



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 24 March, 2023

PBIS Expectations: Expectations in the Toilets



This Sunday is the 5th Sunday of Lent



During Lent I will share with you some stories of people and villages being transformed thanks to the support of **CARITAS** and **Project Compassion**.



Teresa's Story:

Teresa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Seeking a better future for her children, Teresa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Teresa access housing for her family and psychological support.

Already an aspiring artist, Teresa was able to flourish at Baabayn as she learnt Indigenous artwork and symbols. With the support of Baabayn, Teresa's art was displayed and sold at local markets and she is now working to start her own art business.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:



Congratulations to:

Ivy, Annabelle, Ben, Jake, Natasha, Pyper, Skye, and Madelyn who made their Reconciliation this morning in the church. It was a beautiful ceremony led by Fr. Carey. Thanks Mrs Morris and Mrs Dickinson who prepared the students so well.

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Harmony Week

This week has been Harmony Week focusing on a simple but strong message:



HARMONY WEEK

EVERYONE BELONGS



Code Red School Closures



Our school has been identified as a school in a high risk bushfire area and has now been placed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register.

This means that all schools, kindergartens and licensed child care centres that have been identified as being at high fire risk and on the Department's Victoria-wide Bushfire At-Risk Register will close on days declared Code Red.

Schools and services not on the Bushfire At-Risk Register will remain open, unless directly threatened by fire or another emergency.

Where possible, three (3) days notice of a planned closure will be provided. However, experience indicates that a Code Red fire danger rating day may be forecast at short notice. Parents and guardians should expect that in some instances less than three days notice may be provided. Once the final decision to close is confirmed at 12 noon the day prior, this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help families plan for how their children will be cared for when their school is closed. When a school is closed in response to bushfire risk, no one, including staff, contractors and other users, will be permitted on site.

REMINDER—Photograph/Recording Permission Form

If you haven't already done so, please return the signed page sent home at the beginning of this Term as soon as possible. This is most important.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Absenteeism - Our Legal Requirement

It is a **legal requirement** that **all schools** must follow up any daily **unexplained absences by 9.30 am**.

If your child is going to be away from school or arriving late for any reason the school **must be notified**. The simplest way to do this is through **PAM**.

If your child is an **unexplained absence** you will receive an **SMS** asking you to contact the school and a phone call if necessary. If there is no answer then the **emergency contacts** for your family will be contacted and then if there is still no answer the police are contacted. These steps are followed to ensure that we know that your child is **safe**.

Assembly Next Week:

Thursday 30th March at 9.00am in the undercover area.

2023 School Closure Days:

1. Friday **31st March** Staff attending Maths Conference (Melbourne)
2. Friday **26th May** STEM Focus
3. Monday **6th Nov** Report Writing Day

Please be sure to circle these dates on your calendar

I Am LOST!!!!

We are starting to accumulate a large stash of lost property - even one shoe! Most are jumpers and jackets. If you are missing one there is a fair chance it's in this pile.



For Your Information!! Come Dressed in Your Best!!

On **Thursday 30th March**, Foundation/1 are raising money for Caritas.

- Students can come dressed as their favourite **Superhero or Movie Star** for a gold coin donation.
- Prizes for Best Dressed on the day.
- Students can also buy a photo of themselves dressed up, using the green screen for a gold coin donation on the day.



We send our best wishes to all who have done, or are about to, celebrate their Birthdays this week!



Melody Flannery



Annika Roberts

EASTER RAFFLE:

It's that time of year again - Seeking Donations!

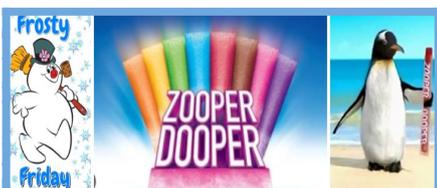
Could all families please start sending in some Easter eggs and Easter themed gifts for our Easter Raffle to be drawn on 5th April, 2023. The more donations we receive the more Easter hampers we can make up as prizes. Easter raffle tickets have been sent home on March 20, with more available on request.



Congratulations to the Class Awards Winners:



BACK: Codie, Indi, Oliver, Kasey, Elsie, Maddie, Ella, Matilda
FRONT: Amelia, Eden



Frosty Friday Term 1 & 4:

Every Friday our **Senior Catholic Identity Team** will be selling frozen Zooper Doopers for 50c. The money raised goes to support our sponsor child in the Philippines and to CARITAS.

PBIS - Expectations in the Toilets

Toilets	Respect Ourselves	Respect Others	Respect our Environment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash hands after using the toilet Keep food and drink out of toilets Enter cubicle only through the door Exiting people go first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to toilets without noise Flush toilet after use Boys wait your turn at urinals 1 child in cubicle at all times Wait your turn outside if the cubicles are full 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper towels in correct bins Flush toilet after use Turn taps off after use Report any blockages/issues to teachers Use toilet paper sparingly

Congratulations to the PBIS Award Winners!



