

St. Mary's School Newsletter

Always faithful to God, ourselves and others in the spirit of the Presentation tradition.

St. Mary's is committed to Child Safety and the inclusion of all children.

Respect Ourselves - Respect Others - Respect our Environment

Term 1 - Week 8 - Friday 19 March, 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 23 March

Parent Teacher
Interviews

Thursday 25 March
Italian Performance
incursion

Harmony Day -
Countries of the
world Dress Up day

Tuesday 30 March-
Board Meeting 6pm

Wednesday 31 March
Easter Hamper raffle
draw

Thursday 1 April
Last Day Term 1
(Casual Clothes Day -
gold coin donation)

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 6pm
Chiltern

Sunday 9am
Rutherglen

Sunday 10.30am
Wahgunyah

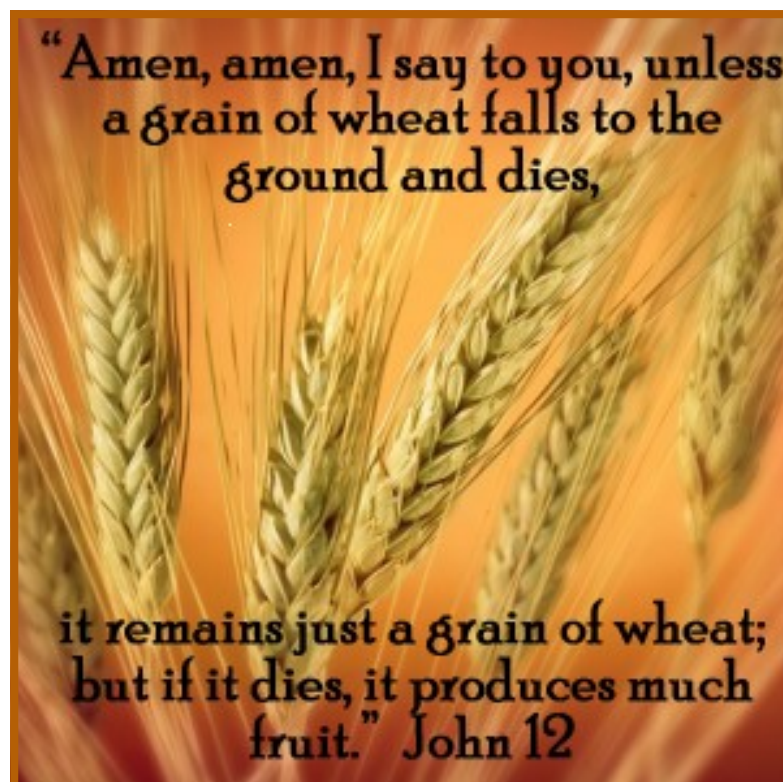
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PBIS Focus of the Week - Expectations in the Toilets

Dear Parents/Carers,

This Sunday is the 5th Sunday Of Lent



Gospel Reflection:

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus announces, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." But this glorification will take place only after his suffering and Death on the Cross. Jesus uses the example of a grain of wheat that only produces fruit when it falls to the ground and dies. He promises that those who die to themselves by serving him will know the reward of eternal life.

Thankyou Mrs Dickinson:



A big thanks to Libby for running the school while I was on leave over the past fortnight. As usual Libby did an outstanding job on keeping things ticking over at a high standard. I had a wonderful break and it was fantastic to catch up with my 3 QLD grandchildren that I had not been able to see due to COVID travel restrictions last year.

COVID Restrictions: On School Grounds During Drop Off and Pick up:

Just a reminder that if parents/visitors are on school grounds for more than 15 minutes contact details need to be taken by the school. Please stick to the 15 minutes. Particularly at pick up parents should remain in their cars and not congregate outside the school hall. Hopefully this may change as the year progresses.

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Face to Face Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled for this coming Tuesday 23rd of March. The booking system was opened on PAM this week. All families need to log into their PAM account and book a time to meet with their child's class teacher. Just on checking many families are still to book a time. Could you please attend to this promptly to allow staff to be organised before the day. If you are having trouble with the process please ring the school for assistance.



