



WEEK 6 TERM 4 NEWSLETTER Wednesday 9th November 2022

Dear Families,

Welcome to Week 6 everyone. On Friday morning at 10.40am our Student Action Team will host our annual Remembrance Day Service here at St Mark's. Families are invited and welcome to join us.

Remembrance Day is the day we pause, reflect, pray and give thanks to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in war by laying down their life to enable us to live in peace. This year marks the 104th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914-18). We say thank you to all Australians who have made sacrifices for us. We are blessed to live in our beautiful country, Australia.

Lord, help us and the leaders of our nation, to always strive to be people of Mercy.

Planning is well underway for our end of year celebrations such as Advent, Christmas Carols, Yr6 Fun Day & Graduation, Candle Ceremony, Farewell Assembly, etc. All dates are included in this Newsletter and families are encourage to come along and engage in all of the wonderful events that are to come in Term 4. Over the coming weeks we will communicate with all families more details about each event.

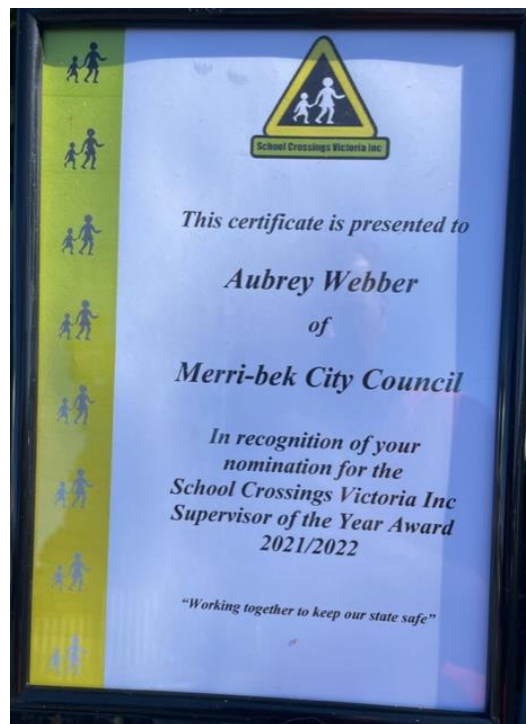
Mercy Catholic College 2023 Leaders - Recently I received a message from Mercy Catholic College Principal, Lila McInerney, advising me of some wonderful news about a number of our former St Mark's students. An incredible number of six past students have been elected to the Mercy Catholic College Student Executive Team for next year. We are very proud of, and congratulate the following past students:

Emily Gaffy	Mission Captain
Tanisha Wickramasinghe	Sports Captain
Anna Marchio	Music Captain
Kyla Garcia	Frayne House Captain
Ebony La Ferla	Kane House Captain
Stella Nissan	Marian House Captain

We also congratulate St Mark's 2016 School Captain, Geraldine George on recently being awarded the Mercy Catholic College Principal's Award for Overall Excellence at the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony. Geraldine received this award for being a wonderful role model and living the Mercy Values during her time at Mercy College. Geraldine also received Academic Excellence awards for Business Management, Health and Human Development and Music Performance. We are very proud of all of these past students and congratulate them and their families on these achievements!

Congratulations - Congratulations to our wonderful Crossing Supervisor, Aubrey Webber on recently being nominated for the School Crossings Victoria Inc. Supervisor of the Year Award, 2021/22. Aubrey has done an amazing job keeping our students, staff and family members safe every day for the past six years. Aubrey is also a wonderful supporter of the St Mark's community, often attending and helping out at school events. We are truly blessed to have Aubrey as our Crossing Supervisor. Congratulations and thank you Aubrey!





Our Condolences

We offer our heartfelt condolences to the Fawkner Kindergarten community on the recent passing of long serving and treasured staff member, Lina Causton. Lina will be known to many of the St Mark's families for the care, support and guidance she provided many of our current and past students during their time at Fawkner Kinder. Lina died peacefully on Monday night with her family by her side. Please keep Lina, her family and the Fawkner Kindergarten staff, students and community in your prayers at this sad time for them. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. May perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Funeral details to be advised at a later date.

St Mark's Tabloid Athletics Carnival - We had a fantastic day at our Tabloid Athletics Carnival on Friday. The weather was fine and all students are to be congratulated for the way they participated and gave their all for their team. Our Learning Dispositions of Collaboration, Courage, Resilience, Persistence and Respect were abundantly on display. Congratulations to the Sports Captains and Vice Captains on a job well done. Each team was well organised and supported each other with pride. The Team Chants were once again most impressive!

