



Term 4 Week 2 — 19 October 2022 436 Moppett St Hay 2711 02 6993 1775 admin.hay@wf.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary's

I hope that you are all well at this time when so many people not so far away from us are having their lives and livelihoods disrupted so badly with the floods. This morning as we gathered around our little Marian grotto to say our decade of the rosary, we prayed for people who are suffering and also prayed in gratitude and thankfulness for the blessings we enjoy in our own lives.



It was lovely this morning to gather around our newly installed 'Acknowledgement of Country' sign and read directly from it before moving a few steps to sit on the benches around Mary's statue and pray the rosary.

Our school is certainly looking so good now from the road with the freshly painted benches, the refurbished school bell and sign, our grotto to Mary and our new Cultural Garden. Our Cultural Garden will be enhanced further with the installation of our new Aboriginal mural that we worked on last term with Aboriginal artist, Owen Lyons.



Owen sent me this picture of the mural which will complete our garden. It looks absolutely spectacular and I can't wait for it to be delivered! These features help to give us great pride in our school. At the same time, they communicate a very important message of confidence in ourselves as we celebrate the work we do here at St Mary's, helping us to look forward to the future with hope and optimism.

Now, in the spirit of hope and great optimism, I communicated with you last week about the appointment of Evie Gray to the position of permanent classroom teacher from the start of 2023. This is indeed great news for our school community. I am very happy with the way that our staffing for 2023 is coming together and I will keep you posted in future weeks as we finalise our arrangements for next year.

Our children were thrilled with the new bright and shiny table tennis table that appeared on the concrete behind the school's veggie garden this week! They are full of excitement to learn the skills of table tennis and play some competitions among themselves. Our school is very grateful to this generous gift from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Thank you!



Now, on the subject of gifts, I was delighted to be contacted by Grant Edwards over the recent holiday period. Grant attended St Mary's back in the 1970's along with his two brothers and loved his schooldays here. He now lives with his family in Adelaide. He is a keen environmentalist with a love of nature and spoke to me about his great love of Hay and its lovely natural environment.



He very generously donated class sets of a beautiful book, A Hollow is a Home so that the children at St Mary's can be likewise inspired to care for their environment and learn to appreciate their natural surroundings. Grant hopes to be joining us at the opening of our Cultural Garden on **December 2nd**. I will write in more detail about this special event shortly.

Tomorrow morning we will be celebrating a whole school mass at 10.15 and everyone is most warmly welcome to be present with us as we pray for God's blessings upon us this term.

Wishing everyone all the very best for this week and thanking you for your support and encouragement.

God Bless

Vince Campbell



Parent Workshop

How to support reading at home

The workshop will cover home reading and the purpose of the different books your child will bring home.

The workshop will explain the vital component reading skills:



St Mary's is committed to providing exemplary instruction for our students. We continue to evaluate and refine our practices and this year we are fortunate to be able to embark upon the Early Literacy Project. This 12-month intensive program entails staff completing 24 hours of professional learning and working closely with our Literacy Consultant in the classroom to ensure we are providing the very best instruction possible to enhance your child's reading skills

We are holding a parent workshop to provide you with information about the project and the path we are taking, along with ways that you can support your child with reading at home. We do hope you are able to join us for this special event.

Thursday 20th October, 2022 | Starting at 6pm

Nano Nagle Hall | St Mary's Parish School

CEWF Literacy Specialist, Melissa Hill, will speak to you about reading at St Mary's School and provide some practical activities you can do at home with your child to strengthen their reading.

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



CRACKED POTS

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of the pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologise to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"



"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again the pot apologised to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took the advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream you watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house.

POPE FRANCIS

"Let us #Pray Together with the children of every continent who today are reciting the Rosary for peace in the world. Let us entrust to Our Lady's intercession the suffering people of Ukraine and other people who are suffering due to war, violence and misery #1millionchildrenpraying"

God bless. Fr Paul

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Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

CHILD SAFE SCHOOLS AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

We take our responsibility to protect children seriously. All staff are expected to promote child safety by having a clear understanding of their legal child protection responsibilities and act in accordance with those responsibilities.

In particular the school will:

- Maintain professionalism in our interactions with children at all times by exercising appropriate duty of care and maintaining professional boundaries.
- Follow an established process to address allegations of inappropriate behaviour by staff towards children.
- Ensure all people working in our school who are required to undertake a Working With Children Check have a valid clearance.

