



## WEEK 7 TERM 4 NEWSLETTER Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome to Week 7 everyone. On Friday at 7.00pm, a number of young members of our Parish will continue their Sacramental journey when they finally celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Fr Colin Xavier. These Yr6 & Yr7 people will stand up and proudly renew their Baptismal Promises, they will be anointed with Chrism, receive the Holy Spirit and confirm their commitment to be faith filled people of God. Please keep them in your prayers. We wish them and their families well on their special day.

I am pleased to advise that I am now in a position to provide details of some of our end of year celebrations. Thank you for your patience as we have waited for guidelines as to what is possible this year. While families may not be able to be physically present at all of our end of year celebrations, we will ensure that we share these events with you as best we can. I encourage everyone to engage in the wonderful events that are to come in Term 4.

**St Mark's Christmas Carols** – Due to the current restrictions on public gatherings, our annual Christmas Carols will be a virtual event this year. We will be sending out a YouTube video link of our children singing Christmas Carols in Week 11 via SeeSaw and Skoolbag. Our Performing Arts Teacher, Ms Lara Beltrame and our Italian Teacher, Signora Donna Salera are busily preparing the children for this special event. More details of the event are included in this Newsletter. We pray that we will be able to gather together for our Christmas Carols and Family Picnic in 2022.

**Gr 6 Graduation Mass** – The Gr6 Graduation Mass will be held on Tuesday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm in St Mark's Church. We are pleased that the parents of our Gr6 students, and siblings, will be able to attend this event. All adults attending will be required to be fully vaccinated and will need to provide their certificate prior to the event. The Graduation Mass will also be filmed and shared with the community after the event. More details will be provided to our Gr6 families in coming weeks.

**Farewell Assembly** – our Farewell Assembly will be held on Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup> at 12.00pm in the School Hall. Parents of our Gr6 students will be able to attend this event. We will also invite the families of P-5 students who will be leaving St Mark's at the end of the year. All adults attending will be required to be fully vaccinated and will need to provide their certificate prior to the event.

**Italian Day Celebration** – We had a lovely day celebrating all things Italian last Friday while engaging in wonderful cultural events and activities. Many thanks to our LOTE Italian Teacher Signora Donna Salera for once again providing this memorable experience for the students of St Mark's. Grazie Signora Maestra!

**2021 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 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**Weekly Assembly in Term 4** – Families are welcome to tune into our weekly Assembly via Google Meet each Friday afternoon at 2.30pm. The code for the meeting is – smfassembly.

Family members are asked to please "Mute" your microphone and turn off your Camera while attending the assembly. Our weekly Assembly will be hosted by our student leaders. Learners of the Week and Birthdays will be announced each week.

**2022 School Fees & Curriculum Levies** – In line with the recommendation of our School Education Board, for the third year in a row there will be no increase in School Fees in 2022. The cost of sending one child to St Mark's will remain at \$1,300.00 and the Family Fee for two or more children will remain at \$1,500.00. St Mark's Fees are amongst the cheapest of the Catholic Schools in the local area and we will continue to strive to provide an excellent education at an affordable price to the children and families of St Mark's. **School Fees will increase in 2023.**

There will be a slight increase in the 2022 Curriculum Levy for each child to cover an increase in costs of stationery, resources, excursions, incursions, IT equipment, etc. The Curriculum Levy for 2022 is as follows:

P-Gr2 - \$500.00 per child

Gr3-Gr4 - \$480.00 per child

Gr5-Gr6 - \$520.00 per child

As always, families will be able to utilise a variety of payment options for 2022 designed to minimise financial pressure on families. Please see me if you need to discuss payment of Fees and Levies.

Our School Development Fund will remain at \$150.00 per family in 2022. This fund goes towards playground and facility improvements and servicing of loans taken by the school as our contribution to the recent Building Program. I'm sure you will agree that this is a small amount to contribute to enable the continued development of wonderful facilities for our children.

**Families with outstanding 2021 School Fees and Curriculum Levies are asked to finalise payments as soon as possible please. Please contact the Office to finalise payment.**

**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.**

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.

**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](http://www.psw.com.au). Please ensure hats are labelled with your child's name. **Grade 5/6 students will be permitted to wear their special Camp Cap for the remainder of the year.**

**Hats For Sale** – There are a limited number of School Bucket Hats available for sale at the Office for \$13.00.

**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](http://www.psw.com.au). Please ensure you label all items of clothing with your child's name.