Many thanks to Mrs Daniela Lazzaro for organising the day at short notice and to the staff and parent helpers who ensured it ran smoothly. Also, thanks to all the family members who were able to come along and support, particularly Leanne who assisted with the scoring. Congratulations to Green Team for being the overall winning team in a very tight contest where they prevailed over Red by 1 point. Final placings are listed later in this newsletter.

2022 Mercy Spirit Award – This award is presented annually to the student who most displays the Mercy Ethos of care, compassion and inclusion; a student who helps to make our school a better place by acting as Jesus' hands. The students and families of St Mark's were cared for by the Sisters of Mercy from 1934 until 1976. This annual award is presented in their honour to recognise all they have done for us.

The Mercy Spirit Award is a perpetual shield which is displayed in our school foyer. The recipient will also receive a gift voucher.

Details and a Nomination Form have been sent home with each child, and via SeeSaw and through our Skoolbag App. Please take the time to discuss with your children the qualities of a person who shows the Mercy Spirit and encourage them to nominate one other student. **Nominations close on Friday November 18th.**

ABC Music Concert - Families are welcome to join us on Friday November 18th at the 9.00am Assembly for our annual ABC Music Concert where our talented ABC Music students will entertain us. All welcome!

St Mark's School Christmas Carols - The School Christmas Carols will be held at **2.00pm on Thursday December 1st.** Family members are invited to come along and enjoy the Christmas Carols on Thursday December 1st at 2.00pm.

Help Needed Please - We are looking for assistance please to pick up the Portable Stages from Penola College's Glenroy Campus for our Christmas Carol Performance. Ideally we would like the stages picked up on Monday November 28th and then returned to Penola on Friday December 2nd. We are looking for someone who has access to a tandem trailer, flatbed truck or something similar. If you can assist, please call the office and you will be contacted to make arrangements. Many thanks.

St Mark's Parish Christmas Carols - Save the Date - St Mark's Parish Christmas Carols will be held on the evening of Friday December 9th in St Mark's Church. More details to follow. Fr Colin extends a warm invitation to all families to attend and join in this wonderful Parish event.

St Mark's Parish Christmas Eve Family Mass - Fr Colin has asked me to extend an invitation to all families to attend the St Mark's Parish Christmas Eve Family Mass on Saturday December 24th in St Mark's Church. Fr Colin has asked for children to volunteer to be part of the re-enactment of the Nativity. **He is also looking for an adult to co-ordinate this event. If you can assist, please contact the Parish Office on 9359 3111 or leave your name at the school Office and the school will pass it on.** An Attendance Note was sent out last week.

Kids Matter @ St Mark's Action Team State Election BBQ & Bake Sale Fundraiser - This year there will be a Polling Booth in St Mark's School Hall for the State Election on Saturday November 26th. On that day our KM@SMAT will be conducting a BBQ & Bake Sale Fundraiser from 8.00am-4.00pm here at St Mark's. This is a wonderful fundraising opportunity for our children. It is also a great way to promote our fantastic school in the local community.

Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to run the stalls. We still require people to run the stalls between 12-2pm and 2-4pm. Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au to book in your slot. Please use the Booking Code – 2seqa We will also require volunteers to run the Bake Sale on the day and people to donate cakes and baked goods to be sold at the stall. All details have been sent home.

Candle Ceremony - This year we will be holding our Candle Ceremony on Wednesday December 7th at 2.30pm in our Hall. At this ceremony our current student leaders will hand over the flame of leadership and responsibility to next year's student leaders. All members of our community are invited to join us.

Helper's Morning Tea - On Friday December 9th at 9.30am St Mark's staff will say thank you to our volunteers and helpers by hosting a Morning Tea at 9.30am straight after our Advent Liturgy at 9.00am. We would like all volunteers who have helped out at St Mark's this year, in any way, to join us. Please mark this date in your calendar. Through your generous actions volunteers enable rich learning to take place.

Intentions for 2023 - We are currently in the process of preparing our class structures for 2023. To assist, we need to know if any students (other than Gr 6's) will be leaving St Mark's at the end of 2022. If your child will not be returning to St Mark's in 2023 can you please inform me in writing as soon as possible.

Student Safety - I ask parents to be particularly mindful at drop off and pick up time each day. I am aware that in the mornings some students alight from cars from the driver's side straight onto the road. This is a very dangerous practice as it could put children directly in the line of oncoming cars. Both Lee St and Argyle St are through roads that are used by members of the public each day. Unfortunately I often see cars travelling well above the 40KM School Zone limit along these streets. I ask parents to ensure that their children get out on the passenger side, straight onto the footpath. If students need to cross either Lee or Argyle Sts to enter the school they must use the Pedestrian Crossings provided. There are some students who are crossing Lee St by walking out from between stationary cars, which is a very dangerous practice.

