mabo. We look forward to the final reveal.

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 & j.hodges4@bth.catholic.edu.au



## **NAIDOC**



Keep the Fire burning, Blak, Loud & Proud

# NAIDUC DAY

## WEDNESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

9am - Welcome community & Smoking ceremony

## Cultural activities 9,15am - 12,30pm

Bush Tucker - Johnny Cake cooking
Cultural dance-Move it Mob style
Aboriginal artifcate with Aunty Beth
Cultural games with the team from WACHS
Weaving

Ipm-Picnic lunch 2-3pm Yarning & games

RSVP for Wednesday catering please Dan or Jo at the office

## **WATS Production - The Last Noel**

It was wonderful to have the cohort of St Mary's students in the latest WATS production, The Last Noel (a tribute to Noel Grimes). The students were wonderful and combined with approximately 30 students from Wellington PS to perform in the show. They were an absolute hit with the audience and the adult cast and crew loved having them involved. They are the future of WATS and our community.

Ellie Heywood had a feature role, singing 'Tomorrow' with Lex from the WPS and their performance was a highlight of the show. All of the students were beautifully behaved, very respectful and a credit to the school. They also loved being part of the production. Rosalee Whiteley (Secretary WATS)

St Mary's students -

Isabelle Whiteman Ebony Ryan Genevieve Power Rukia Dequina Olivia Potter Lina Kelly Ellie Heywood Imogen Ryan













## **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.

During the school holiday we are hoping to have a new gate 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.



# 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: <u>St Mary's Catholic School Community Calendar</u>. (<a href="https://tinyurl.com/ybyu5qs6">https://tinyurl.com/ybyu5qs6</a> 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 - Reminder Hats are back next term

- 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

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**

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 <u>Family Tax Benefit Part A</u>, or <u>Family Tax Benefit Part B</u>, 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**

## 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

Breakfast Club	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 8.30am - 8.50am School Canteen - free for all students Donations welcome
Lunchtime Clubs	Lego Club: Monday and Tuesday Chess Club: Friday Creative Club: Thursday (Cooking, Art, Garden)
SPB4L Cub Credits	SPB4L Club Credit Shop: Wednesday and Thursday
Cattle Showing	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 <a href="https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online">https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online/st-mary-s-school-wellington</a>

## **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



https://ww.facebook.com/StMarysWellingtonNSW



Welcome to The Little Big Dairy Co.

# The Little Big Dairy Co is donating milk weekly to our Breakfast Club.

Family owned, The Little Big Dairy Co delivers high quality milk from one dairy, traceable down to the very cow that made it. It's the smallness of their process combined with their ability to supply in large quantities that allow them to share their milk with many.

Please show your support by purchasing their products, available at the following:

Retail - Woolworths Wellington, Coles Wellington Cafes - Maliyan Cafe, Dowtos Family Meats, Milky Daze, Jespresso, The Mallee Hen's Nest, Four Cats Coffee





# 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

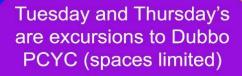
# Spring School Holiday Activities

Cost: \$6 per hour - \$21 half day - \$42 full day

Time: drop off 8:30am pick up 3:30pm

Please Bring: Enclosed shoes, water bottle, morning tea and lunch

Ages: 6yrs and up



**SPRING PROMOTION!** 

Book in for 2 days and get the 3rd 50% off!



ph: 02 6845 2590
email: wellington@pcynsw.org.au
69 Gobolion St Wellington NSW







# Book your free breast screen at our mobile van in Wellington



## Where

Wellington Library Carpark Cnr Percy & Maughan Streets Wellington NSW 2820

- 20 minutes could save your life
- Female radiographers
- No referral required & it's free



#### When

Friday 4th - Thursday 31st October, 2024

Call us on

13 20 50

or book online at breastscreen.nsw.gov.au



We recommend women aged 40+ have a breast screen every two years. Book your free breast screen online at book.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au or call 13 20 50.

ST MARY'S COLOUR RIDAY SEPTEMBER 27 BRING OLD WHITE/ LIGHT COLOURED OTHES, OLD SNEAKERS & SUNGLASSES