



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

20 - 24 NEW STREET, DANDENONG, 3175

"Educating for Life Since 1912"



Term 2, Issue 17

Tuesday 14th June 2022

June

Tues 14th

Final basketball after school

Thurs 16th @ 5pm

Paper planes & pizza night

Fri 17th @ 2.45pm

Assembly

Thurs 23rd

Reports go home

Thurs 23rd @ 3pm - 4pm

St Mary's Science Expo

Fri 24th @ 9.15am

Whole school Mass

**Final day for the St Vinnies
food drive**

Fri 24th @ 1.30pm

Term 2 finishes

July

Mon 11th @ 8.50am

Term 3 begins

Dear Families,

We are edging closer and closer to holidays! Reports will be coming out next week with our 3 Way Conversations occurring early next term. I hope you all had a relaxing long weekend!

So Much Illness Going Around!

You may have seen in the news or read in the paper that many schools are finding it challenging at the moment to replace teachers when there are staff absences. We, like many schools, have faced similar issues with illness on staff, and I would really like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of St Mary's. We have had many staff members alter their role for the day with little to no warning due to staff absences. This has had an impact on some of our intervention and specialist programs, but the focus has remained on the children's learning. As you know, the staff here are AMAZING and I could not be prouder of their efforts over the last two terms. They certainly deserve the holiday that is upcoming!

We have also had a huge number of children away at various stages of the term as well. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the families who have been faced with the decision - do I send my child to school or not? It can be one of the harder decisions we have to make, particularly if we have work ourselves. We have had a steady number of children away due to a variety of sicknesses, but relatively few COVID-19 cases. As the cold and flu season bites, please make sure you are looking after yourselves and your family, and if you need to keep your child home so they can recover, just let us know by calling the office in the morning (the teachers are busy in the

morning preparing for their classes and with your children, so DOJO is not a good place to communicate absences). If your child tests positive to COVID, remember to let us know so we can follow the procedures on our end. If you need RAT tests, just let the office know and we can provide them to you.

School Advisory Council (SAC) - Third Meeting

Last Friday saw us have our third SAC Meeting for the year and the focus for the meeting was Learning & Teaching. Rena Walsh lead our team through what has been a focus for the sphere of Learning & Teaching and discussed some of our data patterns in relation to reading and mathematics. There has been really pleasing growth with our children who are moving from the "below" to the "At" level of performance in reading and mathematics according to one of our main data sources. The data says that the longer they are at St Mary's, the more improvement they tend to make! We are also looking at the Homework Policy between now and the next meeting.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact me and let me know.

Have a wonderful week,
Terry

Mr Gardiner's Rib Ticklers...

Mr Gardiner: Mrs Grenfell, I bought a new motorbike, and when I ride, it sounds like its laughing at me?

Mrs Grenfell: Really? I haven't heard of that before. What brand is it?

Mr Gardiner: Its a Yamaha-ha-ha-ha-ha...get it? It sounds like its laughing?
A Yamaha-ha-ha?

Mrs: Mr Gardiner...I am not sounding like your motorbike, am I...

Mr Gardiner: Ba-ha-ha-ha-haha, no, but I am!!! Woo hoo!!!



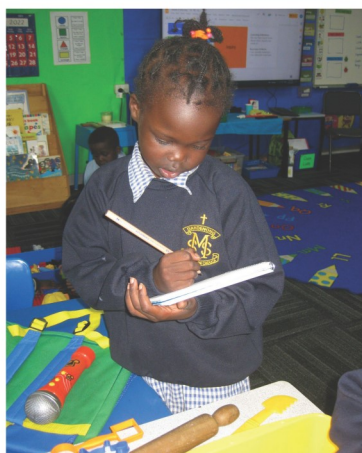
Prep Intentional Learning Time



Sensory Experiences



Pretend Play



St Mary's Reporter



Construction Zone



Creative Space





St Mary's Science Expo



***You are invited to visit our Science Expo on
Thursday 23rd June
From 3-4 pm in the classrooms***

***Come and celebrate the science learning and questions the
students have investigated over the term.***

Find out....

What are objects made of?

What do materials look and feel like?

Why do they use materials for different objects?

What is material?

How can material and objects be changed?

What properties do different materials have?

What changes do you notice when an object is heated or cooled?

What has caused this object to change shape?

What do you predict will happen? What has happened and why did it happen?

How does change occur?

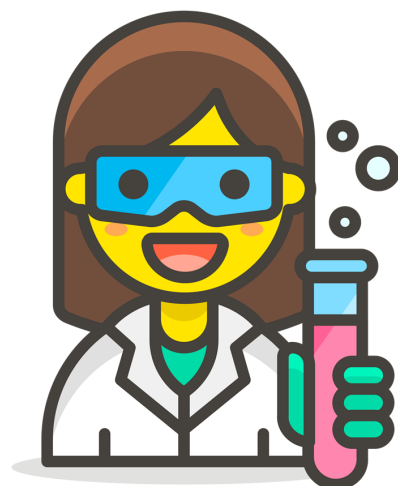
What are the three states of matter?

What are the properties of solids, liquids and gasses?

**What are some positive and negative outcomes from the use and
knowledge of Chemistry?**

How can I be a responsible agent of change?

**The students can come dressed as a Scientist on
this day**



St Mary's Uniform Shop

Uniforms can be purchased the following ways:

1. **Online** via the website:

www.aplusschoolwear.com.au

Orders will be sent home or left at the school office on a Thursday afternoon.

2. **In person** **Thursdays 8.30 to 10am**

3. **Through the Office** - Fill out an order form and leave it at the school office.
Orders will be sent home or left at the school office.

Feast of the Sacred Heart
of Jesus Mass
Friday, 24th June



We are collecting **non-perishable food items**

to present to St Vincent de Paul at our upcoming

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass

on Friday 24th June 2022.

Please send along items such as **canned food, packets of pasta**
etc. to your child's classroom.



St Mary's in partnership with The Fathering Project invites you to our Dads & Kids event:



Paper Planes & Pizza Night!



Who: Dad/male role model/special family members

Where: Thursday 16th June

Time: 5 - 6pm

Where: St Mary's Auditorium

RSVP: By Thursday 9th June online <https://thefatheringproject.org/> (if you are part of St Mary's portal), return the paper RSVP slip or simply let the office know!



Scan to join our
School Portal

Scan to join our
Dads Group





14th Lucas
15th Shania
16th Meera
19th Ellia
19th Merliah
19th Jaylee

Fees

Term 2 fees are due
17th June 2022, unless
you are paying by
direct debit.

Enrolments 2023

If you have a child turning 5
by 30th April 2023, they may
eligible to enrol at St Mary's
school for Prep next year.
Please come to the office for
an enrolment form. We are
also taking enrolments for
other year levels.



St Mary's Primary School Playgroup

FREE!

20-24 New Street
Dandenong

(Enter via McCrae Street)

Every Monday & Thursday

9.00am - 10.40am



ALL WELCOME!

For more information, contact the
school office on 9791 7650

School Contacts

Principal: **Mr Terry Gardiner**
Deputy Principal: **Mr Bryan Handasyde**
Family Engagement Leader: **Mrs Yvette Silva**
School Secretaries: **Ms Michelle Grenfell, Ms Jane Merchant**
School Office Hours: **8.30am - 4.00pm** Phone: **9791-7650**
Email: **principal@smdandenong.catholic.edu.au**
Website: **www.smdandenong.catholic.edu.au**

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest: **Fr Brendan Lane** Parish Office: **9791 4611**
Pastoral Associate: **Father Aurelio Fragapane**