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. It's so important that we all do the right thing to keep each other safe.

If for any reason parents need to enter a school building while onsite, **you must be fully vaccinated, 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](http://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 – **Wednesday November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm**

**Confirmation** – **Friday November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm**

## Birthdays

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

Date	Name	LA	Date	Name	LA
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Alessia	5	22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Domenic	10
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Declan	9			

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		
NOVEMBER		
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Steps 2 Prep Session #3
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation Retreat Day	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mercy College Yr7 Transition Day	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Celebration of Confirmation @ St Mark's
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Gr4 Celebration of 1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist @ St Mark's
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	2021 Prep Orientation Session & Parent Information Session #1
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	
DECEMBER		
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00pm	Prep 2022 Parent Information #2 Zoom Meeting
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Penola Catholic College Orientation Day	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parade College Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Academy of Mary Immaculate Yr7 2022 Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Government Secondary Colleges Orientation Day	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Simonds College 2022 Yr7 Orientation Day	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Yr6 End of Year Excursion	
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Semester 2 Reports go home today	
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Step Up 2022 Classes Orientation Session
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Graduation Mass & Celebration
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Yr6 Farewell Assembly – Details to be advised
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Final Day of Semester 2 - Students Dismissed @ 1.30pm	
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	

## Learners Of The Week

Learning Area	Name
<b>Prep</b>	Ava - for showing courage when writing a list of words that are PICCOLO and things that are GRANDE on Italian day. Well done Ava!
<b>LA4</b>	Violet - for the persistence and effort you have put into improving your handwriting.
<b>LA5</b>	Giacomo - for the persistence you showed when writing your story about the haunted mansion. Your introduction was suspenseful and left the reader wanting to read more. Keep up the great work!
<b>LA7</b>	Rijwana - for showing great collaboration and curiosity when working with another student on your Genius Hour project, where you investigated a range of recipes for cooking.
<b>LA8</b>	Joseph - for the disposition of curiosity. It was wonderful to see you explore and extend your interest in bushcraft. Your project was very impressive.
<b>LA9</b>	Tom - for the dispositions of persistence, courage and resilience are embodied by you. You have worked tirelessly and patiently to learn so many new concepts across every subject. Your positive attitude towards learning shows that you have an excellent growth mindset. Congratulations!
<b>LA10</b>	Oriana - for being a reflective author. Well done on revising your writing by using your senses to write an amazing snapshot about a beach scene. Keep up the great writing!
<b>ITALIAN</b>	Mr Wilson; Ms Alison; Ms Kylie and EACH student and member of Staff present on ITALIAN DAY - for the Disposition of COLLABORATIVO. Your collaboration made the day progress in a way that we were able to showcase our rich Italian learning at St. Mark's. "Speciale menzione" goes also to: LA1, for embracing your first ever Italian Day FESTA with vigour and enthusiasm; LA4, for completing beautiful reflections (written) about your favourite tasks; LA10 for participating in the Tarantella line dance activity with your best respect for social distancing, and LA8 for completing insightful reflections (via Jamboard) sharing your learnings from anything you really liked e.g. the literacy/numeracy/art and culture exercises. What an enormous combined effort from everyone: ENORME!!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Feast of Christ the King

This Sunday we celebrate the *Feast of Christ the King*, which is the week before the Church begins the four weeks of Advent.

This week's Gospel Reading reminds of how we are called to continue doing the work that Jesus did as a king/leader by taking care of our family members, friends and the needy in our local communities.

### Gospel- Jn 18:33-37

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

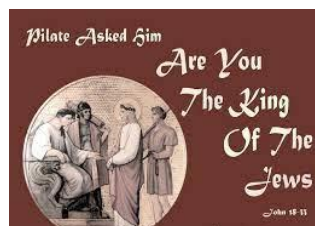
*The Gospel of the Lord*

#### Prayer

Dear God,

As we prepare our hearts and minds for Advent,  
help us to remember to do your work on Earth  
by taking care of others.

Amen.



### Celebration of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place this Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00 p.m in St Mark's Church.

### Celebration of First Eucharist

The Sacrament of First Eucharist for our Year 4 children will be celebrated next Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm in St Mark's Church.

We continue to keep all the children in our prayers as they make final preparations for this next step in their faith journey.

