



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.

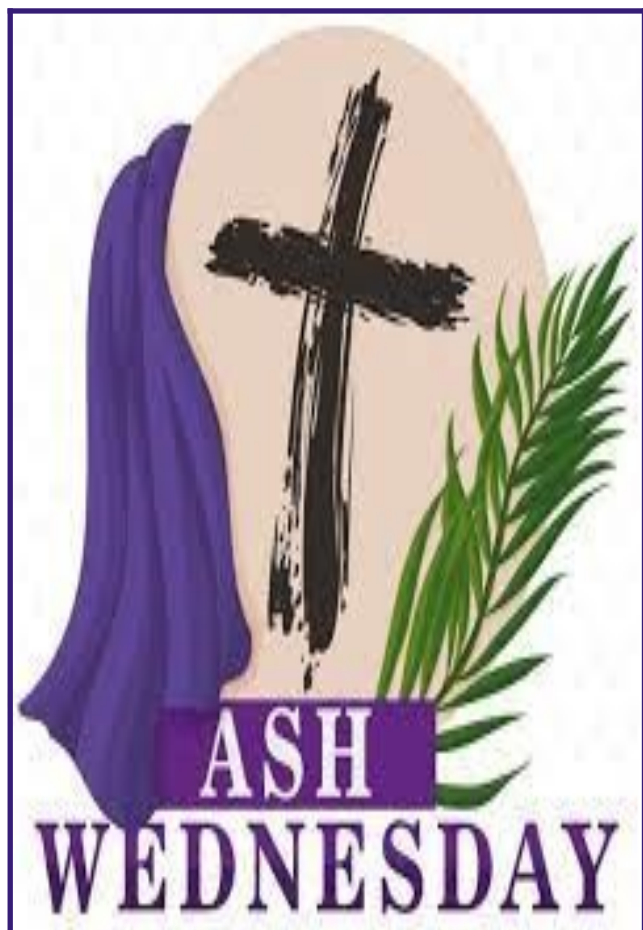
Respect Ourselves - Respect Others - Respect our Environment

Term 1 - Week 2 - Friday 9 February, 2024

PBIS Expectations: Expectations in our Learning Spaces

Dear Families,

ASH WEDNESDAY - THE BEGINNING of LENT



Next Wednesday is **Ash Wednesday**.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the **Season of Lent**.

*It is a season of
**penance, alms giving,
reflection, and fasting**
which prepares us for the death of
Jesus on Good Friday & for Christ's
Resurrection on Easter Sunday.*

*It is important to remember that **Ash Wednesday** is a day of prayer and fasting. On Ash Wednesday our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told:*

"Remember, Man is dust, and unto dust you shall return."

There will be a whole school Ash Wednesday mass at 10.15am in the church. All families are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Mass Times:

Chiltern - Saturdays 6.00 pm

Rutherglen - Sundays 9.00 am

Wahgunyah—Sundays 10.30am

Phone - 02 6032 9284

Web - <http://www.smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au>

Email - principal@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au

75-89 High Street, Rutherglen, Vic, 3685

PO Box 146

Office Hours: 8.30am - 4.00pm

Shrove Tuesday:

Next Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penance, because it's the last day before Lent. **Lent** is a time of abstinence and giving things up.

Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent.

Giving up foods: but not wasting them. In the old days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on Shrove Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off. Traditionally lots of sweet and savoury pancakes are made on Shrove Tuesday.



Pancake Tuesday (Gold Coin Donation):

All classes will be making and enjoying pancakes next Tuesday with their teachers and classmates. Could all students bring in a **gold coin** donation for their pancakes. Their donation will go to **CARITAS**, an organization who supports missions around the world.



Opening School Mass:

The Opening School Mass was held on Thursday. The new Foundation Students were accompanied by their Buddies from the Grade 6 Leadership Group. The whole school's behaviour was a credit to them!

At the end of the Mass our Grade 6 Leadership Group were presented with their Leadership Badges.