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.

COVID-19 Update - Please continue to remain vigilant about preventing COVID-19 transmission. Any student who is unwell should continue to remain at home. This helps to keep staff and students healthy and well in our school and reduces the spread of both COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases. Parents and carers will be contacted if their child shows symptoms while at school.

Students who wish to wear a mask should continue to do so. To keep our school as safe as possible, we will also continue to use air purifiers and other COVID-19 prevention measures.

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

Birthdays

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

Date	Name	LA	Date	Name	LA
10 th November	Jaidyn	5	12 th November	Aranya	8
13 th November	Ivy	9			

2023 Sacrament Dates

Reconciliation - Grade 3: **Tuesday 5th of September at 7.00pm in St Mark's Church**

First Eucharist - Grade 4: **Sunday 4th of June at 10.00am in St Mark's Church**

Confirmation - Grade 6: **Friday 18th of August at 6.00pm in St Mark's Church**

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 and commit to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

TERM 4, 2022		
NOVEMBER		
Wednesday 9 th	2.00pm	2023 Preps Session #6 of Steps2Prep
Thursday 10 th	7.30pm	Mercy College Yr7 2023 Information Evening
Thursday 10 th	Yrs 3-6First Aid in Schools Program - TBC	
Friday 11 th	Remembrance Day	
Friday 11 th	10.40am	St Mark's Remembrance Day Service
Friday 11 th	Gr5/6 Excursion to Coburg RSL	
Mon 14 th – Fri 18 th	P-2 Swimming Program	
Tuesday 15 th	9-11am	St Mark's Playgroup in School Hall
Friday 18 th	9.00am	ABC Music Concert @ Assembly
Friday 18 th	Mercy College Yr7 2023 Orientation Day	
Tuesday 22 nd	9-11am	St Mark's Playgroup in School Hall
Thursday 24 th	9.00am	Prep 2023 Orientation Session #1
Friday 25 th	9.00am	1 st Sunday of Advent Liturgy – LA7 & LA8
Saturday 26 th	Victorian State Election – Polling Booth @ St Mark's School	
Saturday 26 th	KM@SMAT Fundraiser BBQ & Bake Sale	
Sunday 27 th	1 st Sunday of Advent	
Tuesday 29 th	9-11am	St Mark's Playgroup in School Hall
Tuesday 29 th	Parade College Solo Transition Morning	
DECEMBER		
Thursday 1 st	9.00am	Prep 2023 Orientation Session #2
Thursday 1 st	2.00pm	Christmas Carols
Friday 2 nd	Penola Catholic College Orientation Day	
Friday 2 nd	9.00am	2 nd Sunday of Advent Liturgy – LA4 & LA5 & ABC Music Concert @ Assembly
Sunday 4 th	2 nd Sunday of Advent	
Tuesday 6 th	Parade College Yr7 2023 Orientation Morning	
Wednesday 7 th	2.30pm	Candle Ceremony
Thursday 8 th	Gr6 End of Year Excursion	
Friday 9 th	9.00am	3 rd Sunday of Advent Liturgy – LA1
Friday 9 th	9.30am	Helper's Morning Tea
Sunday 11 th	2 nd Sunday of Advent	
Monday 12 th	9.15-10.15am	Step Up 2023 Classes Orientation Session
Tuesday 13 th	Government Schools Yr7, 2023 Orientation Day	
Tuesday 13 th	6.00pm	Gr6 Graduation Mass & Celebration
Friday 16 th	11.50am	Yr6 Farewell Assembly & 4 th Sunday of Advent Liturgy – LA9 & LA10
Friday 16 th	1.00pm	Students Dismissed
Sunday 18 th	3 rd Sunday of Advent	

