



**ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

20 - 24 NEW STREET, DANDENONG, 3175

*"Educating for Life Since 1912"*



## Term 4 Issue 18

**Wednesday 9th December 2020**

### December

**Thurs 10th - 8.30 to 10am**

Last Day for Uniform Shop

**Thurs 10th**

Whole School Transition

**Thurs 10th**

Christmas Carols

Extravaganza

**Mon 14th**

Whole School Transition

**Mon 14th**

Reports go home

**Mon 14th**

Year 6 Graduation

**Tues 15th**

Year 6 Fun day out

**Wed 16th**

Students final day

**School finishes @ 1pm**

### January

**Wed 27th 8.30 - 10am**

Uniform Shop open

**Friday 29th 8.30 - 10am**

Uniform Shop open

**Friday 29th @ 8.40am**

Term 1 begins

Preps go home at 1.30pm

Dear Families,

Hard to believe it is our final full week! Apologies for the late Newsletter going out...

### Confirmation - A Wonderful Religious Experience

Last Thursday, a number of our Senior students made their Confirmation. We were very lucky that retired Bishop Les Tomlinson is a friend of Fr Brendan's, because I think we managed to book him in to celebrate the Sacrament a little earlier than other parishes! It was a wonderful celebration and Bishop Tomlinson spoke beautifully of the gift of the Holy Spirit coming down upon these children as they commit themselves to their faith. We have been able to utilise one of the few benefits that have come from the COVID pandemic, streaming of the Mass! It was live streamed on Youtube and therefore recorded, so for anyone who would like to see the Mass, just write the link below into your URL browser. What an age in which we live! Congratulations to Mr Bryan Handasyde for making the Sacrament happen with such a short turn around of time, to Michelle Grenfell for doing all of the behind the scenes work, and to all of the children who made their Confirmation. It's wonderful to see you take your own step in your faith journey.

<https://youtu.be/p9LVo-VW3U8>

### Reports Go Home next Monday!!!

Our staff have been working hard on your student's report for Semester 2 2020 and while we had originally planned to get them sent home this Friday, we have had to wait until next Monday to get them printed and enveloped properly. As always, there is a letter from me outlining the process for this year's reports (which is a little different this time round due to COVID), so please read that to understand how the teachers have developed their reports. If you have any concerns don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher through Dojo.

### Graduation and Whole School Mass next week

Next week sees us celebrating two masses, the first being the graduation of our current Year 6 students at 6pm on Monday evening and the second being our Whole School End of Year Mass on Wednesday at 9:15am. We

are now able to have up to 400 people in the Church, which is wonderful, so we can have the children's families there as part of their graduation! Yay! We will all be over at the Church on Wednesday as a school at 9:15am to celebrate the school year, and we welcome you all to join us.

### Class Transition and Class Teacher for 2021

We have our final school transition on Monday, and this is when your child will learn who their teacher is for 2021. Its always a fun day!!!

Have a wonderful week, Terry

### Mr Gardiner's Rib Ticklers...

Mr Gardiner: Mr Handasyde, what did the left eye say to the right eye?

Mr Handasyde: Hmmm, I don't know Mr Gardiner...what did the left eye say to the right eye?

Mr Gardiner: Just between you and me...something smells!!!!!! Get it??? Because there is a nose between them...and what does a nose do? IT SMELLS!!!!!! Ba-ha-ha-ha-ha-a!!!!

Mr Handasyde: Oohhhhhh....Mr Gardiner...



## Family Engagement

Thank you to all our families for your support this year. It certainly has been a year to reflect on how grateful we are, as a school community, to have terrific support from each other. Use these school holidays to relax and unwind. Nothing beats quality time with your family. Here are some fun activities nearby that you can do with your children. How nice it is to be out and about again, enjoying all our community has to offer!

### Royal Botanic Gardens

Corner Ballarto Road and Botanic Drive  
Cranbourne Gardens, Cranbourne  
Lot's of nice walks and a great play-ground for the kids.

