Welcome to Week 2 Term 1.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Sally, Joel, Colby, Heidi and Chloe on the birth of their daughter and sister ‘Laura Mary’.

SYMPATHY

We offer our sympathy to Lisa and Scott Inkster and family on the passing of Lisa’s grandmother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

WELCOME BACK

We warmly welcome back all families to school. We especially welcome our 14 Foundation students and new families. All students were so excited to be starting the next chapter in their lives with only a few nerves from parents! The Foundation students have settled into the school routine and love spending time with their older buddies who are doing a tremendous job guiding them in school life.
SWIMMING

Please remember Swimming commences next week. 

Mon, Wed and Fri Years 3-6 children will be swimming. 
Tues and Thurs - Foundation to Years 2 will be swimming. 
Swimming session times are from 2-2.45pm. 
Thank you to all the parents who have offered assistance. 
I have a roster so if you are unable to attend on the day you have suggested please advise us at the earliest opportunity. 
It becomes very difficult if we have children waiting for parent helpers who have become unavailable at the last minute. (I will put a photo of the swimming roster on our school Facebook page).

All children will be involved in our swimming sports which will be held on Monday February 20. More help is required for this day please. The sports will be held from 10.00 to 2.30pm. 
More information on next week’s newsletter.

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR SCHOOL MASS

Our Beginning fo the Year School Mass will be held on Saturday March 4 at 6.30pm. We ask that all children and families attend this celebration please. 
There is a Parents’ Club meeting next week where we will decide what social event will follow Mass or a date to be determined. Please watch further newsletters for these details.
SHROVE TUESDAY
This is just some advanced notice. Shrove Tuesday is on Tuesday February 28. We will be making our Lenten promises and cooking pancakes as per previous years. If you are able to assist with the pancake cooking we would be most appreciative. This will be at 9ish on Tuesday February 28. Everything will be supplied except frying pan, utensils and extension cords. The more parents, grandparents or friends we have the smaller the groups of children and the more opportunity all children have to actually “have a go”. If you are able to assist please respond to the tear off sheet at the bottom of the newsletter or via Facebook.

ASH WEDNESDAY
All children, except Foundation children (although they are welcome to join us) will be celebrating Mass to commence our Lenten journey on Wednesday March 1 at 9.10am. All families are most welcome.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK
As a matter of Compliance I was intending to ask all parents to think about obtaining Working With Children Checks. This would make swimming, Working Bees, Shrove Tuesday cooking etc etc much easier. (We are not chasing WWCC at the last minute). However it has come to my attention that the Warracknabeal Post Office does not verify the documents any more. Apparently there is now a need to travel to Horsham for this to take place. We would not expect our families to make a trip to Horsham especially for this purpose. However, if you happen to be in Horsham maybe this would be a possibility.
I have brought this situation to the attention of the Catholic Education Office in Ballarat. They were going to take our concerns to Melbourne and perhaps they will have some suggestions as to how we may be able to work around this situation. I will keep you informed as further information comes available. I do apologise for this.
If you have been online and part way through the process, please remember to link your WWCC to our school. This is important.
Thanks.

LUNCH ORDERS
Warracknabeal schools and community are part of YChange. YChange is focussing on many matters, one of these is the health and well being of all the students in Warracknabeal.
Warracknabeal children have many opportunities for physical activities, basketball, netball, swimming, Auskick, dancing etc.
The schools have been investigating the “Traffic Light” system. We are slowly working towards this. As a result we are promoting a more healthy lunchtime. Currently we are focussing on drinks. Flavoured milk and fruit boxes contain a large amount of sugar and for this reason we are only having water at school.
We will be considering choices regarding slices etc on our Lunch Orders in the near future.

