



WEEK 2 TERM 4 NEWSLETTER Wednesday 13th October 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome to Week 2 everyone. Well done to all students on a great start to Term 4 last week. We are very excited to be welcoming students back onsite next week as we commence the phased return to onsite learning on Monday. Our Preps will be the first group back attending Monday to Wednesday next week. The 1/2s will then attend on Thursday and Friday. Gr 3/4s and 5/6s will commence their return in the week beginning Monday 25th. Youth Leadership Victoria will recommence Out of School Hours Care on Monday October 18th. Bookings at – <https://ylv.com.au/> All details of the phased return to onsite learning were shared in an update letter to the community yesterday.

Update on the wearing of Face Masks - All staff, Gr3-6 students and visitors to St Mark's are required to wear a face mask while onsite, unless there is an exemption. **Parents of Gr3-6 students are required to provide labelled face mask/s for their own child/ren. It is recommended that parents provide a number of labelled face masks so that children have spares if required throughout the day.**

There are a number of lawful reasons for not wearing a face mask, including for staff and students who are unable to wear a face mask due to the nature of their disability, medical or a mental health condition. **Please provide documentation from a medical practitioner if your child is exempt from wearing a face mask.** A face mask must cover the nose and mouth. Face shields, scarves or bandanas do not meet these requirements.

The Chief Health Officer also recommends that Prep-Gr2 students wear a mask. Parents of Prep-Gr2 students please contact your child's teacher if you would like them to wear a face mask while at school.

Return of Borrowed Laptops, iPads and Chargers – All borrowed Laptops and iPads must be returned to school **on Friday November 5th**. We are delaying the return of devices as we are aware that some students will need to use their borrowed Laptop or iPad both at school and at home during the phased return to onsite learning over the next few weeks. Over the next three weeks, students will need to bring their borrowed device and charger to school with them each day they are rostered onsite and then take them home at the end of the day. **It is very important that devices are fully charged each morning.** Devices are to be carried safely in school bags in order to prevent damage. These devices are expensive items that have been paid for out of the annual Curriculum Levies that parents pay. It is very important that devices are carried to and from school safely to avoid damage.

Canteen News – Due to the limited number of students attending onsite each day over the next three weeks the Canteen will not operate. Families are required to send all brain food, snacks and lunches to school each day. Students are also required to bring a full water bottle to school each day.

The Canteen will re-open on Friday November 5th with a modified Menu for the remainder of the year. A modified menu will be shared with the community soon.

The St Mark's Virtual Arts Show – It was lovely to receive some feedback about our Virtual Arts Show last week. It's so nice to know that families are accessing the wonderful art works our talented students have created.

Following is an extract from a lovely email we received from a parent of one of the students:

I just wanted to say that my child and I really enjoyed viewing the online art show. It would have been much better to see all the lovely creations in person, but a whole lot of work must have been undertaken to make it available digitally in this difficult time we find ourselves in. So thank you to all the teachers involved.

It felt like a Where's Wally challenge, trying to find his creations within the photos! It was great to see that he remembered what he created and exactly how they looked.

MACSSIS School Improvement Surveys – Log in details were sent out via email to all families last Wednesday. Please contact the Office if you did not receive yours. It's also advisable to check your SPAM Folder. Thank you to those families who have already completed the survey. Your feedback is important and welcomed. Data shows that it takes approximately 8 minutes to complete.

The survey is only available online, and needs to be completed by Thursday October 28th. This survey may only be completed once.

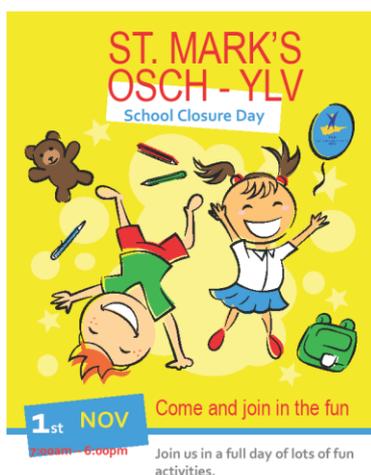
All participation is invited, welcomed and 100 per cent voluntary. The surveys are not a test; they are an inclusive way to support the work we are already doing to improve our school. Everyone has the right to refuse to participate, or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during or after completion of the survey.