Bullying Day Friday 19th March

Today the students participated in a variety of activities throughout this day to focus on Taking Action Together. Take time to talk to your children about what they have learnt and the tips in the table below.



What we can do

Student tips

If it happens in person, try these:

- **Ignore them.** Try not to show any reaction.
- **Tell them to stop** and walk away.
- **Pretend you don't care.**
- **Go somewhere safe.**
- **Get support** from your friends.

If it happens online, try these:

- **Avoid responding** to the bullying.
- **Report and block** anyone who is bullying online.
- **Protect yourself online** using privacy settings and keep records.

If you see someone being bullied:

- **Leave negative conversations.** Don't join in.
- **Support others** being bullied.

If it doesn't stop:

- **Talk to an adult** (parent/carer/teacher) who can help stop the bullying.
- **Keep asking** for support until the bullying stops.

Parent tips

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the whole story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want you to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find strategies.
5. **Check in** regularly with your child.

Need help now?

Kids Helpline	www.kidshelpline.com.au 1800 551 800
headspace	www.headspace.org.au 1800 650 890
Online bullying	www.esafety.gov.au

BULLYING. NO WAY!

Congratulations to our Classroom Award winners this week

Back row: Penny Hartung 5JS&JV, Henry Lister 5JS&JV and Ivy Rosser 3/4BC&NO

Middle row: Arthur Morris 6ST, Hamish Neil 6ST and George Morris 3/4BC&NO

Front row: Connie Morris 1/2LD, Callan Tracy 1/2LD, Harry McFarlane F HK and Matilda Ellery F HK



Easter Hamper

A big thank you to the families who have donated Easter goodies for our hampers and so there are plenty of raffle tickets available at the 50c each, 3 for \$1 or a book of 15 for \$5





With only a couple of questions you will know the answer to that. 'If we drive at an average of 80km/h, how many kilometres will we travel in 3 hours?' How long will it take us to travel 120km? Speed, distance and time are important concepts in maths/science and need to be understood in meaningful contexts, not just taught out of a textbook.

5 Building? Renovating? Landscaping? Creating a veggie-patch? Whatever hands-on project you may be working on, involve your kids. Get them to draw a floorplan of their ideal family house (Give them some restrictions otherwise you may end up with an indoor go-karting hall attached to a 100-seater cinema room right by the indoor wave pool). Discuss scale and proportion, units of measurement, materials, area, perimeter, shape. Allow them to help you make the herb-garden and work out the volume of soil needed to fill it. They can then go to Bunnings to buy that amount of soil. As a parent you can watch to see their delight if they have gotten the quantity right, or if not, watch them revisit the problem and check where they went wrong. Remember, it's not necessarily important to get it right. They will learn more from their mistakes.

6 Incorporate maths-based games, problem-solving activities and puzzles into family time. Make them fun, challenging, accessible at many levels so that everyone in the family can enjoy it. Think 'low floor, high ceiling' which means that it should be easily accessible even with low-level math skills (low floor) and that it can be extended or adapted for those who are mathematically capable (high ceiling). When giving kids riddles or problems to solve, avoid giving away the answer too soon. You are robbing them of discovering it for themselves. Instead of feeling the thrill and accomplishment that they have worked on a problem and found a solution, they will feel the let-down of not having had enough patience and determination to reach the solution themselves.

Let the child have ample time to consider, ponder and grapple with the problem. If they start to give up, give them a little clue to nudge them in the right direction. After solving any maths problem, ask the child questions about it: 'How did you arrive at your solution?' 'Could there be more than one answer?' 'Is there another way to solve this problem?' 'Do you see any patterns?' 'Does your answer make sense?'

7 Open the lines of communication. Allow your child to come to you when they do not understand something and empower them to ask for help. Make sure your child understands that nobody is born knowing everything and that marks and grades do not define them. Do not tell your child off for a low grade, instead have a discussion as to why that grade is as it is and how to improve it. Teach them to value the process of learning, and not only that final result on their report cards. If your child embraces learning and develops a love and passion for it, you have set that child up for life. Even when they leave your protective nest and go forth to TAFE or University or the workforce, you will know that they are motivated internally and value education not just the end product.

