

# St Mary's Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
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Thursday 22 March 2018 Week 8 Term 1

We want our children to be:  
CARING, BELIEVERS, OPEN, SECURE, WELL BALANCED, GENEROUS, CREATIVE

## Dates to Remember

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Friday 23 March                  | P&F Meal Deal                           |
| Tuesday 27 March @8.50am         | Easter Bonnet Parade and Raffle Draw    |
| Wednesday 28 March @ 5.30pm      | Parent/Student Reconciliation Meeting   |
| Thursday 29 March @ 2.30pm       | Stations of the Cross                   |
| Friday 30 March                  | Good Friday                             |
| Monday 2 April                   | Easter Monday (no school)               |
| Tuesday 3 April                  | Easter Tuesday (no school)              |
| Thursday 5 April @ 8.30 – 8.50am | Bendigo Student Banking                 |
| Wednesday 11 April @ 8.50am      | Year 5 Oral Language Presentations      |
| Thursday 12 April                | Year 3 Reconciliation Retreat           |
| Thursday 12 April @ 5.30pm       | First Reconciliation                    |
| Thursday 12 April @ 2.50pm       | Pre-Primary Oral Language presentations |
| Friday 13 April                  | Last day of Term 1                      |

The Uniform Shop is open on  
**Thursday afternoons between 1pm and 3:30pm☺**  
Term 2 is Winter Uniform



### MASS TIMES

Saturday 24 March

Kirup @ 6pm

Sunday 25 March

Donnybrook @ 10.00am

Altar Servers: Sebastian, Dylan & Jackson

Capel @ 8.00am

Donnybrook YOUTH MASS and Dinner @ 6pm-8pm

Adoration and Reconciliation available from 5.15pm (before the Youth Mass). Wonderful opportunity to spend some time with Jesus before Easter.

All welcome!!! Enquiries Cathy 0419-527-231

### HOLY WEEK

Tues 27 March @ 11am **Chrism Mass** @ Cathedral

Wed 28 March @ 7pm **Reconciliation** @ St Mary's

Holy Thursday 29 March @ 7pm **Last Supper** @ St Mary's

**Good Friday** 30 March Capel @ 10am & Donnybrook @ 3pm

followed by **Stations of the Cross** after 9pm Mass

**Easter Vigil** 31 March @ 6.30pm – Donnybrook

**Easter Sunday** 1 April @ 8.30am Donnybrook & Capel 10am

NO 6pm Mass Easter Sunday

Forgiveness does not

Change the past,

but it does

Change the future.



Congratulations to the following students who have run 10 km so far in the St Mary's 50km club:  
Lucas, Samuel, Isabel,  
Christopher, Joshua and Daniel

Dear Parents/Caregivers

### **Learning**

All the research tells us that reading to our children from an early age is essential - one example is A Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) Child Cohort, which followed a group of over 4000 children who were aged 4-5 years in 2004 through to age 10 to 11. The research showed that the frequency of reading to children at a young age has a direct causal effect on their schooling outcomes regardless of their family background and home environment.

- Reading to children at age 4-5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills (i.e. language and literacy, numeracy and cognition) later in life. Reading to children 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) has the same effect on the child's reading skills at age 4-5 as being six months older. Reading to them 6-7 days per week has the same effect as being almost 12 months older.
- Children read to more frequently at age 4-5, achieve higher scores on the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for both Reading and Numeracy in Year 3 (age 8 to 9).
- These differences in reading and cognitive skills are not related to the child's family background or home environment but are the direct result of how frequently they have been read to prior to starting school.

[www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

So, what does this mean for school aged students. At St Mary's we have a clear focus on the importance of reading - our homework policy across the school reflects this - with all children required to read each night. What's great about daily reading is that it doesn't take a huge time commitment to [make a big impact](#). Just 10-20 minutes per day can really add up over the course of a school year and a school career!

If you read for 20 minutes a day - that equates to 4000 minutes a school year (40 weeks of school) 20 minutes of reading per day exposes readers to 1.8 million words per year.

If you only read for 5 minutes per day that only equates to 1000 minutes per school year and about 285 000 words per year.

An extra 10 minutes, 4 times per week equals 1600 minutes of extra reading throughout the school year (40 weeks of school)

Help us promote reading as a worthwhile pastime and support your child to read - read with them, make yourself a role model by having an allocated reading time for all the family.

### **Engagement**

Don't forget the Easter Bonnet parade will be held on Tuesday at 8.50am followed by the Easter raffle.

Students will parade their hats to the whole school and parents are welcome to attend. Hats need to be made at home. We can't wait to see your designs. Raffle tickets are currently on sale for 50 cents each - at this stage we still need more egg donations to ensure the raffle is a great success.

