



# ST MARY'S NEWSLETTER

## This Week's News!

Dear Parents & Carers,

Once again, we have a few important events coming up:

- **Sacramental Parent Evening** (tomorrow at 7pm in the hall)
- **Harmony Day and Icy Poles:** This Friday we focus on Harmony Day Activities and ask the children to wear a touch of orange with their school uniform. The P & F will help us to celebrate this day with Icy Poles (please see the flyer further into newsletter).
- **Parent Teacher Interviews** will be held on Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>. Bookings open today [please follow this link to make your booking/s](#).
- **Mrs Fraraccio's farewell:** Weds April 2<sup>nd</sup>. To celebrate Mrs. Fraraccio's retirement we are planning a very special day. It will be a themed dress up day with everyone encouraged to come along dressed as either ABBA or Elvis (Veronica's favourites). The whole school will celebrate with a pancake lunch provided by the school (no tuckshop on this day), followed by a farewell assembly starting at 2:15pm. We ask everyone to enter into the fun spirit of the day as we bid her 'happy retirement'.

### MLMC Year 7 2027 - Applications

It is now time to ensure your families are aware that applications for Year 7 2027 are being accepted. These are due no later than **Friday 30 May 2025** in order for us to interview each applicant throughout Term 3.

### RE News:

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

Please return the Project compassion boxes back to your child's classroom teacher or Mrs Roberts by the end of this term 4/4/25.

*We will also be having a [Free Dress Day on the last day of Term One, Friday 4th April to celebrate these acts of compassion.](#)*

Students can wear appropriate free dress and bring back their boxes on that day or give a coin donation to support the Project Compassion Fundraising effort of St. Mary's. Thanks to the student body for coming up with this initiative.

**Wellbeing:** Click here to read - ['Screen Time for your child – 7 Tips'](#)

**Working Bee:** (from home) opportunity: If anyone is able to wash and iron table cloths from last year's graduation, please contact the office.

We continue to ask for donations for uncrushed cans and plastic bottles. NO Glass please; these can be placed into the wheelie bins under the veranda.

Blessings & Best Wishes,  
Ange

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Term 1

- Parent/teacher Interviews - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April
- Free Dress Day (gold coin donation) Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April
- End of Term 1 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2.30pm finish

### Term 2

- School Closure days – April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>
- Anzac Day Public Holiday – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- Term 2 begins –
- Mon 28<sup>th</sup> April
- Whole School Photos – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May

### Term 3

- Bunnings P&F Sausage Sizzle – Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>
- School Production (Yr3-6) week beginning Sept 1

### Term 4

- Performing Arts Showcase –
- Prep -2 : 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 9am & 5pm





## Fees & Levies 2025



### St Mary's 2025 Fee Schedule



School Fees and Levies for 2025 have been set for the next year in accordance with the Principal, Accountant and the advice of the School Advisory Council. Please find the following notification for the 2025 fee schedule. Accounts will be generated and invoices will be emailed the second week of February 2025.

FEE Schedule Prep to Grade 6						
2025	Capital Fee	Family Fee	Student Levy	IT Levy	Maintenance Levy Rebate	TOTAL
1 Child Family	100.00	1895.00	365.00	110.00	110.00	\$2580.00
2 Child Family	100.00	1895.00	730.00	220.00	110.00	\$3055.00
3 Child Family	100.00	1895.00	1095.00	330.00	110.00	\$3530.00
4 Child family	100.00	1895.00	1480.00	440.00	110.00	\$4005.00
Additional charges scheduled to Grade 6 only						
Camp Fee			470.00			\$470.00

**Capital/Family Fee** The capital levy is used to fund significant infrastructure projects, including the maintenance and development of school facilities. This may include building renovations, playground upgrades, and other capital improvements that create a safe and modern learning environment. Investing in infrastructure ensures that students have access to high-quality facilities conducive to their learning.

**Student Levy** Tuition fees cover the basic educational costs associated with providing quality teaching and learning experiences. This includes salaries for teachers, classroom resources, and support services for students.

**Technology Fees** Technology fees are aimed at integrating modern technology into the classroom. This includes purchasing and maintaining hardware (like computers and tablets), software licenses, and ensuring robust internet access. These resources are crucial for providing students with the skills necessary for success in an increasingly digital world.

**Maintenance Levy / Working Bee** will be rebated when: You have attended a scheduled Working Bee or if you commit to a role as a P&F committee member.

**CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund)**

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$150 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. Application forms are available from the office and should be completed and returned no later than 1st March 2025. For more information on the CSEF application closing dates and about the fund visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

**School Fees & Payment Options**

The setting of the levels of fees, levies and other compulsory ad hoc charges in MACS schools is the responsibility of the school within the prescribed requirements of MACS, considering the allocation of government funds. School fees generally cover most curriculum-related activities. In some cases, additional costs may be required for some excursions, camps, activities, and programs. Where additional levies and charges are required, the school informs parents/guardians/carers of cost details in advance.