Finally, I would like to stress that although I believe all people can enjoy mathematics to some degree, not all of us are designed to be mathematicians. Just like not all of us are built to be NBA players, or have the long, dainty fingers to become pianists. Therefore, it's important not to pressure a child to be something that they are not made for. Nurturing mathematical thinking is important for all people. But whether they use that mathematical thinking to become engineers, or use it to become better business owners, or more efficient chefs, or simply more competent members of society, either way, they are better off.

7 WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR KIDS WITH MATHS

FROM ONE MEDDLING, MATHS-MAD MOTHER TO ANOTHER

By Danijela Draskovic

I'm a mother of a cheeky, curious and gorgeous 1-year old boy. Naturally, his first toy was a wooden abacus much to his mummy's delight. At the moment, he picks up his abacus, rattles it around, and throws it onto the floor with a shriek of delight when it makes the crashing sound. I have to practice my patience with my desire to show him the beauty in mathematics, as perhaps he's just a little bit too young.

However, I have been thinking about it for a while now. A lot of the time parents assume that their children will learn mathematics almost exclusively from school. I completely disagree and, in fact, wholeheartedly believe that both school and home learning are equally as important and should complement each other as best as possible.

Now you don't need to be 'good at maths' yourself to foster mathematical thinking in your children. In fact, you don't even need to have any of the answers. Parents need to just recognise opportunities for mathematical exploration and need to practice asking good questions. It is up to the child to discover the answers.

So here are my tips for parents. Parents should try to involve their children in as many life decisions and day-to-day 'adult' tasks as possible. Notice, throughout helping them with their mathematical reasoning, parents will be simultaneously helping their children with life skills. Surprise surprise! Maths really is all around us.

1 Give your young children some pocket money and encourage them to manage it. You may even lend them some support in creating a budget. Do they have a goal to purchase a certain item? Let them save for it! How much should they put aside each week so they can buy their item in 3 months' time? How much general spending money do they need? The discussions around their budget could be very powerful and could reveal some interesting areas for exploration.

If the child is a bit older, you may discuss with them budgeting for a household. Perhaps let them create a weekly or monthly budget for running the entire house based on what they think

the expenditures are. Then reconvene and have a discussion once they have finished. You may be surprised as how much they underestimate, and they may need to readjust the figures. A teenager may also be ready to consider borrowing or investing. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss interest rates and make comparisons between different types of loans or savings accounts.

2 Cook with your children. Cooking, as well as being an enjoyable and creative activity, also involves a variety of maths skills. Ask your child to amend the quantities of that pancake recipe that serves 6. How much flour would they now need for 3 servings? Or 2 servings? How about a tricky 7 servings? Through cooking we are forced to consider ratio and proportion, fractions, volume, time, addition, division and many more. Added bonus: your children will also appreciate meals more if they have been actively involved in creating them! Budgeting can also overlap wonderfully with cooking and parents are encouraged to take their children grocery shopping as well.

3 Grocery shopping. The shops are filled with opportunities to ask your children important mathematical questions such as comparing the value of buying items in smaller amounts to items in bulk. For example, which product offers best value for money: 250mL of yogurt for \$1.95 or 1L of yogurt for \$7.50? How much will an entire meal of Pad Thai cost to prepare? What will be the cost per portion? Is it financially more efficient to buy ingredients and cook this meal at home, or is it more economical to have that same meal from a restaurant?

4 Meaningfully involve children in planning for a holiday. Vacations offer rich opportunities to explore mathematical concepts such as distance, time, changing time zones, currency exchange rates, budgeting (again), purchasing travel insurance (comparing different policies), comparing costs of rent-a-car companies etc. Road-trips are great for estimating the time it will take to get from A to B. Do your kids understand the unit of km/h?

Cyber Safety on Wednesday 17th March:

The staff and senior students really benefited from our Cyber Safety focus on Wednesday with Kirra Pendergast. Kirra's practical approach in delivering the PD was an eye opener for all. Next Term on Monday 3rd May at 7pm Kirra will be offering some Parent PD which I would strongly urge all parents to be a part of. More details will be released closer to the date.