### **Accountability**

Please remember school resumes on Wednesday 4 April after the Easter break.

There have been a number of gastro outbreaks across the school in the past few weeks. Please ensure your child is fully recovered before they return to school to ensure that no other child falls ill. Your support with this matter is greatly appreciated.

### **Discipleship**

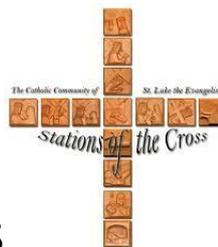
Next week the Year 4 students will be leading us in the story of the Stations of the Cross as we celebrate Holy Week. The Stations of the Cross will take place in the multipurpose room at 2.30pm. All students are asked to bring some biblical clothing to wear - this can be as simple as a sheet/towel to wrap around their head. Children will get dressed before the Stations of the Cross - parent helpers are required for junior classes - please see the class teachers to offer your help.

God Bless

Annette Quirk

# P&F News

Meal Deal Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
Save the Date 'High Tea' Friday 11 May 2018



## Stations of the Cross

Thursday 29 March new time is 2.30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room

All children are to bring 'biblical' clothes to dress up over the top of their school uniform for the Stations of the Cross

e.g. tea towel, towel, sheet and a belt of some description to tie around their waist. Children will get dressed in their class rooms from 2 – 2.30pm. Helpers are needed for PP, Year 1 and Year 2. Please see classroom teachers if you have any questions.

Parents are welcome to attend.

Dear Parents,

I would like to offer to you the possibility of baptising your child/ren into the Catholic faith. This is to ensure that they receive the other sacraments and be part of the faith journey of their catholic friends and classmates. Your child/ren can be baptised during a ceremony in the school grounds with the rest of the school community as witnesses to this event. Please contact the Principal, Annette Quirk, or myself on 97311118 if you are interested.

Praying that your stay in St. Mary's school will continue to be fruitful not only in the intellectual side of things but also spiritually. God bless you all.

Respectfully Yours

Fr. Gerald Tan

Parish Priest (Assumption of our Lady Parish)



The Donnybrook Skate Park is currently closed for maintenance due to the unfortunate recent graffiti attacks.

At this stage, the Skate Park will remain closed until the Donnybrook Apple Festival.

## Easter Bonnet Parade

*The annual Easter Bonnet Parade will be held first thing in the morning of Tuesday 27 March. All students are encouraged to create an Easter hat/bonnet for the parade around the basketball court. The Easter Bonnet Parade will be followed by the drawing of the Easter Raffle prizes. Please bring in an Easter egg on behalf of each family to make up the prizes.*



I saw you pass by with your usual charm and grace  
Looked at you with curious delight and gladness  
Then I remember the warning I heard some time ago  
That I should stay away from you, far away from you.

I could not understand why they said what they said.  
That your beauty though enticing is very deceptive  
That your grace and delicateness can wound my heart  
But how can such sweetness cause so much pain, I asked.

So I invited you to dwell in my heart and you rushed quickly  
The innocence of my virgin heart was yours to ravage  
Suddenly these rush of intense emotions quickly throbbed my heart  
So this is what love is all about, a mixture of delight and fear.

Why does it hurt so much to love, why this pain of longing  
My heart desires for someone and this longing is killing me  
My heart becomes restless with deep yearning  
Like dawn that yearns for the first streaks of sunlight.

Was it a mistake that I let you in my heart, Love?  
You broke my heart, you wounded it to the core  
My heart bleeds profusely, the pieces of it scattered  
Like the stars strewn in the darkness of the night.

How dare the sun shines forth in its splendour when my heart bleeds  
How dare the moon display her beauty in its full splendour  
When my heart aches and suffers from the piercing of love's arrows  
I should have listened to the doom-sayers warnings that I'm better off without love.

Yet for all the pains and the wound you caused my heart  
The tears I've shed for the sorrow that you brought my heart  
I would still gladly embrace your presence in my life  
For you have brought meaning to my dreary existence  
You brought life in my otherwise lifeless existence.

by Father Gerald

March. 6, 2018

The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup invites you to join us for the Donnybrook Apple Fun Park's 10th Birthday celebrations!

**Saturday 31st March, 2018**  
**8.30am – 10.00am**  
**Donnybrook Apple Fun Park**

The Apple Fun Park is a major icon for the Shire!

Free bacon and egg breaky roll and a big birthday cake too. We also have temporary tattoo/stickers for the kids (and adults) and a few special dress-up characters and a juggler as well.

Mick Murray MLA will join us to mark the occasion and help cut the cake!

Immediately after the Apple FunPark celebrations we encourage you to spend the day at the fabulous Apple Festival (Egan Park) which is being held on Saturday 31 March and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2018.

Hope to see you there!!