St Mary's offer a number of methods for paying fees, levies, camps and excursions, and ad hoc charges to reduce any financial burden and to assist in financial planning. If you have difficulty in meeting the required payment of fees, levies and ad hoc charges, you are welcome to discuss this with the principal of the school.

Parents/guardians/carers are responsible for the payment of all fees, levies and charges associated with the student's enrolment and attendance at the school, as contained in the school's Fees, Levies and Charges Schedule provided to parents/guardians/carers from time to time. The fees must be paid for a child to enrol and to continue enrolment at the school.

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK - Term 1 / Week 8

Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> March	School begins <b>NAPLAN</b> Year 3 & 5
Tue 18 <sup>th</sup> March	8.45am - Toddler Story Time
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Sacrament Information Night
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March	2.30pm Whole School Assembly

### WHAT'S ON 2025 - Term 1 / Week 9

Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> March	School begins
Tue 25 <sup>th</sup> March	8.45am - Toddler Story Time
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> March	
Thu 27 <sup>th</sup> March	
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30pm Whole School Assembly



The annual P & F Easter raffle is up and running on the CDFpay App. Tickets are \$2 each. Donations for the hamper prizes can be left at the office from Monday onwards.

## CDF pay App (via Flexischools)

The CDFpay Portal has changed to a new platform using an app - "CDFpay via FLEXISCHOOLS App", available on the Apple App Store and Android Play Store.

## School Procedures for the Bushfire Season

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Please see link for [Fire Danger Warnings](#)

## Baker's Delight Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

CHOOSE FROM TRADITIONAL, CHOC CHIP,  
APPLE CINNAMON OR FRUITLESS

\$9.50 PER 6PK ORDER ONLINE VIA CDF  
ORDERS CLOSE 11AM FRIDAY 28TH MARCH

\$2 FROM EVERY 6PK OF HOT CROSS BUNS  
COMES BACK TO ST. MARYS FUNDRAISING

MADE FRESH & DELIVERED TO SCHOOL ON  
THURSDAY 3RD APRIL

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR OWN  
RESERVED CAR SPACE IN THE  
SCHOOL CARPARK FOR THE  
REST OF 2025?

### ST MARYS CARPARK RAFFLE

TICKETS \$10 EACH OR 6 TICKETS \$50

This is your chance to win an exclusively reserved and allocated car space in the school car park from the start of Term 2 until the end of Term 4 2025.

Raffle closes 12 noon Thursday 3rd April  
Drawn at last Assembly on Friday 4th April.  
Purchase tickets online via CDF.



# ICYPOLE DAY

FRIDAY 21ST

MARCH

GOLD COIN DONATION  
PLEASE BRING MONEY ON  
THE DAY



**TheirCare**  
Where Kids love to be!

To register and/or make a booking for your child in the TheirCare Afterschool Care Programme you will need the following information to complete the process and receive all available benefits. See website link below. You can also contact us on Ph: 0417 100 089

<https://theircare.com.au/schools/>



Jesus told his followers the story of a fig tree that would not bear fruit. The gardener said he would try hard for one more year to help it grow. God wants us to try hard so that we too can grow, and 'bear fruit'. What are four things you can do during Lent that help you be a better Christian and bring you closer to Jesus?



**Gospel**

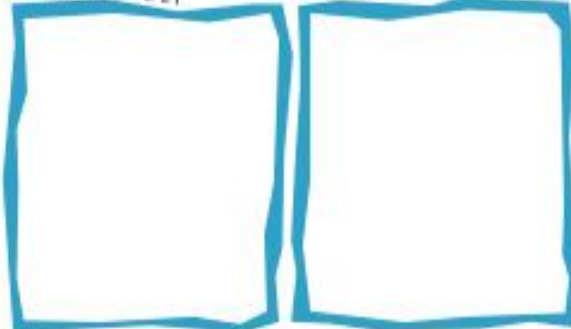
Luke 13:1-9

He told the people this parable:

"A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, 'Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"



Jesus told parables to help his followers understand his teachings more clearly. Can you draw pictures from three different parables?



**IMPORTANT LINKS**

[Student Medical Authority Form](#)

[Fees and Levies](#)

[Uniforms](#)

[Unexplained Absences](#)

[Child Safety](#)

[Audiri \(Skoolbag\)](#)

[Seesaw](#)

[Nforma](#)



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – PHONE 9736 2219  
FOR MORE ARTICLES AND [PHOTO GALLERY](#) visit our

WEBSITE –

<https://smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au/>