### Advent Liturgies

The Church Season of Advent begins on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Each year level will be preparing prayerful celebrations based on the themes of *Hope, Peace, Joy and Love*. Unfortunately, as we are unable to gather as a school community for these celebrations. Each liturgy will be recorded and viewed by the classes each Friday after the school assemblies and a link will be sent for families to view via Seesaw.



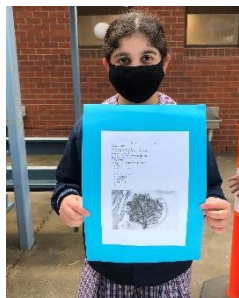
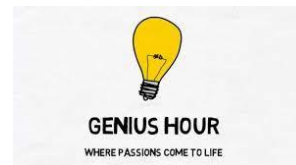
### Advent Liturgies Timetable

Year Levels	Date
LA4 and LA5	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November
LA7 & LA8	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
LA1	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December
LA9 and LA10	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December



## Yr 5/6 Genius Hour Projects

Our Year 5/6 students shared their Genius Hour Projects with the Year 3/4 students during an Inquiry Expo on Monday. We would like to congratulate the senior students for demonstrating many of St Mark's Learning Dispositions throughout their research and investigations, which occurred during the latest remote learning period and upon their return to onsite schooling.





# ITALIAN DAY 12/11/21



**Buongiorno a tutti** / Hello to everyone!

It was my absolute pleasure to help host the **speciale** Italian Day **FESTA**, along with Mr Wilson, Ms Alison, Ms Kylie and ALL the teachers and Staff of St. Mark's on Friday, the 12th of November. Families too, assisted by supplying the children with creative outfits and appropriately themed Italian-style lunches – and this definitely added to the spirit and lively atmosphere on campus - so a big **GRAZIE** to you also!

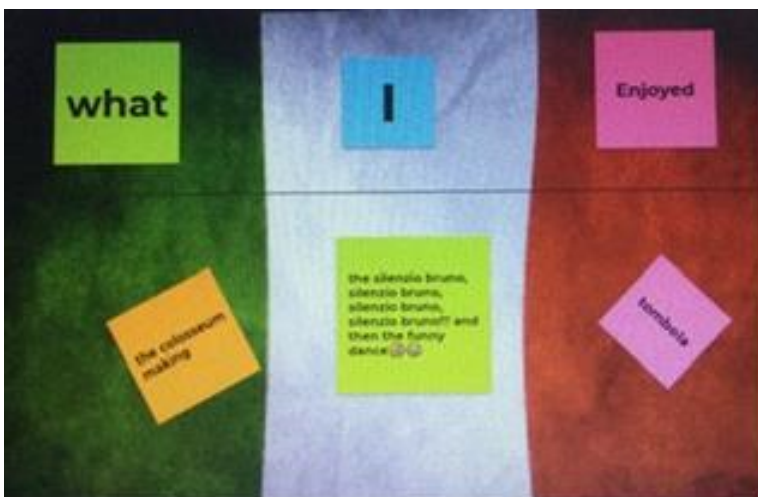
Even though it was an unusually cold and rainy day for **NOVEMBRE**, the fact that we kept on hearing “**You are my sunshine**” at strategic intervals over the PA system (which had us doing a dance and a chant of “**Silenzio Bruno!**”) meant that we were really not perturbed at all about what the skies were like. We just used our “**immaginazione**” and imagined it as being sunny!