NEWSLETTER
Everyone is receiving a hard copy of the newsletter today. If you wish to continue to receive a hard copy of the newsletter please let the office know. Otherwise the newsletter is available via the school website or the SKOOLBAG app.
FACEBOOK
May I please take this opportunity to gently remind families of our Facebook protocols. All Facebook school users have signed a form to indicate that they will use Facebook in the appropriate manner. For the most part all our families are most responsible in this way and I sincerely thank you for this. However occasionally we have had a little problem. Please, if you have a concern with any school matter please ring and make a time to speak with me about this. If I am not immediately available I will return your call at the next opportunity.
Please also remember that there are usually 2 sides to every story or situation. Here at St Mary’s we do our best to give every student a “voice”, however sometimes this may take a little while to sort out, especially if we are running into a weekend. I ask for your patience please and quite soon calm is restored and all is as it should be. We will also be focussing on building resilience and often discussing and considering -

“Is this problem an ant or an ELEPHANT?”

PARENTS’ CLUB MEETING
This meeting will be held on Tuesday February 14 at 7.30pm at school. All families are welcome to attend. This is a social opportunity to meet new mums (and dads - David would be pleased to have some dads join the group I am sure!) as well as brainstorm ideas for fundraising etc. Looking forward to seeing you there.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
The School Advisory Council will meet on Wednesday February 15 at 7pm at school. The members of the SAC are - Father Neville, Julia Hausler (Chairperson), Paul Rowe, Luen Credlin, Andrew Richards, Marc Livingston, Paige McCoy, a Parents’ Club representative, David Baxter (Parish representative), Claire Schulz (Staff Rep) and myself. Our meetings consider Policies, Compliance, Building updates, Child Safe and much more.
If any have any celebrations or concerns that you believe should be raised at the School Advisory meetings, please contact one of those named above.
ASSEMBLY ROSTER FOR TERM 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri Feb 10</td>
<td>Lentils at 2.40pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri Feb 24</td>
<td>Canola at 2.40pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri March 10</td>
<td>Barley at 2.40pm</td>
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TERM 1 MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER
(Please arrange a swap with another family on this roster if your allocated date does not suit you. Thanks).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Family</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jo Credlin</td>
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<td>Julia Hausler</td>
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<td>Natasha Eilola</td>
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<td>Trish McKenzie</td>
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<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Hanna Butuyuyu</td>
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<td>Andrew Bish</td>
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COMMONWEALTH STUDENT BANKING
Students will be able to Bank on a Wednesday this year. Please make sure that your child’s deposit book is filled out correctly. Students who bring their books need to place them in the red tub in their classroom.
The winners of the colouring competition from the end of Term Four last year are: Phoenix, Charlie M (Yr 2), Charlotte, Cassidy.
These children can present to the Commonwealth Bank to collect their prize.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND
The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.
CSEF will be provided to eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.
If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, health care card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.
The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.
The annual CSEF amount per student is:
$125 for primary school students
$225 for secondary school students

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or print and return the form located at the end of the newsletter.
CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE – ELIGIBILITY - SEMESTER 1

To receive a conveyance allowance individual students must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Attend a school/campus located outside Melbourne’s Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).
2. Attend the closest appropriate school/campus
3. Reside 4.8km or more from the school/campus (shortest practicable route calculated by school at time of application from the student’s home to the school/campus attended) or 4.8km from home to the student’s bus stop.
4. Be of school age (between 5 and 18 years old at the time of application), and a resident of Victoria.
5. Be enrolled and travelling to school three or more days per week.
   Application forms can be obtained from the front office.
   New application forms must be completed for existing recipients

FEE STATEMENTS

These will be sent home next Thursday. Thanks to all those families who have made the student levy payment for 2017. If you have a Health Care Card and have not completed a Family Fee Relief form could you please attend to this as a matter of urgency? We also need a copy of your current card.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub is an educational resource available to parents at our school. Bookclub has 8 issues per year, 2 every term. Bookclub’s first issue is out now and has some excellent reading material and learning resources available. Bookclub is an optional educational resource. Any purchases made help contribute back to our school as we are given vouchers to buy new books or resources for our library or classrooms. If you have any queries about Bookclub please see Jane (who works on Monday and Thursday) or Paula in the office. This month’s Bookclub is due back on Thursday February 16.
### CHICKPEAS

**Religious Education:** We have begun our unit ‘I am special, so are you’.

**Maths:** This week we have been learning about place value.

**Reading:** The big book that we have been focusing on is ‘Who sank the boat?’

**Vocabulary:** The words that we have been learning are: beside, lived, warm, sunny, sank and row.

**Writing:** We have been learning about the techniques of writing and how to write on the line. The Year 1s have been writing a holiday recount.