Welcome to School BBQ:-

Fantastic to see so many families at the Welcome BBQ on Wednesday evening. It was a great opportunity to meet staff informally and introduce yourself to new families. It was also wonderful to see Fr. Peter in the crowd taking the time to meet and greet our school families.

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**.

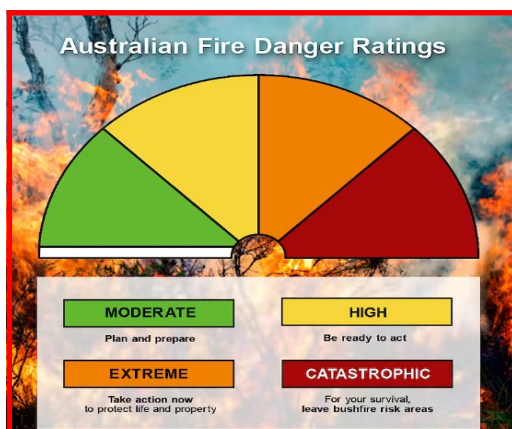
If your child is an **unexplained absence** you will receive an **SMS** asking you to contact the school and a phone call if necessary. If there is no answer then the **emergency contacts** for your family will be contacted and then if there is still no answer the police are contacted. These steps are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



Every minute matters

Start of Day Matters

- aim to be at school by 8.45 am for a 9.00 am start



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.

Note to Parents:

Quite often we put information for parents/guardians in the tubs for each child to take home. From experience this sometimes gets shoved to the bottom of the school bags and forgotten or lost. Could you please make sure to check their bags regularly? Particularly important to note for our new Foundation, and other new starters this year, parents/guardians. Thank you.

Reminders:-

School Mobile Phones:

Just a reminder that all student mobile phones must be handed into the office each morning where they will be housed during the school day. This is a requirement for all Victorian schools. Phones will be collected by students at the end of the day.



School Photography Day - Monday 19th February, 2024:

The information regarding the packages and information to order on line were issued to each child in the tubs last week. **All children are to be wearing full school uniform.**

School Hats -

TERMS 1 & 4 NO HAT NO PLAY:

This Term is Term 1 and the **NO HAT NO PLAY** Policy is strictly enforced.

All students will need a school hat every day in Term 1.



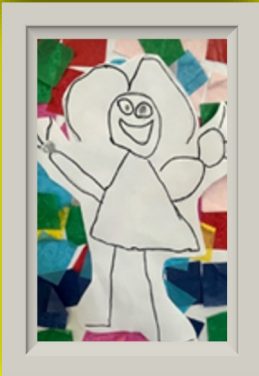
School Hats are available to purchase in the office.

Frosty Friday

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

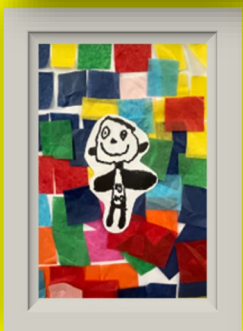


Foundations First Week



"Play is foundational for bonding relationships and fostering tolerance. It's where we learn to trust and where we learn about the rules of gameplay; it increases creativity and resilience, and it's all about the generation of diversity of interactions, diversity of behaviors, diversity of connections."

= Isabel Behncke =




CRICKET COACHING:

Today the cricket coaching commenced at our School. First off the rank were the Foundation class - looks like they had a really good time!



PBIS Expectations: Expectations in Our Learning Spaces

Expectations in Our Learning Spaces	Respect Ourselves	Respect Others	Respect our Environment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the person speaking • Do your best work • Have a go at new things • Listen and follow instructions • Be organised • Join in and participate • Be in correct uniform • Be organised • Enter and exit rooms calmly and correctly • Exiting people go first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the person speaking • Encourage others • Be inclusive of others • Offer help to others • Take turns • Share equipment • Don't sit in front of them • Be kind to others • Be patient with others • Value differences • Respect people's personal space • Walk • Use your 'inside voice' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up your workspace when you've finished • Use resources correctly • Put rubbish into the correct bins • Use equipment for the correct purpose

Congratulations to This Week's PBIS Award Winners!