Respond appropriately when we suspect a child is at risk of significant harm due to possible abuse or neglect by a parent/carer or other adult.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

Screening of those working in schools

Working With Children Checks are undertaken by staff working in our school. Non-exempt school volunteers, outside tutors, external providers and any staff engaged by an external organisation are also expected to provide schools with their WWCC which is verified prior to engagement.

Exemptions from Working With Children Check are:

- Children (under the age of 18);
- A 'parent of a child' includes a carer or person who has legal responsibility for a child;

A 'close relative' includes a spouse or de facto partner, child, step-child, parent, step-parent, sibling, step-sibling, grandparent, step-grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

This exemption does not apply where the work is part of a formal mentoring program or involves intimate, personal care of children with a disability, or when volunteering on overnight camps.

The purpose of the check is to exclude people from working with children who are not suitable. A person who has been convicted or found guilty of a listed serious offence against children (whether in NSW or elsewhere) is prohibited from working in a child related role.

The participation of parents and close relatives of students at the school as volunteers is welcomed and appreciated for various activities in the school. It is important that all volunteers are aware that they are subject to child protection legislation. This means all volunteers must:

- sign in on the Compass Kiosk at the front office and obtain a visitor's badge or slip as per school procedure;
- check with the school to ascertain the current legal requirements for working with children;

not engage in any inappropriate behaviour towards any children. In particular, although parents and volunteers are not employed by the school, they are considered to be 'staff' for legal purposes and are subject to an investigation if an allegation of inappropriate behaviour towards a child or children is received.

Volunteers who are not the parent or a close relative of a child at the school will be expected to undertake a Working With Children Check.

Further information on the Working With Children Check can be found on the website for the Office of the Children's Guardian at <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/>

What's Coming up in Term 4

Date	Details	Time
20 Oct	Whole School Mass All welcome to attend	10.15am
21 Oct	Leap Into Kinder Program	
	5/6 Assembly All welcome to attend	2.30pm
24 Oct	Diwali	1.40pm
27 Oct	Cricket Gala Day for students in Year 3 to Year 6	
28 Oct	Leap into Kinder Program	
	Silly Socktober (all students welcome to wear silly/funny/crazy socks)	
1 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day	
4 Nov	Leap into Kinder	
	2/3 Assembly All welcome to attend	2.30pm
7 Nov	PUPIL FREE DAY	
8 Nov	Wadjiny Performance (all students will attend)	9.30am
	Yr 6 to attend WHMHS - Drumbeat	
10 Nov	Year 6 to attend HWMHS	11.20am
11 Nov	Leap into Kinder	
	Remembrance Day (5/6 to Attend)	10.45am
15 Nov	Yr 6 to attend WHMHS - Drumbeat	
18 Nov	Leap into Kinder Graduation	
	K/1 Assembly All welcome to attend	2.30pm
21 Nov	Road Safety Week	
24 Nov	Whole School Mass	10.15am
25 Nov	Whole School excursion to Altina Wildlife Park	
28 Nov	Swimming	1.30-2.45
	Christmas Tree Fete	5pm—8pm
29 Nov	Swimming	1.30-2.45
	Yr 6 Orientation Day HWMHS	



HAY JUNIOR CRICKET

2022/2023 SEASON

COMMENCING DATES

TRAINING - TUESDAY 18TH OCT @5PM

TRAINING - FRIDAY 21ST OCT @5.30PM

SATURDAY MORNING GAME (8-14 YRS) - 22ND OCT @8.30AM

MASTERBLASTERS (5-7YRS) - FRIDAY 21ST OCT @5.30PM



Rego information to come.

FOR ALL INFORMATION AND UPDATES PLEASE FOLLOW THE
HAY CRICKET CLUB FACEBOOK SITE.

FRIDAY 21/10/22 LUNCH DEAL

Single Pizza

\$3.50

*The Staff and students of St Mary's Wish the following
people a very*

Happy Birthday

Krishi Patel for 22 October

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

Halloween Disco



\$3 ENTRY

ON THE DOOR
ALL KIDS 5 & UNDER
FREE

HAY SERVICES CLUB AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER

FOOD & DRINKS FOR SALE
5.00PM TO 8.00PM



PRIZES FOR
BEST COSTUMES
PRIZES FOR DANCE FREEZE
CANDY COUNT JAR



**FOR AGES 2-12 ALL
CHILDREN 5 & UNDER
NEED PARENTAL
SUPERVISION FOR THE
ENTIRE EVENT**