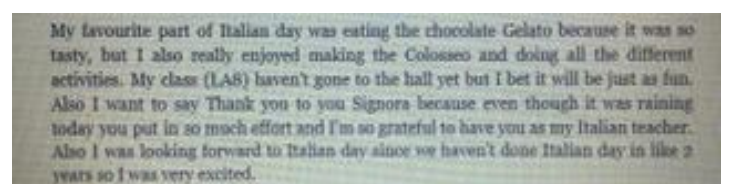
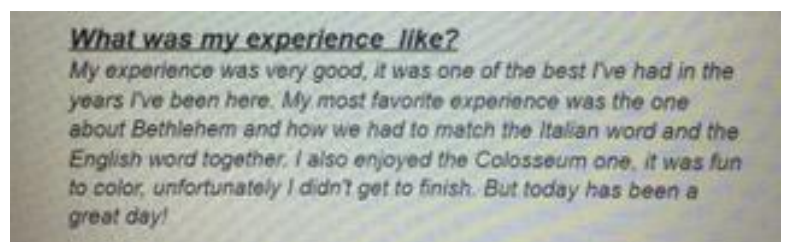
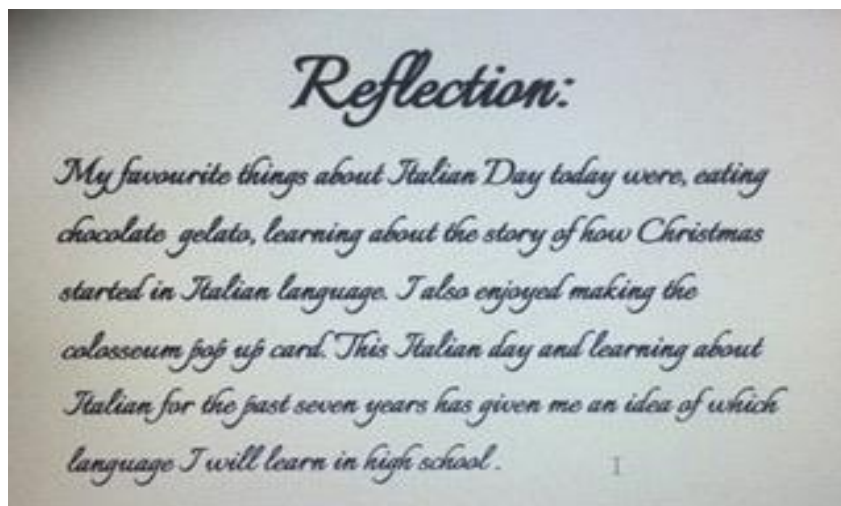
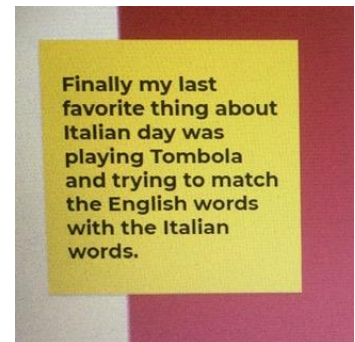
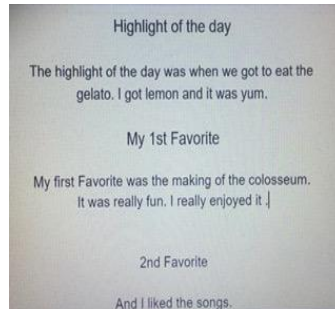
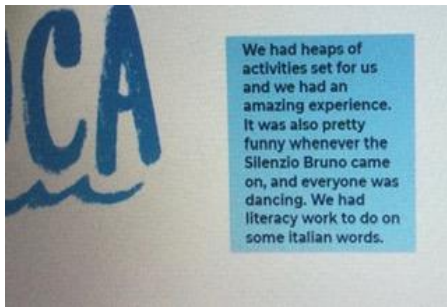
I would like to now display some magnificent – **MAGNIFICO!** - reflections (below) from some of the **studenti** who were able to submit them to me, although I think everyone could pick at least one or two highlights to share amongst themselves and with family once the day was over...(Ps. Speaking for myself, I had more than just **UNO** or **DUE** favourite things!!! I think it was **tutto F.A.N.T.A.S.T.I.C.O!** Well, maybe the “Waiter’s Race” with the teachers being the ones that had to be dressed up this year...I found that very funny and **ORIGINALE** in 2021!)

So, **cin, cin** (“Hear, Hear!”) for another **bellissima celebrazione** this year. The smiles on all the faces were noted as **grande, naturale** and **vivace**, and the amount of Italian language I kept hearing was **ECCELLENTE!!** Well done everyone!

Ciao, ciao from Signora Maestra

1. silenzio bruno
2. silenzio bruno
3. silenzio bruno
4. silenzio bruno







## **CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2021**

Hi Families,

This year we have made the decision to share and celebrate our Christmas Carols with you to enjoy from the comfort of your own homes. A link will be sent out to families in week 11 which will showcase a variety of carols performed by all year levels as well as some Italian items and Visual Art creations.



All classes will have their performances filmed/recorded during Performing Arts lessons in Week 9. We are encouraging students to bring a 'splash of Christmas' to wear on the day of recording (a hat, tinsel, a Christmas t-shirt etc) but not an entire Christmas outfit. Just a splash! Please remember to bring something in to wear to make our performance even more colourful, bright and a true celebration of Christmas.

The students have already begun rehearsing and sound amazing! Looking forward to celebrating this special time of year with you all soon!

**Ms Beltrame**  
**Performing Arts Teacher**