Gr4, 5 & 6 students will be provided with supervised sessions to complete the survey when they return, where teachers are on hand to help and answer any questions. Please notify the school if you do not wish your child to participate. Families can complete the survey anytime over the three-week window.

The survey is available in English, Arabic, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Tagalog and Vietnamese. To complete the survey you will need access the following link:

<https://orima.com/macsfamily> (you may need to copy & paste the link, or type it directly into your browser).

School Closure Day in Term 4 – Monday November 1st will be a school closure day. Staff will use this day for Semester 2 Report writing. It is our intention for Youth Leadership Victoria to run Out of School Hours Full Day Care on the day. A total of 10 enrolments is required for the program to run. Bookings at – <https://ylv.com.au>



SunSmart at St Mark's - In accordance with our SunSmart Policy at St Mark's, a reminder that school hats are to be worn by all students for all outside activities in Term 4. Students can choose to wear either the School Legionnaire's Hat or the Bucket Hat. Hats are available for purchase from PSW – 2/283 Rex Rd, Campbellfield, 9303 7845 or www.psw.com.au. Please ensure hats are labelled with your child's name.

Summer Uniform – All students are to wear Summer Uniform in Term 4. Uniforms are available for purchase from PSW – 2/283 Rex Rd, Campbellfield, 9303 7845 or www.psw.com.au. Please ensure you label all items of clothing with your child's name.

Class Groupings for 2022 – We are currently in the process of developing our class groupings for 2022. Please contact me in writing with regards any issues that we need to be aware of that may impact on your child's learning in 2022 – principal@smfawkner.catholic.edu.au

Intentions for 2022 – It's hard to believe that we are currently in the process of preparing our class structures for 2022. To assist, we need to know if any students (other than Gr 6's) will be leaving St Mark's at the end of 2021. If your child will not be returning to St Mark's in 2022 can you please inform me in writing as soon as possible.

I am conscious that for some children and their families the coming weeks, as we transition back to onsite learning, may be difficult due to safety concerns. Please know that all recommended safety measures will be in place when students return. The wellbeing of all children, staff and community members remains the number one priority. Please contact me or your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

For the foreseeable future many restrictions will remain in place at St Mark's. I will continue to keep families informed over coming weeks so that we can continue to work together to ensure the safety of our children and each other. Thank you for your continued patience, understanding and support.

I encourage everyone to remain vigilant and to follow the Government and DHS guidelines we currently have in place. I am aware that there have been a number of exposure sites in the Fawkner area, and surrounding suburbs in recent days/weeks. A full list of exposure sites and requirements can be found at - <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites> It's so important that we all do the right thing to keep each other safe and to enable the return to onsite learning as soon as possible.

If for any reason you need to enter a school building while onsite, **you must sign in using our QR Code**, wear your face mask and continue to socially distance. We ask that parents minimise their time onsite and continue to sign in and out using our Passtab if there is a need to enter school buildings.

Should you have any concerns relating to school operations, or the health and safety of students, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support.

As a community we continue to follow all the procedures and protocols of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS). Advice from the DHHS is that if a student or member of the community is unwell for any reason, **they should get tested and then remain at home until they receive their results.**

Please do not leave your house for any reason until you receive your results. Further information on COVID-19 is available on the DHHS Website - www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus and the CECV Website - <http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents>

Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe.

2021 Sacrament Dates

First Eucharist –Grade 4's – To be advised

Confirmation – Thursday October 14th at 7.00pm – CANCELLED – New date To be advised

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following people who are celebrating their Birthday.

