



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

20 - 24 NEW STREET, DANDENONG, 3175

"Educating for Life Since 1912"



Term 4, Issue 18

Tuesday 28th November 2023

Dear Families,

We hope this Newsletter finds you well! We are in the throes of all that is Term 4 in a school...organising a million and one things to get this year finalised while also going at a million miles an hour into the setup and preparation for 2024!

A Successful School Closure Day

Last Friday, the staff gathered to finish off their Professional Learning Project on which they have been working for the past 2 years. They have focussed specifically on reading and writing under the guidance of Julia Blakey from MACS and the staff have said that it has been some of the most powerful and effective learning they have done, which means it has had a great impact directly on the teaching of your children. I am so proud of the work and effort the staff put in to educating the children here at St Mary's. They are easily the hardest working staff I have ever come across and they work so hard because they realise the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for our children and their future.

We also looked at our MACSSIS data, which is the survey that you as families, the students and the staff fill out every year. It gives us good comparative data on how we are performing against all other MACS schools while also comparing the data to our own data over the past two years so we can see where we have improved, where we have dipped and where we can improve.

Swimming - Lost Property

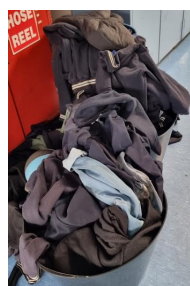
As is almost always the case, swimming is so much fun (and SOOOOOOOOOO important) and a great way to end our school year. We really love the way we factor swimming into the calendar as it gives the kids something to look forward to at the end of term 4. It's also great that we head into the summer season, which in Australia usually means lots of water experiences, be they at pools or at the beach, with another exposure to water safety. There is always a great deal of clothing and swim wear left over at the end of the program, so please make sure your child isn't missing anything. There is a collection forming in the family space near the office.

...and speaking of Lost Property

Have you seen the jumpers with no name on them building in the corridor? It is quite a mountain of clothing...if you have lost anything over the course of the year, please make your way to the junior corridor and see if some of the clothing, that you pay your hard earned money to buy, is lying there. We'd love to get it as empty as possible before we leave for the holidays. Thanks in advance.

Have a wonderful week, Terry

Mr Gardiner's Rib Ticklers...



Mr Gardiner: Mrs Stapleton, I was having a problem with my calculator...it wouldn't work and I got so very frustrated that I wanted to throw it away, but I didn't...do you know why?

Mrs Stapleton: Ummmmm...I have no idea...why didn't you throw it away?

Mr Gardiner: Because I knew that wouldn't solve my problem...get it? It wasn't working so it wouldn't solve my problem? A maths problem and a broken calculator problem? I wouldn't throw it away??? Wouldn't solve my problem???

Mrs Stapleton: Oh no!!! That is terrible!!! Thank goodness there is only three weeks and one Newsletter joke to go!

Mr Gardiner: Ba ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!!!