Oliver, Polly, Elsie, Madelyn, Nash, Stephanie

Have a great weekend

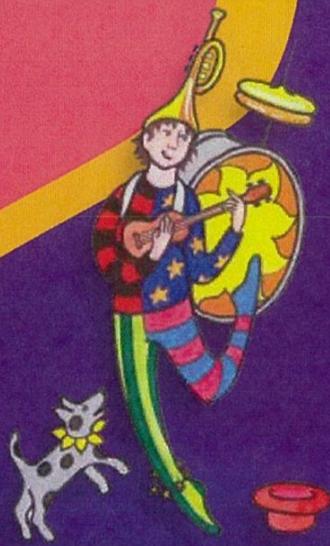
Matt



Congratulations to the Principal's Award Winner!



Isabel



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BUSKING CHAMPIONSHIPS™

RUTHERGLEN

SATURDAY 13 MAY 2023

Busking Prize Money Over \$10,000

Category	1st	2nd	3rd
Open Age	\$3000	\$1000	\$500
Secondary Age	\$500	\$250	\$100
Primary	\$300	\$200	\$100
People's Choice	\$1000	\$500	\$250
Best Band			\$2000
Special Judges Awards			\$200x4

Entry Fees for Buskers:

Solo	\$20
Duos	\$40
Groups (3 or more)	\$50

Buskers will be required to play 2-3 x 30 min sets at various locations along Rutherglen's closed Main St. Judging will be conducted by 3 judges between 10.30am and 4pm.



DESTINATION
RUTHERGLEN



HOW TO BE A 'Good Egg' THIS EASTER



Feel good about the chocolate you purchase and consume this Easter:



for these symbols on your chocolate branding.



Be Slavery Free's Chocolate scorecard!

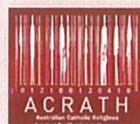
www.chocolatescorecard.com. Look at the scorecard when shopping and buy Easter eggs and chocolate that are produced without child labour.



Your chocolate (only online). Be an influencer in your community.

1. Take a selfie/or photo of you with your Easter chocolate.
2. Upload it on your favourite social media platform with the following text: "I'm a good Egg! I've joined ACRATH's 'Good Egg' Easter Campaign and have committed to buying only Easter chocolate from brands that commit to making slavery-free chocolate!" (don't forget to tag us @acrath)

JOIN US!



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale

Important Calendar Dates - 2023

Term 1

Tuesday 28 March	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Friday 31 March	Student Free Day - Staff PD
Wednesday 5 April	Easter Hamper Raffle Draw
Thursday 6 April	Last Day Term 1 for Students (Casual Clothes Day - Gold coin donation) 2.30pm finish

Term 2

Monday 24 April	First Day - Term 2
Tuesday 25 April	Anzac Day - Public Holiday
Thursday 11 May	Mother's Day Stall
Friday 26 May	Student Free Day - Stem Focus
Monday 12 June	King's Birthday - Public Holiday
Friday 23 June	Last Day Term 2 for Students (Casual Clothes Day - Gold coin donation) 2.30pm finish

Term 3

Monday 10 July	First Day - Term 3
Tuesday 5 September	Grade 3/4 Borambola Camp
Wednesday 6 September	Grade 3/4 Borambola Camp
Friday 15 September	Last Day Term 3 for Students (Casual Clothes Day - Gold coin donation) 2.30pm finish

Term 4

Monday 2 October	First Day - Term 4
Wed-Thursday 1-3 November	Grade 5/6 Canberra Camp
Monday 6 November	Student Free Day - Report Writing Day
Monday 11 December	Grade 6 Graduation Dinner

Staff email addresses

Matt Attwater (Principal) - mattwater@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Libby Dickinson (Gr 5/6 teacher) - edickinson@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Michael Ratcliffe (Grade 4 teacher) - mratcliffe@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Chris Lamb (Grade 2 teacher) - clamb@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Emily Morris (Grade 3 teacher) - emorris@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Wednesday)
Hannah Kelly (Gr 5/6 teacher) - hkelly@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Sarah Grogan (Foundation/1 teacher) - sgrogan@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Nicole O'Mahony (Learning Diversity Leader) - nomahony@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Jane van Zanten (Art/Grade 2) - jvanzanten@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Tuesday/Friday)
Gina Nero (Italian teacher) - gnero@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Tuesday)
Amanda Arnot (Business Manager) - aarnot@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
Judy Fah (Reception/Administration) - jfah@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au