Date	Name	LA	Date	Name	LA
15 th October	Zoe	4	15 th October	Poppy	4
16 th October	Drishti	5	16 th October	Theviru	9
19 th October	Sakhipreet	7			

Learners Of The Week

Learning Area	Name
Prep	Tiana K - for being a persistent learner when writing. You have been doing a fantastic job at sounding out words when writing. Keep up the great work!
LA4	Alexandra - for being a persistent and reflective learner. It is fantastic to see the enthusiasm you display during Google Meets and the effort you put into completing set tasks posted on Seesaw. Keep up the great work!
LA5	Zac - for being a curious learner when using a variety of adjectives in your story. It is fantastic to see the way you push yourself to extend your learning. Keep up the good work.
LA7	LA7 - for demonstrating curiosity and collaboration when working in your Inquiry groups on your Environmental Issues Research Projects. It was fantastic to see each group work together to negotiate the area of research which each member was responsible for investigating. The final presentations to our class this week certainly informed your teachers and peers about the different issues and how we can all take action to help prevent, address and solve environmental problems. Well done - a great team effort!
LA8	Hunter - for being a resilient and respectful learner by coming back to online classes and completing each task successfully. Congratulations and keep up the great work!
LA9	Benny - for everytime advice is provided to you regarding your tasks, you resiliently take on the suggestions in order to improve your learning and enhance your work. Your positive attitude towards accepting and applying teacher advice is remarkable.
LA10	Hovsep - for being so resilient and persevered to do your very best during Remote Learning. Well done on using your problem solving skills to overcome challenges, attend Google Meets and submit set tasks. Keep up the great work!
ITALIAN	Henri LA1 - for demonstrating Resilience this week in Italian. You submitted an 'extension' to the required task, by sending me a recording of your voice on Seesaw. You did this because when I corrected your fine picture work, I asked you to do something 'extra' for me. By sending me your voice recording as well, you showed me that you are open to new ways of learning. This is very encouraging: BRAVO!

God Bless,

Peter Wilson, Principal

'The St Mark's Catholic Primary School, Fawkner Community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.'



St Mark's Catholic Primary School respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, learn, work and play. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

TERM 4, 2021**OCTOBER**

Wednesday 13 th	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #2 - CANCELLED
Thursday 14 th	7.00pm	Celebration of Confirmation @ St Mark's - CANCELLED
Thursday 28 th	Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd School Improvement Surveys Close	
Wednesday 20 th	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #3 - TBC
Wednesday 27 th	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #4 - TBC
Friday 29 th	Day For Daniel	

NOVEMBER

Monday 1 st	School Closure Day – Report Writing	
Tuesday 2 nd	Melbourne Cup Day	
Wednesday 3 rd	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #5 - TBC
Wednesday 10 th	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #6 - TBC
Thursday 11 th	Remembrance Day	
Thursday 11 th	10.40am	St Mark's Remembrance Day Service – Details to be advised
Thursday 11 th	7.00pm	Mercy College Transition Evening
Thursday 18 th	9.15am	2021 Preps Orientation Session #1 - TBC
Thursday 25 th	9.15am	2021 Preps Orientation Session #2 - TBC
Sunday 28 th	1 st Sunday of Advent	

DECEMBER

Thursday 2 nd	6.00pm	Christmas Carols & Family Picnic – TO BE CONFIRMED
Friday 3 rd	Penola Catholic College Orientation Day	
Sunday 5 th	2 nd Sunday of Advent	
Monday 6 th	Parade College Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 th	Academy of Mary Immaculate Yr7 2022 Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 th	Government Secondary Colleges Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 th	Simonds College 2022 Yr7 Orientation Day	
Friday 10 th	Semester 2 Reports go home today	
Sunday 12 th	3 rd Sunday of Advent	
Monday 13 th	9.15am	Step Up 2022 Classes Orientation Session
Tuesday 14 th	Yr6 End of Year Excursion	
Tuesday 14 th	6.00pm	Graduation Mass & Celebration
Wednesday 15 th	9.00am	End of Year Mass – Details to be advised
Wednesday 15 th	11.50am	Yr6 Farewell Assembly – Details to be advised
Wednesday 15 th	Final Day of Semester 2 - Students Dismissed @ 1.30pm	
Sunday 19 th	4 th Sunday of Advent	