NOVEMBER

Mon 27th

Swimming starts for 2 weeks

Thurs 30th @8.30 - 10am

Uniform Shop open

DECEMBER

Fri 1st @2.40pm

Assembly. 2024 School captains announced

Wed 6th

St John's Orientation Day

Thurs 7th @8.30 - 10am

Uniform Shop open

Thurs 7th @2.10pm

2nd Transition Session

Thurs 7th @6pm

Christmas Carols

Fri 8th @2.40pm

Assembly

Mon 11th @ 9.30am

3rd Transition Session

Mon 11th @2 - 3pm

Choir at Mercy Place

Tues 12th 12pm

Choir to sing at the Plaza

Wed 13th

Y6 Graduation

Thurs 14th

Y6 Fun Day and last day

Fri 15th @1.30pm

Term 4 finishes and reports go home

2024

Mon 29th @8.30 - 10am

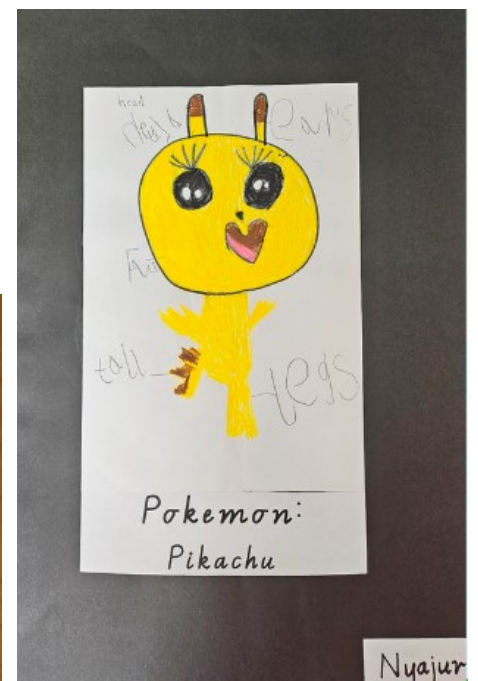
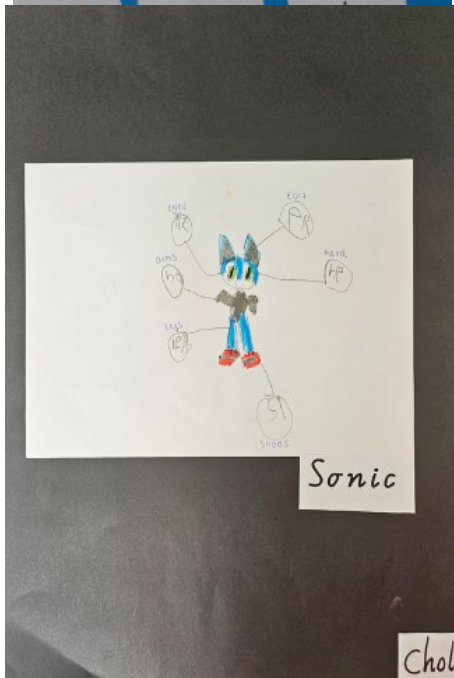
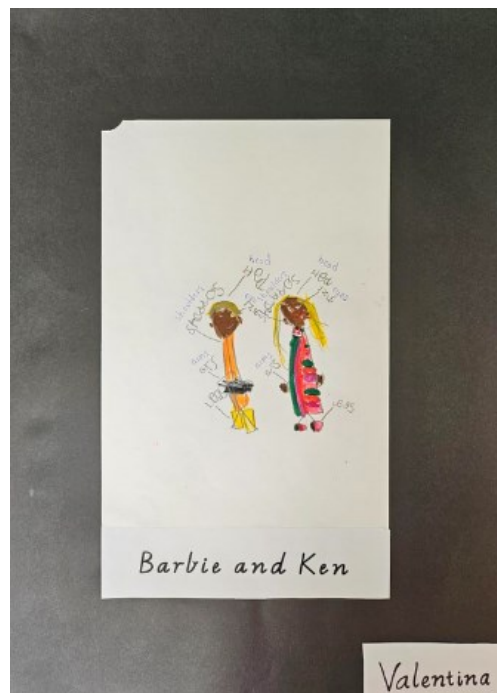
Uniform Shop open

Tues 30th @8.40am

Term 1 begins!!!