Edward; Tanisha; Lachlan; Mason; Sydney; Oliver

Congratulations to This Week's Class Award Winners!



Lydia; Pippa; Mavrick; Violet; Seth; Skye; Indi; Lilly; Amelia-Rose



**We send our Best Wishes to all
who have celebrated their
Birthdays This Week!**



Matilda



Logan



Ava

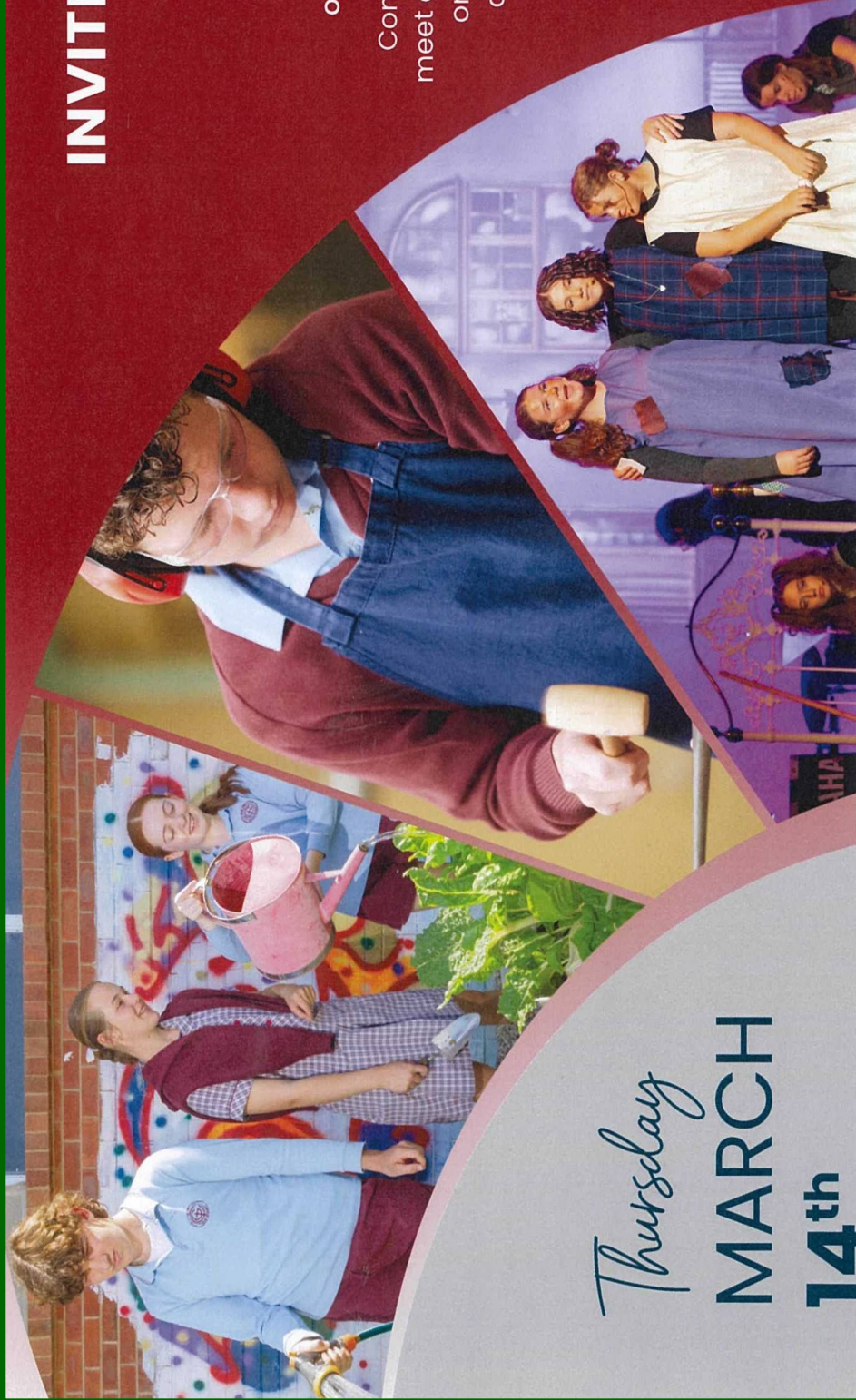


Ben

Have a Great Weekend.