Returning to school: 7 tips for parents/carers to help children cope (Primary) Adapted from: Parent zone

After months of remote learning and a range of COVID19 restrictions, children will be returning to school routines, classrooms, classmates, teachers, expectations and, in some cases, even new school settings. Amid the anticipation and excitement many children are feeling, for some, leaving the home learning routine and environment may create anxiety for a range of reasons including: the ongoing uncertainty of COVID19; social distancing and hygiene measures in place; family circumstances related to health; grief associated with a recent loss; or economic circumstances.

To prepare and support students' return to onsite learning and the school/classroom environment, consider the following tips:

1. Talk to your children about how they feel

- It is important to encourage children to discuss their feelings about returning to school.
- If they feel anxious or worried, help them understand this is perfectly normal, and that you and their teachers are there to support them.
- **Although difficult, try not to share any anxiety you may be feeling with your children.**
- Bear in mind that your child may be returning to a pre-existing issue from before remote learning – for example, a bullying or relationship issue, or difficulty with school work or staff – or they may be preparing for the transition to secondary school.
- Try to give them a non-judgemental and supportive place to share any worries. Younger children, in particular, may not always have the words to express their feelings, so try to find a way of bringing up the conversation without putting pressure on them – for instance when you're playing with them or going for a walk. This can help them to open up naturally and identify what they're worried about.

2. Pack right, pack light

- Your school will have been in touch to let you know what your child should and shouldn't bring on their return. Eg. bring an individual water bottle.
- Make sure you have checked with your school about what they need in order to make your child's day easier.

3. Support children to understand the school procedures

- Your school will also have been in touch to explain various procedures in place – such as entry points, break times and hand washing routines.
- If you haven't received this information or are unsure you should contact your school office.
- It will be important for your child to understand social distancing and hygiene rules and, importantly, why they are in place.
- Read school communications with your child and make sure they are prepared and know what to expect when they arrive at school.

4. Familiarise yourself with school procedures

- You'll need to know where and when to drop children off and pick them up, as well as what parts of the school you can access.
- If your child travels to/from school independently, including on public transport, you should talk to your child about getting to and from school, including observing the directions of Victoria's Chief Health Officer (ie. social distancing, group gatherings).
- Your child will be expecting you at the end of the day so make sure you, or whoever is collecting them, are there in the right place at the right time.
- If your child travels home independently, make sure you, or another carer, is there to welcome them home and check-in about their day.

5. End of day emotions

- For younger children in particular, a school day can require a lot of self-regulation or compressed behaviour, which can lead to tired and emotional outbursts later on in the day.
- Given the length of remote learning and new school safety procedures in place, these emotions may be hard to cope with when they return home.
- It is a good idea to keep this in mind, and allow some time for 'letting off steam' by encouraging children to unwind and play outdoors.

6. Stay informed

- Given the long absence from school, there may be a period of readjustment.
- Discuss and affirm familiar routines and school expectations regarding uniform, grooming, attendance and participation to help your child reconnect with their school community.
- There may be fresh challenges for your child, from working with new classmates and teachers, to coping with their work and school expectations / 'rules'.
- Try to stay informed about how they are getting on – but if you are concerned, contact the class teacher.

7. Sleep and rest

- Your children may have been getting used to some unusual hours during the remote learning period and that may have extended into the school holidays.
- Make sure children are getting a good night's sleep for their return to school.
- It might mean introducing some earlier bedtimes than they have had recently and limiting screen time.
- A good night's rest will help them cope with the return to school and the new routines they will be adapting to.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

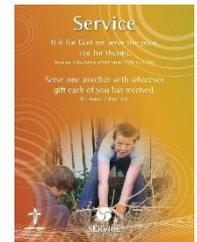
In this week's Gospel reading, Jesus teaches us that the very best leader is one who cares about others and wants to do what is best for them. Today, Jesus is calling each one of us to enact our *Mercy Value of Service*- offering the gift of God's love by being servants to others through our words and actions every day. What can we all do to help and reach out to our family members this week?