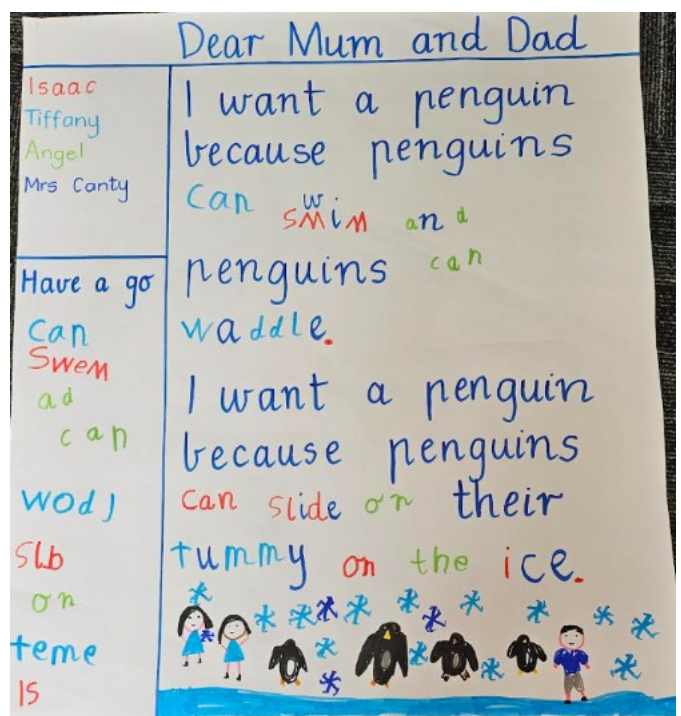
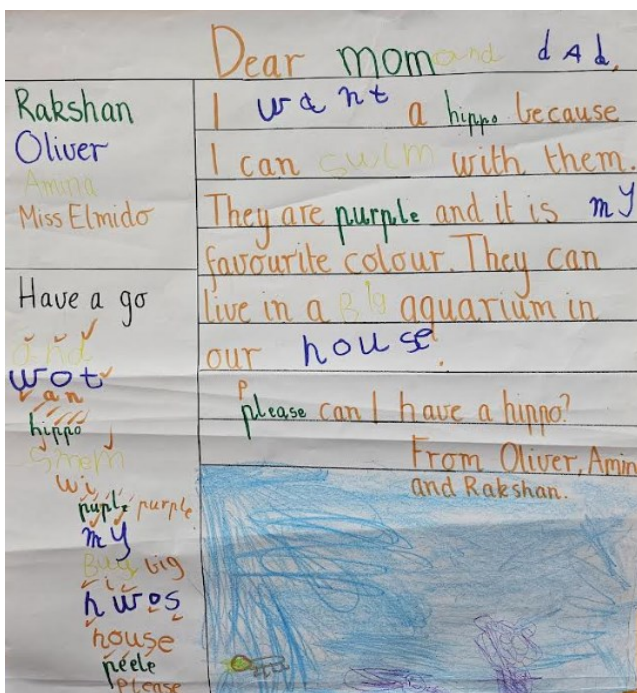
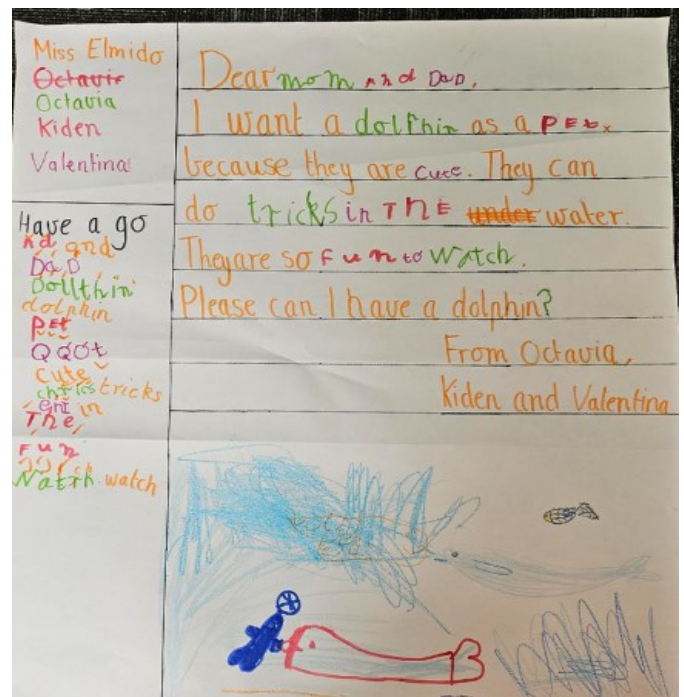
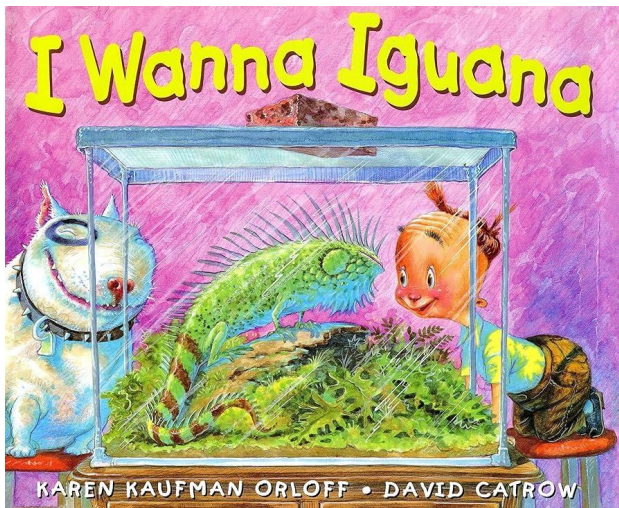
Prep: Inquiry

For Inquiry, we have been learning to teach others about what we love. We created drawings of what we love and labelled parts of the drawing.



Prep: Literacy

In literacy, the Preps have been learning about persuasive writing. We read a story about a little boy who wanted a new pet, and he gave reasons to persuade his mum. The Prep children worked together to write a letter to their family asking for a new pet.