2023		
JANUARY		
Friday 27 th	Staff resume	
Monday 30 th	8.45-11.30am	Student Assessments - Day #1 for students with Surnames beginning A-L
Tuesday 31 st	8.45-11.30am	Student Assessments - Day #2 for students with Surnames beginning M-Z
Tuesday 31 st	8.45am	Prep Students Commence – Preps dismissed at 11.00am
FEBRUARY		
Wednesday 1 st	8.45am	Gr1-Gr6 Students Commence
Wednesday 1 st	No School for Preps	
Friday 3 rd	9.00am	Beginning of School Year Mass – To Be Confirmed
Monday 6 th	Preps Dismissed @ 3.30pm this week (No school Wednesday)	
Tuesday 7 th	12.00pm	Students dismissed (Aftercare available from 12.00pm)
Tuesday 7 th	12.15-7.00pm	Getting To Know You Meetings – Session #1
Wednesday 8 th	3.45-5.00pm	Getting To Know You Meetings – Session #2
Wednesday 8 th	No School for Preps	
Monday 13 th	Preps Dismissed @ 3.30pm this week (No school Wednesday)	
Wednesday 15 th	No school for Preps	
Thursday 16 th	6.00-8.00pm	Kids Matter @ St Mark’s Welcome Picnic in the Park @ Parker Reserve - BYO
Monday 20 th	Preps Dismissed @ 3.30pm this week (No school Wednesday)	
Wednesday 22 nd	No school for Preps	
Monday 27 th	Preps commence Full Time this week (including Wednesday)	
MARCH		
Friday 10 th	School Closure Day – Staff working on School Improvement Framework – No school for students	
Monday 13 th	Labour Day Public Holiday	
Tuesday 21 st	Harmony Day	

Learners Of The Week

Learning Area	Name
Prep	Bethany - for being a curious reader. You asked lots of questions about different words that were unfamiliar when reading. Amazing work!
LA4	George - for being respectful. It is great to see the way you help others in the classroom, use your manners and always treat people with kindness. Keep up the great effort!
LA5	Audrey - for being a courageous learner. Audrey you demonstrated confidence and courage when sharing your amazing gymnastics achievements with the class. Amazing effort!
LA7	Hovsep - for being a respectful member of LA7. You consistently show genuine kindness and offer to help others when they need it. Keep up the fantastic effort!
LA8	Nigel - for working collaboratively with your group. You developed a kahoot game to present to the firefighters containing the knowledge you had gained.
LA9	Diyenka, when sharing ideas with the whole class you respectfully accept that everyone has a right to their own opinion even if you disagree. You also display respect by consistently treating your peers with fairness and speaking politely to your teachers.
LA10	Zaylee - well done on revising and reflecting on your writing by using the editing checklist to make changes to your Dreamtime story. Keep up the great work.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday, our Church celebrates the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. In the Gospel, we read about a time when Jesus spoke to people who were facing difficult and challenging times. He made a promise and said, *"I will give you a mouth (words) and wisdom"*.

That promise is with us today, through the guidance of The Holy Spirit. When we find ourselves in a difficult situation or troubling times, it is important that we listen for God's words and receive the wisdom necessary to make a good decision and to reach out to others when needed.

Gospel Reading: Lk 21:5-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

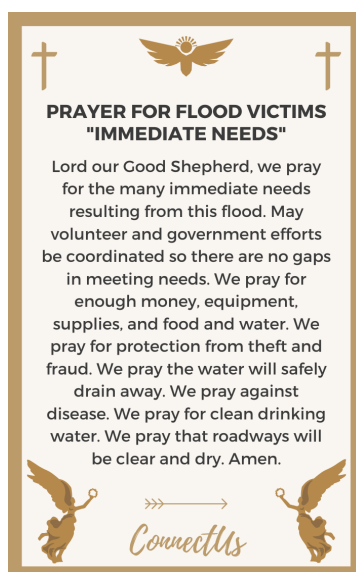
'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

The Gospel of the Lord



Prayer for Victims of Australian Floods



Remembrance Day

This Friday, November 11th is Remembrance Day. It marks the end of World War 1 and is an occasion to commemorate and remember all Australians who have died at war. Our school community will commemorate this day with a service at 10.40am. The Year 5/6 students will be attending a Remembrance Day service at Coburg RSL later that morning.

Remembrance Day Prayer

*Loving God, you sent us your Son
to bring peace to the world.
Help us to work for peace in our homes,
our school, our city and our world.
Protect all people who are at war
and bring them home safely to their families.
Grant peace and consolation to
families who grieve the loss of
loved ones due to war,s
and to communities in our world
suffering war and conflict today.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*



Year 5/6 Excursion to Bunnings

As part of the Senior Inquiry learning, the students have been researching and investigating animals they encountered at the zoo earlier this term. They have been following the design process to develop an enrichment product that could be used in Zoos to support the mental and physical wellbeing of their chosen animal. As part of the design process, the students visited Bunnings last week to purchase the materials they require to create their animal's enrichment product. The students also be attended a construction workshop, where they made a wooden pencil box. We look forward to seeing their finished products!



Ms Dot Mash
RE Leader

Friday 4th November - Tabloid Sports carnival.

We were unable to use Parker Reserve this year due to the state of the grounds but that did not stop us from having a fun day at St Mark's school.

