



Term 1 | Week 2 | Date: 4th February 2021

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of St Mary's

I warmly welcome each of you back to the start of a new school year and hope that the Christmas and New Year holiday was a time of peace and relaxation for you all, providing opportunity to enjoy the company of those who are nearest and dearest to you.



As I write these few words on the eve of my first day with your children, I do so with a great sense of eagerness and excitement to meet them and yourselves of course. I arrived in this beautiful little town just over a week ago along with my wife, Pam, and our fabulous cocker spaniel, Daisy. This is a picture of me on my first walk along the scenic banks of the Murrumbidgee with Daisy. I love walking and hiking and use any excuse I can to get out on a trail.

I was struck by the beauty of the river gums and the sculptures on this walk. In particular, the image to the right, of the linked chain resonated strongly with me, along with the accompanying words, "Chain links represent strength, unity and functionality there can be no weak links for a community like this to develop."



These well-chosen words by the banks of the river provide a powerful metaphor for what it takes to make a school community flourish with staff members, students, families and the parish each linked in a strength, forged with love. It is within this spirit that I come to be with you and work with you. I have been made to feel very welcome by the wonderful staff here at St Mary's and greatly supported by the Wilcannia Forbes Diocesan Catholic Education team.



The image to the left, just around the corner from our new home also spoke to me about community values that I treasure and that I hope will be the hallmark of St Mary's, a school built around kindness.

Notwithstanding the restrictions of the pandemic, and always being mindful of the safety of all, I will be looking for as many opportunities as I can to engage positively with you in the weeks and months ahead, starting with next Monday's meeting in the Nano Nagle Centre. This will be an opportunity for you to meet up with our staff members, including Mr Shane Creece, whom I welcome warmly and who will be teaching the Years 2,3 and 4 class this year.

God Bless

Vince Campbell

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Year 6 Leadership Mass

Next Tuesday, Olivia, Sophie, Jaylen, Archer, Joel, Rhett, Brody and Tilly will be inducted as the leaders of our school during our first school Mass.

Families of our Year 6 students will be invited to attend the Leadership Mass. The staff of St Mary's are looking forward to working with the Leadership team of 2021.



Olivia



Sophie



Jaylen



Archer



Joel



Rhett



Brody



Tilly



SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL MONDAY 8TH FEB

Students in Years 2 - 6 will be participating in the swimming carnival on Monday.
Students will come to school as normal and wear their sports uniform

The carnival will start at 11.00am

Students will have an early recess and then be transported by bus to and from the pool

Please ensure your child has their hat, plenty of water, sunscreen and their lunch
(there will NOT be a canteen running)

Parents are welcome to attend the carnival but must adhere to the Covid-19
safety rules displayed at the pool

If you are attending and are able to assist with timekeeping please see
Janet when you arrive at the pool.



Weekly Compliance Articles

DELIVERY OF MEDICATION TO THE SCHOOL

wherever possible medication should be provided to the school by parents on a daily basis. If the parent is unable to deliver the medication to the school it is advisable that a responsible person nominated by the parent to deliver it. If a student is given the responsibility of delivering the medication to the designated area, a proper assessment of the risk will be conducted. Factors to be taken into account when assessing the risk are:

- the maturity and capacity of the student
- parental consent
- any additional safety issue

Self-administration

Parents/Guardians need to inform the school regarding students taking medication at school. With the exception of the use of asthma relievers self-administration of medication by Primary aged school students is **not appropriate**.

Below is a copy of our school planner for week 2 to week 4. Please be aware that sometimes these events are subject to change. If this happens we will notify you as soon as possible.

We will continue to send out messages through Compass so if you need any assistance with your Compass please do not hesitate to contact Sharon in our office and she will assist you.

Term 1 – 2021 - Student/Parent Planner

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Week 2 February | 1 | 2 Staff Return | 3 | 4 Years 1 - 6 Students Return | 5 Kinder Students Start Polding Tennis Trials- Newcastle |
| Week 3 February | 8 Swimming Carnival Meet and Greet the Staff -Parent Information Meeting - 6.00pm | 9 Yr 6 Induction Mass - 9.30am NRL Presentation Visit | 10 | 11 | 12 National Apology Day |
| Week 4 February | 15 Southern Cluster Carnival- Hay | 16 Shrove Tuesday | 17 Ash Wednesday Mass - 9am | 18 | 19 WF AFL Trials (Hay) |



Join us

Meet and Greet

Monday 8th February 6pm

Nano Nagle Room

All parents and friends are warmly invited to come and meet Mr Campbell and the 2021 staff