Grades 4, 5 & 6 Introduction to Rutherglen High School Wednesday 24th March

We invite parents and students of Grades 4, 5 & 6 to an event like no other! A chance to visit a school which offers small classes, great programs and outstanding academic achievement.

(VCE Premiers Award Winner Agricultural and Horticultural Studies 2018, Visual Communication and Design 2020)

Times: Two tours of the School are available on 24th March:

- Option 1: Tour commencing at 4.00 pm, with coffee and cake/slice available at the end of the tour.
- Option 2: Tour commencing at 6.30pm, with BBQ food available at the end of the tour.

Come along to see what a small school with fantastic facilities and great staff and students feels like.

Also, keep up to date with events @ Rutherglen High School :

Website - www.rutherglenhs.vic.edu.au

Instagram - [rutherglenhighschool](https://www.instagram.com/rutherglenhighschool)

Facebook - [Rutherglen High School](https://www.facebook.com/RutherglenHighSchool)



Happy Birthday



Lexie Wilson 18/03



Logan Pearson 18/03



Melody Flannery 19/03

HARMONY DAY




Harmony Day a time to celebrate multiculturalism. It's a day where we celebrate the values of inclusiveness, respect, diversity and belonging for all Australians, regardless of their background. On this day students will be involved in an Italian performance and if they wish can dress up based on a traditional dress from countries around the world!

Frosty Friday's:

The Catholic Identity Team will be selling Zoopers Doopers for 50c each Friday of this term. All money raised will go to Caritas.



PBIS Focus this week - Expectations in the Toilets

Toilets	Respect Ourselves	Respect Others	Respect our Environment
	<p>Wash hands after using the toilet</p> <p>Keep food and drink out of toilets</p> <p>Enter cubicle only through the door</p> <p>Exiting people go first</p>	<p>Walk to toilets without noise</p> <p>Flush toilet after use</p> <p>Boys wait your turn at urinals</p> <p>1 child in cubicle at all times</p> <p>Wait your turn outside if the cubicles are full</p> <p>Walk to toilets without noise</p>	<p>Paper towels in correct bins</p> <p>Flush toilet after use</p> <p>Turn taps off after use</p> <p>Report any blockages/issues to teachers</p> <p>Use toilet paper sparingly</p>

Well done to this week's PBIS winners:

Isla Verhulst 1/2LD, Ivy Massari 1/2LD, Isabel Neil 3/4BC&NO, Jed Goudie 1/2LD, Jackson Cooke 3/4BC&NO, Jackson Chant-Backway 6ST and Noah Cracknell 3/4BC&NO



Have a great weekend,

Matt



Important Calendar Dates - 2021

Term 1

Tuesday 23 March	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 25 March	Italian Performance incursion
	Harmony Day - Countries of the world Dress Up day
Tuesday 30 March	Board Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 31 March	Easter Hamper raffle draw
Thursday 1 April	Last Day Term 1 (Casual Clothes Day - gold coin donation) 2.30pm finish
Friday 2 April	Good Friday

Term 2

Monday 19 April	First Day Term 2
Tuesday 20 April	Whole school parent sacramental meeting
Wednesday 21 April	Upper Murray State Swimming
Monday 26 April	Anzac Day Holiday
Monday 3 May	School Closure Day (Staff PD) Kirra Prendergast (for parents/guardians) - Safe on Social 7-8pm
Friday 7 May	Cross Country
Monday 14 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Friday 25 June	Last Day Term 2

Term 4

Monday 4 October	First Day Term 4
Thursday 21—Friday 22 October	Borambola Camp (Grades 3/4)
Wednesday 27—Friday 29 October	Canberra Camp (Grades 5 & 6)
Tuesday 2 November	Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
Wednesday 15 December	Nativity Play & Awards Last Day Term 4 for Students (Casual Clothes Day - gold coin donation) 3.30pm finish

Staff email addresses

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Bert Cheeseman (Senior Classroom teacher) - bcheeseman@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
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Jane van Zanten (Art Teacher) - jvanzanten@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Monday)
Gina Nero (Italian teacher) - gnero@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Monday)
Amanda Arnot (Administration Officer) - aarnot@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au