These days are a great way of coming together as a school, cheering for each other and for celebrating being in a team. Special thanks to Leanne for scoring on the day and for Stella Kiork for helping out on the day. Another special thank you must go to our captains and vice captains that helped with setting up, scoring and facilitating an event on the day. These were Hunter, Erin, Demiana, Joveana, Rain, Jordan, Rijwana, Chiara, Joey, Paulina, Zac and Tristan. Well done!

Photos are on display at the moment in the foyer. Please take a moment to have a look!

The final scores were:

4th place- Blue with 167 points

3rd place- Gold with 184 points

2nd place Red with 190 points

1st place Green with 191 points





OFFICE NEWS

STUDENT ABSENTEES

Just a reminder that if your child is away from school it is a legal requirement to notify the school of their absence. This can be done via skoolbag app, seesaw, phoning the office or by sending the classroom teacher an email. If we do not receive notification we will be notifying you via SMS message.

Any student arriving at school after 9.15am **MUST BE** signed in by their parent/guardian via the IPad located in the office foyer.



SCHOOL FEES

Just a reminder that all school fees are due to be paid in full. If you are experiencing any financial hardship please contact the Principal.

CANTEEN NEWS

Now available - **lunch time only** - lemonade icy poles \$1.50 each.



Thank you to those parents that have registered to use our online canteen ordering and for those that have placed orders. It is very pleasing to see that so far it has been a problem free transition to the new system and I hope over time more parents will get on board. Many thanks for your ongoing support of the canteen.

Kind Regards Vicki Smith (Canteen Manager)



Summer School Holiday Friendship Group

Registration is now open! See information below to secure a place for your child.

REGISTER NOW

Dates:

Monday, January 16th 2023
Tuesday, January 17th 2023
Thursday, January 19th 2023
Friday, January 20th 2023

Cost of Program:

Pre-Group: 1x hourly therapist rate
Private: \$400 (4x \$100)
NDIS: \$517.28 (4x \$129.32)

If this group is deemed to be the most suitable service for your child following a pre-group consultation, a \$50 deposit is required to secure their place

All clients are required to attend a pre-group consultation with a group facilitator to establish case history and ensure group therapy is appropriate for the child.

Crisalida provides the groups as a package. If a session is missed, the cost will not be refunded as you are paying for the program to be planned, staffed and run in its entirety.

Location:

Shakespeare Room
678 High Street. Thornbury VIC 3071

Our holiday group program focuses on:

- helping children recognise and expand their social skills through practising and exploring friendship options and choices;
- facilitating emotional self-expression, assertive communication, and confidence;
- providing fun, co-operative group experiences, with lots of sensory-motor and play activities for younger children, and discussion, coping strategies and problem-solving for older children.

They will be run *January 16th, 17th, 19th and 20th* for an hour each day for preschool and primary school-aged children.

Due to the complex mix of individual needs in our groups, we allocate children to groups based on their skills and age to ensure all children benefit from the program. You can anticipate that children up to the age of 8 will have a morning session and children over 8 will have an afternoon session. Exact start times will be announced after registration is closed and the group facilitators have grouped the children.

Places are available on a first-in, best-dressed basis, while also considering suitability determined via the pre-group session. We do maintain a waitlist after the groups have been filled in the event of cancellation/incompatibility.

We look forward to seeing your child at the program in Summer 2023. If you have any further questions in regards to this program or registration please contact us on 9484 6299 or email groups@crisalida.com.au.

Registration will close on the 18th of November to arrange staff levels and confirm group times.

REGISTER NOW

\$15 ENTRY

TRIVIA

@ TRIVIA

ST MARKS



ST MARKS
CHURCH HALL
9 LEE ST.
FAWKNER

Complimentary tea,
coffee and sweets

SATURDAY
12TH
NOVEMBER

All funds raised on the night will go to St Marks, Hope Cafe and Otis Foundation.

6.30PM
ARRIVAL FOR
A 7PM START



TABLE TEAMS UP TO 8
TO BOOK PLEASE TEXT
YOUR CONFIRMATION
TO: LUCH ON
0419750351.

PAYMENT DETAILS
WILL BE FOWARDED
UPON RECEIPT.

**LAST BOOKINGS BY
5TH NOVEMBER**

DOOR AND WINNERS
PRIZES
RAFFLES
GAMES
MUSIC & DANCING



TRIVIA TIME





Where we build friendships through play



St Mark's Playgroup

Tuesday mornings, commencing in Term 4, 9.00-11.00am

118 Argyle Street, Fawkner

Children 0 – 5yo welcome

For details phone 8335 4100 or email: admin@smfawkner.catholic.edu.au