<https://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/>



### Dandenong Market

Dandenong Market is our much-loved iconic market located on the corner of Clow and Cleeland Street.



### Dandenong Park

Pultney St (Just a short stroll from St Mary's)  
A great playground, basketball courts with soccer goals and a large grassed area too.



### Dandenong Library

225 Lonsdale St, Dandenong. With many free school holiday activities it is a great place to spend some time reading or you can organise a family fun bundle and free home delivery service.







# Grand Opening of the Airport Play Space !



The Prep/1 children have been designing a new Airport Learning Space as part of their Inquiry Unit.

On Wednesday,  
Mr Gardiner declared the  
new Airport Learning Space  
OPEN!





The time has come for me to move onto the next stage in my life – retirement. I will be taking Long Service Leave until mid May and then retiring.

As happy as I am to be moving onto the next chapter in my life, I cannot help but feel sad saying farewell to so many amazing St. Mary's families, students and colleagues. I have enjoyed every moment of the past 12 years here.

To all the families, I wish you all the very best for the future. You are very lucky to have such wonderful teachers guiding your children. To all the children, may all your dreams and wishes be fulfilled. Work hard and they will.

To my colleagues you are all very special and the students are very lucky to have you teaching them. Yes, we are family.

Thank you to everyone for all your love, support and friendship. I will miss you all very much.

Sandra Higginbotham

## Lunchtime Dance Lessons with Miss Prince

On Friday the Prep, Year 1's and Year 2's had their last dance lesson for the year and the last dance lesson with Miss Prince. The children thoroughly enjoyed dancing and picked up the dance moves very easily and with a lot of enthusiasm and fun.

We will definitely miss Miss Prince and her wonderful dance choreography!





## Year 5/6

The 5/6 senior learning community had a fun day on Friday 4th December to celebrate all of their great learning for this term. We went to Dandenong Park, played sports at school, ate pizza, laughed a lot and completed artwork.



**Halleluiah!**

**Church is Open Again!**

St Mary's Parish Dandenong

Mass Times

Monday - Friday 9.15am

Saturday 9.15am & 6pm

Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5.30pm



May the coming of  
Christ awaken our  
darkened world, and  
sound a call in each of  
us that will sustain us,  
and ring all the days of  
our lives.

Amen

## No Interest Loans for back-to-school costs



Borrow up to \$1500 Pay back \$1500

**No Fees. No Charges. Ever.**

**Talk to the people you know and trust**

Vinnies NILs

03 5229 8829

[vinniesnils.org.au](http://vinniesnils.org.au)



NILs is for people on low incomes and is not available for cash. See eligibility criteria at [nils.com.au](http://nils.com.au)



## St Mary's Uniform Shop

**This Thursday is the last day for the year - 8.30 to 10am**

**It will be open next year on  
Wednesday 27th 8.30 - 10am, and  
Friday 29th from 8.30 - 10am**

## Birthdays

8th Japji  
10th Rumi  
11th Preston  
13th Lavenia  
13th Harjasreet  
13th Lucas  
14th Fadi



## Second Hand Uniform Shop

Are you leaving school at the end of the year?  
Do you have some uniforms that you could donate?

If you would like to have a look at the second hand uniform shop please come and ask at the office.



## Enrolments 2021

If you, or someone you know, has a child turning 5 by 30th April 2021, they may be eligible for enrolment into Prep next year at St Mary's.

Please give us a call or come in to the Office.

We are also taking enrolments for other year levels.

## Fees

The fees for 2021 have been kept the same as for this year.

## School Contacts

Principal: **Mr Terry Gardiner** Deputy Principal: **Mr Bryan Handasyde**

Family Engagement Leader: **Mrs Yvette Silva**

School Secretaries: **Ms Sandra Higginbotham, Ms Jane Merchant**

School Office Hours: **8.30am - 4.15pm** 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: **Kathy Gottliebse**