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Term 4 Week 9— Wednesday 1st December 2021

## St Mary's Weekly Newsletter

### From the Principal

Dear Parents & Friends of St Mary's

Just this morning, walking to school I was again struck by the beauty of the Jacaranda trees in Hay that are quite glorious at the moment. Coinciding with the arrival of the holy season of Advent, a season where we ready ourselves to accept Jesus into our hearts, the Jacarandas are a timely southern hemisphere reminder to us of the resplendent beauty of God's creation. How lucky indeed are we who live in this little town to have the opportunity to spend time in admiration of our creator's gift of such beauty to us. It would serve us all well to take some time in quiet reflection of this beauty, not taking it for granted. As a poet once remarked, *"How easy it is to forget we have the privilege of living in God's art gallery."* *The Hay Jacarandas in full bloom must surely be one of our best kept secrets, our local equivalent of the much more famous Japanese Cherry blossoms and the turning of the leaves in the fall of New England US.*



Over the last couple of weeks we have been exercising the character strength of 'appreciating beauty and excellence.' We have been helped by the spectacular blossoms of the many Jacaranda trees around Hay and especially the two in our own school playground that are quite glorious, if only we take a moment to pause and admire their natural beauty. The younger children in particular have responded with great joy and delight to this little gift of nature. I was inspired to write my own little Japanese Haiku verse on this scene. The Haiku form is especially related to creating a visual 'word picture' evoking the beauty of nature and the impact it has on our senses and emotions - here are a couple of my efforts:

*Purple blossoms in the breeze  
Fall gently downwards  
Creating nature's carpet*

*Jacaranda limbs spread high  
Soft blossom cascades  
Like purple snow on the grass*

Mr Campbell, Principal.

Giselle from Year 4 wrote the following little Haiku verse, inspired by the beauty of the playground Jacaranda:

*With purple blossoms falling,  
Softly on the grass  
Under the jacaranda*

Giselle - Year 4 student

Our Years 5 and 6 classes had a go at writing poems, using the related Japanese poet form of Tanka. A Tanka is a five-line poem that tells a short story and so is a little different in its purpose from a Haiku verse. The formula demands a specific number of syllables in each line. Here are a couple of their examples:

*Snow flakes are falling  
I cannot see any grass  
The night sky is dark  
I hear jingle bells all night*

*A sleigh flies through the night sky.*  
by Joel Jackson, Year 6.



I like the little picture Joel has created here. He shows a really good imagination and a close observation of the natural environment. Well done, Joel!

Here's another one with a different perspective on writing poetry.

*I don't like Tanka  
Tanka writing is boring  
Tanka is not good  
This has 7 syllables  
This is about to end now!*  
By Uzair, Year 5.



Uzair's effort brought a smile to his teacher's face and indeed to mine. Some kids say they just don't like poetry - our job is to try and shift this mindset. Uzair's poem is technically correct and it very precisely and humorously communicates his dislike of writing poetry. I think it's a good effort and he's used his character strength of humour very effectively. Well done, Uzair!

Looking forward to meeting up with you all at our Awards Presentation Night this coming Monday at the Waradgery Club.

Wishing everyone a great week.

Vince

**Friday Lunch Deal**

**Chicken Goujons**

**\$2.50**

# Religious Education News

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Thursday 2nd December at 7pm.**

Please pray for Frederick, Zoe, Usher, Giselle and Hannah as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week.



## First Holy Communion

**Saturday 4th December at 6pm.**

Please pray for Hannah, Brody & Ava as they prepare to receive Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday



## St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

### Christmas Hampers

St Mary's will be supporting the local St Vincent de Paul Society with their 2021 Christmas Appeal. Each child is asked to donate non-perishable food and items that can be placed in Christmas Hampers.

Suggested items are: tins of biscuits, Christmas cakes, mince pies, Christmas lollies, Christmas chocolates, nuts, canned foods, bon bons, Christmas plates.

**Could all donations please be brought to school by Monday 13th December.** Thank you for your continued support of our school and parish.



