



ST MARY'S NEWSLETTER

This Week's News!

Dear Parents and Carers,

The updated directives regarding school closures during *Extreme Fire Danger* days continue to present challenges for our community. As a reminder, the decision to close the school on these days does not sit at a local level. MACS, in consultation with the Department of Education and government authorities, make these determinations. I will continue to keep you informed as decisions are made by the Emergency Management Teams, always with the safety of our students, staff, and families as the highest priority.

A very warm welcome to our Prep students and to the new families who have joined our community this year. Our newest learners have settled beautifully and are doing exactly what we hope to see — learning new routines, forming friendships, and rising to both academic and social challenges. As expected, many are arriving home quite tired at the end of the day! The first few weeks of school, combined with summer heat, can be a shock to the system (much like returning to work after holidays). We encourage families to visit the [Wellbeing Link](#), thoughtfully prepared by our Wellbeing Leader, Helena Torbit, which includes practical tips to support children during this transition.

Kathryn James (Pastoral Care) and Keira Harvey (Social Support) would also like to remind families of the value of a confident, brief goodbye at school, normalising feelings such as nervousness, uncertainty, or overwhelm, and being mindful of our own stress levels — children are remarkably perceptive when it comes to adult emotions. This can be challenging, even for those of us with “big kids”!

Thank you to everyone for your patience and cooperation during drop-off and pick-up times. These routines often take a few weeks to settle, but they do become smoother with time. The courts will remain open for another week, with a review at the end of Week 3. A reminder that children are not supervised before 8:15am or after 3:45pm. Please ensure children are not dropped off or collected outside these times. [TheirCare \(click here\)](#) is available for families who require outside-of-hours care.

Child Safety Reminder: We have received reports of children being dropped off on the school driveway or in front of the childcare centre. This is unsafe, and I ask that this practice stop immediately to prevent the risk of serious injury.

Prep Sibling Enrolment Packs for 2027 are now available from the school office. Families are encouraged to secure enrolments early, ahead of the commencement of external school tours.

We've heard wonderful reports from our Year Six campers — happy campers indeed! We are also incredibly proud of our Year Five students who participated in Bike Education. Well done to our senior students for representing our school so positively.

A reminder for Year Six families: the Year Six Badges, Bomber Jacket and Captains Assembly will be held on Friday, February 13th at 2:15pm. This is an important tradition for our Year Six students, and we strongly encourage all students to attend. Families are warmly invited to join us for this special occasion.

Fees and Levies for 2026 have now been generated and will be emailed to the nominated fee payer later next week. If you do not receive your account, please contact us at accounts@smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au

Families holding a Healthcare Card can collect the relevant forms from the office. Once processed, applicable discounts will be applied to your account.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

With prayers for the coming week,

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Whole school welcome mass will be held Tuesday 10 Feb @ 11:35am
All welcome.

Year Six Bomber Jacket and Captain Assembly. Fri Feb. 13 @ 2:15pm.

Beginning of School Year Mass

Welcome Picnic TBA

Sacrament Information Evening
March 18 @ 7:00pm

Parent Information online Session (teaching, learning and wellbeing):
TBA

Parent Teacher Interviews TBA

Last Day Term Thursday April 2 @ 2:30pm.