Matt





INVITING NEW 2025 ENROLMENTS

Galen Catholic College
welcomes all families to
our annual Discovery Evening.

Come and see our **new facilities**,
meet our educators and get hands
on with some of our classroom
and extra curricular activities!



Thursday
MARCH
14th

5.30 – 7pm



Scan the QR code to
register or [galen.vic.edu.au/
enrolmentandtours](https://galen.vic.edu.au/enrolmentandtours)

What will you
DISCOVER?

Empowering minds, enhancing lives, embracing faith

The School
Photographer

PHOTO DAY

COMING SOON!

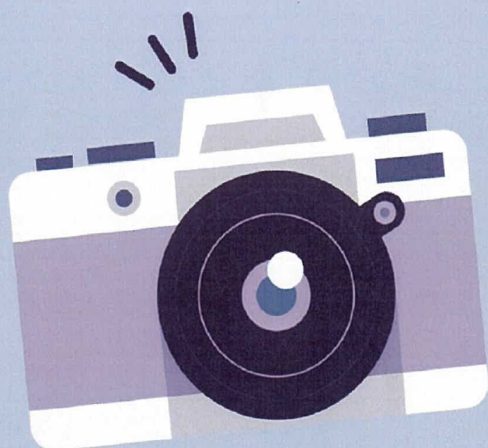
Monday 19th February 2024

Head to our website to view the available
packages and to place your order

Online orders cannot be placed until
AFTER Jan 1st 2024

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE:

X3505AUS56S



ORANGE

St Mary's School Rutherglen

www.theschoolphotographer.com.au



Thursday LEGO Club

Join us Thursdays during school term, 3:30pm-4:30pm for the After School LEGO Club. Create, build and unleash your inner LEGO master. Suitable for Primary School ages. LEGO Club operates on a 'drop in' basis, so no bookings required.

School Term Thursdays
3:30pm-4:30pm
Rutherglen Library

indigoshire.vic.gov.au/libraries



Important Calendar Dates - 2024

Term 1

Tuesday 13 February	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Tuesday)
Wednesday 14 February	- Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass - All families are Welcome to Attend
	- Foundation Rest Day
	- School Performance
Monday 19 February	School Photography Day
Wednesday 21 February	Foundation Rest Day
Mon-Thur 26 to 29 February	Swimming Program, Rutherglen Pool
Friday 1 March	Swim Carnival, Rutherglen Pool
Thursday 21 March	Harmony Day
Thursday 28 March	Last Day of Term
Friday 29th March	Good Friday
Sunday 31 March	Easter Sunday

Term 2

Monday 15th April	First Day of Term
Sunday 2nd June	First Communion
Monday 10th June	King's Birthday
Friday 28th June	Last Day of Term

Staff email addresses

Matt Attwater (Principal) - mattwater@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Libby Dickinson (Gr 5/6 teacher) - edickinson@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Bert Cheesman (Foundation teacher) - bcheeseman@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Mon-Wed)
 Michael Ratcliffe (Gr 4/5 teacher) - mratcliffe@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Veronica Mayhew Gr 1/2 teacher) - vmayhew@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Thur-Fri)
 Emily Morris (Grade 3 teacher) - emorris@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Sarah Grogan (Gr 1/2 teacher) - sgrogan@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Mon-Wed)
 Nicole O'Mahony (Learning Diversity Leader) - nomahony@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Jane van Zanten (Art/Foundation teacher) - jvanzanten@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Thur-Fri)
 Gina Nero (Italian teacher & 5/6 teacher) - gnero@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au (Mon & Fri)
 Amanda Arnot (Business Manager) - aarnot@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au
 Judy Fah (Admin Assistant) - jfah@smrutherglen.catholic.edu.au