**TERM 4**

- 6/12/21 Presentation Evening—6pm  
Waradgery Club
- 6-12/12/21 Swimming Program 11am —12  
Monday to Friday
- 9/12/21 Year 6 Mass—6pm  
Year 6 Dinner—7pm  
Bishops Lodge Motor Inn
- 14/12/21 Christmas Party Day for all students  
Lunch will be provided
- 15/12/21 Last day for students
- 16/12/21 Last day for Staff

*The Staff and Students would like to wish these people who are celebrating their birthday.*

*A very Happy Birthday to*

***Samarth Patel for 1st Dec  
Rhett Mealing for 2nd Dec***



**Weekly Compliance Articles**

**HOLD YOUR CHILD’S HAND**

As pedestrians, children can be easily distracted and are often too small to be seen by drivers. They may be unable to predict or identify dangers and tend to act impulsively.

Talk with your child about safe behaviour on the footpath – it’s not a safe place to play as it is near the road and vehicles may be entering or exiting driveways.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand:  
on the footpath  
in the car park  
when crossing the road.

Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

If you can’t be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to accompany them.

After school, meet your child at the school gate. At the end of the school day children may be excited, distracted or tired and often not concentrating on their own safety.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

## Rural Bank Scholarship Program opens for 2022 - Encouraging the best young minds in agribusiness

Rural Bank has opened its scholarship applications for students commencing studies in 2022.

The 2022 Rural Bank Scholarship Program will support first-time tertiary students to foster excellence in agriculture and encourage the best young minds in agribusiness to pursue further education and development in the sector.

First-time undergraduate university, agricultural college and TAFE students enrolled in agribusiness studies and with a passion to contribute to the future of Australian agriculture are invited to apply. Each of the eleven scholarships on offer is valued at \$5,000 per year and, subject to academic performance and duration of the course, is extended for a second year of study to support students' study-related expenses, including accommodation costs, course materials and education related travel.

Applications open 1 December 2021 and close 18 February 2022

To find out more about Rural Bank's agribusiness scholarships visit: <https://www.ruralbank.com.au/community/scholarship/>



GRIFFITH

# TACKLE READY CLINIC

Open to boys and girls aged 6-16 years\*

Join Brydens Lawyers NSW Blues Head Coach Brad Fittler and Harvey Norman Sky Blues Head Coach Kylie Hilder and the Hogs crew for a FREE coaching clinic this summer!

Sunday 5 December 3.30-4.30pm  
Solar Mad Stadium  
Coolah St, Griffith

 

[Click here to register](#)

\*COVID-19 protocols apply in line with NSW Govt Public Health Orders

nswrl.com.au



School holidays are just around the corner!

### HCS are opening enrolments for the January school holidays.

**What:** Child led program with an emphasis on fun, implemented by qualified and experienced Educators.

**Who can attend:** Children 3 years to 10 years inclusive.

**When:** Week days, Tuesday 4th Jan - Friday 21st Jan 2022 from 8.30am to 5.30pm

**Where:** Hay Preschool premises, 348 Church Street.

**Cost:** \$25 per day per child (invoiced in advance and payment terms will apply, CCS subsidy does not apply).

**Contact:** Ph 6993 1757 or [admin@haycs.com.au](mailto:admin@haycs.com.au) for further information or to enrol.

**Enrolments CLOSE 10th December 2021**

ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL

# Christmas Tree Raffle

OVER \$1,000.00 WORTH OF PRIZES

*Tickets - \$2.00 each*

Drawn - Tuesday 14th December 2021

Tickets can be purchased at  
the school or the Hay  
Newsagency



## SWIMMING PROGRAM

Week 1:

Monday 22nd November  
to Friday 26th November

Time: 1.45pm to 2.45pm

Week 2:

Monday 6th December to  
Friday 10th December

Time: 11.00am to 12.00pm

Please bring the following items each day:

Towel  
Goggles  
Swimming Cap  
Drink Bottle

Respect for Self—Respect for Others— Respect for the Environment

*St. Mary's Parish  
School*

# Christmas

## FUN DAY

**LUNCH IS PROVIDED**

**TUESDAY 14TH  
DECEMBER**

**Respect for Self—Respect for Others— Respect for the Environment**



# PRESENTATION *Night*

**MONDAY, 6TH DECEMBER 2021  
6.00PM START**

*In order to ensure a prompt start it would be good to arrive around 5.45pm to allow children to be seated and ready to go for 6.00pm. Children should be wearing their full summer uniform. At the conclusion of the presentation we will be having a sausage sizzle for everyone.*

*Please note the following: We can accommodate four guests per family and all adults MUST be double vaccinated - no exceptions.*

**WARADGERY CLUB  
CORNER PINE AND WATER STREET HAY**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE 02  
69931775**