ST MARY'S OSHC: PRE-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DECEMBER 2023





BASE DAILY FEES

PERMANENT: \$65 CASUAL: \$72.50 (any bookings made during the Vacation Care Period)
AFTER MAX CCS : \$4.89 per day

*Incursions & Excursions will incur an additional fee.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION	MONDAY 18 th DECEMBER	TUESDAY 19 th DECEMBER
<p><u>PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH:</u></p> <p>A Hat & a Healthy Packed Lunch, including Snacks for Morning & Afternoon Tea & a refillable water bottle.</p> <p></p> <p><u>VENUE : ST MARY'S TENNIS CLUB (NEW ST DANDENONG)</u></p> <p><u>OPENING HOURS: 7am - 6pm</u></p> <p><u>FOR BOOKINGS</u> <u>PH: 0422 803 717</u></p>	<p><u>FUN TIMES ARE HERE!</u></p> <p><u>Have a go on the Nintendo Wi & 'JUST DANCE'</u></p> <p> <u>Make:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Beaded Candy Canes * Loom Band Designs <p><u>Play Ground & Oval Games</u></p> <p> >> <u>Play your</u> >> <u>Favourites !</u> </p>	<p><u>CHRISTMAS IS IN THE AIR</u></p> <p><u>Crafts Include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Christmas Elves  * <u>Room Decorations</u> - Paper Chains - Stain Glass Art * <u>Musical Stars & Statues</u> <p><u>Movie:</u> Home Alone </p> <p><u>Christmas Posters</u></p>
WEDNESDAY 20 th DECEMBER	THURSDAY 21 st DECEMBER	FRIDAY 22 nd DECEMBER
<p><u>CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS</u></p> <p><u>Crafts Include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reindeer Hats * Snowman Art <p></p> <p><u>Enjoy Making Edible Christmas Balls</u></p> <p></p> <p><u>Balloon Fun & Games!</u></p> <p><u>Movie:</u> The Grinch </p>	<p><u>Christmas Party</u> <u>Let's get together for some Christmas Cheer !!</u></p> <p>There will be lots of Party Games, Musical Fun & of Course <u>PARTY FOOD!!</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Party Crowns * Hama Beads <p><u>Sing Some Carols</u></p> <p></p> <p><u>We wish you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR !!</u></p>	<p><u>GOODBYE 2023 !!</u></p> <p><u>Participate in these Cool Activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Snowball Challenge * Ball Games  * <u>Decorate Canvas Bags</u>  <u>Get Wet with WATER BALLOONS</u>  <p><u>Remember to bring your thongs, towel, Super Soakers & change of Clothes!</u></p>

.Our 'SUMMER PROGRAM' will Start on Monday 8th January 2024

Swimming

Lost Property

We already have lost property mounting up from swimming. We are keeping it at the office if you would like to come and have a look.

We also have a lot of jumpers in the lost property in the junior corridor.

Extra Food

It might be a good idea to pack a little extra food for the next 2 weeks. Swimming makes kids hungry!

Year 1 Learning in Inquiry and Literacy

This term we have been learning about the environment and our duty to care for the world God gave us. We have learnt about different habitats of Australian animals and how important it is to look after these habitats so that our precious wildlife can survive.

We have learnt about non-fiction texts and how we read them to learn new information about a topic. We have each researched an endangered Australian animal and learnt about its classification, appearance, habitat and diet. We wrote information reports about our chosen animal and learnt about the drafting, editing and publishing process of producing a piece of writing.

We had fun creating dioramas to make a small-world representation of our chosen animal's habitat. We are really excited and proud to showcase some of our learning to our families this week!





FREE ENTRY

GAROLS

IN HARMONY SQUARE

Friday 1 December
Christmas Market from 3pm-9pm
Carols from 6pm-9pm

Live entertainment • Food & market stalls
 Family activities • Santa meet & greet



QR code, Greater Dandenong City of Opportunity logo, Acknowledging Bunurong Country logo, and a circular logo with a building icon.

KINGS SWIM CLUB

Competitive and fitness swim squad.

Are you nearly finished your learn to swim lessons?
 Would you like to try competitive swimming?

Join us and bring a friend, see what we do!



Training in two locations:
Dandenong and Berwick



Bring bathers, a towel, and goggles.



For any questions, about training, sessions and when
 you can join us, please contact our President Amy:
0427 733 326

December

5th Tatiana
 7th Alexander
 11th Josh



Fees

Please finalise all accounts
 as soon as possible.
 If you are having difficulties
 please come in and see us.

Enrolments 2024

If you have a child turning 5 by
 30th April 2024, they may be
 eligible to enroll at St Mary's
 school for Prep next year.
 Please come to the office for an
 enrolment form.

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**