Gospel- Mk 10:42-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus called his disciples to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'



The Gospel of the Lord



Prayer to Saint Mark

*O Glorious St. Mark
through the grace
of God, our Father,
you became a great Evangelist,
preaching the
Good News of Christ.
May you help us to serve others
as we faithfully
live our lives as followers of
Christ. Amen.*

Celebration of Confirmation and First Eucharist

Due to the current lockdown restrictions, the Celebration of Confirmation scheduled for this Thursday October 14th has been cancelled.

We are aware that the cancellation of both Confirmation and Yr 4 First Eucharist is disappointing for the children and families involved. We will provide further details and information at a later date.

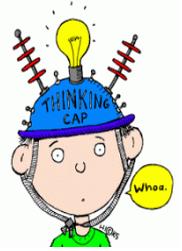


Ms Dot Mash
RE Leader



Inquiry Learning

The Year 5/6 students have been learning about Environmental Issues as part of their Inquiry Unit. They have worked individually or in groups to identify environmental issues that have long and short term effects on our world. Some of the topics investigated were; *Stop Overfishing, Man Made/Natural Disasters, Global Warming, Pollution*. The students' taking action from their learning involved informing others about the issue and how people can take action to help prevent, address and solve environmental problems.



Ana, Claudia, Tiana and Sakiphreet chose to inform our school community (via our school newsletter) about the environmental issue of Water Pollution. They invite you to read on to learn more!

Water Pollution

We have been researching water pollution and this is what we have learnt.

Water pollution has a big impact on the environment and also effects the food chain. Many sea animals have died from pollution and the pollution is not ending, in fact it is increasing. Water pollution is increasing because people are polluting the sea. Soon we will have no sea animals left. After all, if they die we might die with them.

What can we do to stop water pollution:

1. Reduce buying single use plastic and reuse what you already have.
2. Throw all reusable items in the recycling bin (what has to go in the recycling bin: cardboard boxes, water bottles, plastic containers, metal and plastic cans, plastic bags, glass bottles and jars.
3. Make sure your backyard or neighbourhood has no plastics or rubbish around because the wind carries the plastics and rubbish into waters like rivers, lakes and seas.
4. If you see any rubbish on the ground do not leave it there, pick it up and throw it in the bin so the animals and people are not affected and we keep Australia safe and clean.
5. Please do not throw rubbish on the ground. There are bins around so you could throw rubbish in the bin, do not be lazy, just walk up to a bin and be done.
6. Another solution to water pollution is to stop using single use plastic bottles and bags.

Remember just a little contribution can make a big difference!



This is how Earth's oceans looked like without all the pollution made by us people. Many Generations before us took great care of the waters (rivers, lakes, seas, and Oceans) but we still can find a way to stop water pollution or pollution in general.



This is what the ocean now looks like with all of the rubbish and in some spots it's better or worse but still tons of pollution in the oceans.



In this image some ships had oil spills and that can damage many habitats and reduce the population of most of the fish in the ocean. Not only fish will be affected but people living in fishing towns will also be affected because their town is near water and fish is one of the main and most common food sources for them. Bigger fish and sharks that eat fish will also be affected; they might get sick and soon pass away by eating the fish.



This is what a polluted river looks like.

We hope that everyone has learned something about water pollution and be more aware about how to stop this type of pollution.

By Ana, Claudia, Tiana and Sakiphreet
Ms Dot Mash RE Leader 5/6



**HAIG FAWKNER
CRICKET CLUB**

FEMALE CRICKET PLAYERS WANTED



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR FEMALES AGED
BETWEEN 9 - 50 TO PARTICIPATE IN
OUR WOMEN'S AND GIRLS TEAMS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

JOHN GIOPAS - 0405 44 38 38 | RYAN GREENACRE - 0410 46 61 39



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GIRLS UNDER 12, 14 & 16

COST: \$130 (NO OTHER FEES)

SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST

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