**Inquiry:** In Inquiry this week we will be looking at ways that we can learn.

**Art:** We will be finishing off our deep sea pictures.

### WHEAT

**Religious Education:** Our topic this term is ‘We can pray in different ways’.

**Maths:** During Maths we have been learning about place value.

**Reading:** We have been looking at the book ‘The Adventures of Rainbow Fish’.

**Vocabulary:** Our words are glide, gently, plentiful and admiring.

**Writing:** We have been continuing to work on our holiday recount and descriptive writing.

**Inquiry:** In Inquiry this week we are looking at things that help us to learn.

**Art:** During Art this week we have made a mindfulness jar.

### BARLEY

**Religious Education:** We have been looking at our new unit ‘Prayer’. We have been discussing Mary as well as identifying why and when we pray.

**Maths:** We have been working on place value. We have been identifying place value holders within numbers as well as exploring odd and even numbers and comparing numbers.

**Reading:** We have been reading the text ‘A Noble Dog’.

**Vocabulary:** bound, vain, obscure, grand and urged.

**Writing:** We are creating a Lotus Chart about our learning.

**Inquiry:** We are continuing to work on our Lap Books.

**Sport:** We began looking at expectations and cooperation during Sport.

**Art:** We created ‘Puzzle Pieces’ about ourselves.

### CANOLA

**Religious Education:** We are discussing and recording the different types of communication we have today and comparing this to the past.

**Maths:** We are working on identifying number patterns and revising some place value concepts.

**Reading:** We are reading an extract from ‘Where There’s Smoke’ by John Heffernan

**Vocabulary:** unleashed, district, vegetation, tinder-dry, ignite, shrill

**Writing:** We are learning how to record information about ourselves and our learning in the form of a Lotus Chart.

**Inquiry:** We have been using the bundling strategy to compile a list of class values. We will be discussing individual learning goals and presenting these in written form.

**Art:** We have been creating a bushfire scene using food dye and paint, while the Year 5’s have been involved in Sustainability.

**Sport:** We are learning cricket skills and playing Continuous Cricket.

### LENTILS

**Religious Education:** We are discussing the various methods of communication in the 21st century, formal/informal language used.

**Maths:** Lentils are gaining automaticity with counting and moving into place value.

**Reading:** We are continuing to read the Australian National Anthem. Our vocabulary words are rejoice, toil, stage, radiant and boundless.

**Writing:** Our writing focus for several weeks is Narrative, this week we are going through the Story Grammar Marker and writing about an image.

**Inquiry:** Our unit is Learning for All - looking at our learning styles.

**Art:** Creating our bookmarks using a variety of materials and methods.

**Sport:** Basketball - the skill of dribbling and controlling a basketball with both hands.
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

Parent/legal guardian details
Surname
First name
Address
Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child's surname</th>
<th>Child's first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or scholarship. DET will provide a result of this enquiry to DET.

I understand that

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school offices.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Human Services and to the Victorian Department of Education and Training for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.
RESUMING MONDAY 13TH OF FEBRUARY

NEW COACH ZAC ROSS

NEW TIMES
JUNIORS MONDAY 5:15PM
SENIORS 6:00PM

Cardio boxing a great fun way for to keep fit

WARRACKNABEAL LEISURE CENTRE

GOLD COIN DONATION PLEASE

ENQUIRIES STACEY 0428620843

SHROVE TUESDAY

NAME...........................................................................................................................

I AM ABLE TO ASSIST AT 9AM ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28TH FOR SHROVE TUESDAY ACTIVITIES.