



## Important Dates

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**Catholic Education  
Week**

Monday 3 May 2021

**Parent Teacher  
Conversations (all  
week)**

Monday 3 May 2021

**Assembly Class  
4/5RM**

Thursday 6 May 2021

**NAPLAN (11 - 21)**

Tuesday 11 May 2021

**Assembly Class  
1SM**

Thursday 20 May 2021

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## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term Two. I hope you had a wonderful holiday break and enjoyed the time with your family.

This term is already filling up fast with many exciting and interesting learning activities. I would like to bring your attention to just some of these important events.

### **National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)**

This year our school will complete the 2021 NAPLAN tests online. Over a 2-week period from Tuesday 11 May until Thursday 20 May, our Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in NAPLAN. It is important for all our students to understand that NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type of test. It is about assessing student progress. As a school, we use this data to assist with improving our teaching and learning programs. As the tests are online this year we hopefully will receive the results much faster than in previous years. You will find more information in our newsletter article from Tanya Barrett.

### **Catholic Education Week 2021 - Raising Hearts and Minds**

Catholic Education Week is this week from May 3 – 9 2021. It is a great opportunity for families to explore the benefits of a Catholic Education. This year, our focus is on promoting our free mid-year intake for Reception students.

This is one of many initiatives announced by the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) to reduce the financial burden on families. All Diocesan schools will offer the 2021 Term 3 Reception intake to parents free of charge. The free intake includes tuition fees excluding uniforms and extra-curricular costs.

### **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

During this week, our families have the opportunity to meet face to face with their child's teacher for our Parent/Teacher interviews. This valuable meeting allows time for reflection and sharing of student academic, emotional and social development.

If you have not made a time for an interview, please contact your child's teacher to make a suitable time over the next two weeks.

### **Building & Grounds Update**

During the holiday period, the house next to the school was demolished in preparation for our new multi-sports space. We are currently developing and refining our plans for a hard play surface for netball/basketball and a larger grassed area for other sports. We hope to start work this term and have the space available for use next term. This exciting initiative will certainly allow for more opportunities for sporting programs in our school.

Some additional information about our PE and sports program as we welcome Mr Damien Raidis as our new PE teacher. Damien joined us last week and will be working on Fridays throughout the year. Damien comes with great experience in Physical Education, as he is currently a Casual Academic at Flinders University in the area of PE and Health. I would like to congratulate Damien on winning this position and we look forward to working with him over the year.

### **Visit from our Deputy Director**

Last Friday we had a special visit from our Deputy Director of Catholic Education SA, Mr John Mula. I was able to take John and other special guests for a tour of our school, visiting many classrooms and observing our Literacy Lessons. I was also able to share our master plan and the building projects we are about to start. John had time to meet with all our Year 6 students for a special prayer session and then an open discussion about our school, their learning and their transition into High School.

It was a lovely experience providing an opportunity for us to share our story with John. I was extremely proud of all the students and staff during the visit and had wonderful feedback from the visitors.

I would like to congratulate our Term 2 School Captains, Chloe and Alex and look forward to working with them this term. All our school captains receive a badge to wear which makes them clearly recognisable for the school community.

Recently we provided our House Captains with their new badges in the colour of their team at our whole school outdoor gathering. Congratulations to:

- Mackillop (Blue) Chanel and Henry
- Tenison (Red) Lily & Sidney
- Penola (Yellow) Siena & Ollie
- Kensington (Green) Cara & Sebastian

We thank all our students for their involvement in our leadership programs and look forward to them showcasing their leadership skills over the year.

Kind regards

03.05.21

## From the APRIM

Our school has been invited to give feedback on the new website which has been designed for the new Crossways Curriculum. If you would like to know more about this curriculum please feel free to contact me.

### ***Parish Sacramental Program***

The **First Reconciliation Workshops** are now completed and the **Reconciliation Ceremony** will take place on Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at St Joseph's Tranmere Church. We keep all the candidates and their families in our prayers as the children celebrate this important sacrament which is focused on forgiveness and peace.

Last term I sent an email to families who had registered with the parish for the **First Eucharist and Confirmation** program to advise of workshop dates. If you did not receive this information please contact me. Please note the first Confirmation Workshop (parent and child) will be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 5.45 pm – 6.45 pm.

### ***Class Masses***

The following classes will be hosting the 9.15 am masses this term:

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 4/5 LB

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 6TM

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 3JS

We look forward to having whole school masses when the COVID restrictions numbers change.

### ***200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia***

You may be aware that this year marks 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. We will be celebrating this throughout the year and giving thanks for the many people who make it possible to offer catholic education to those who want it. If you would like more information about this please see this link <http://200years.catholic.edu.au/>

### ***Thankyou***

A big thank you to the families who completed the Catholic Identity Survey last term. If you did not send in your certificate of completion please do so by Tuesday next week (4<sup>th</sup> May), as one lucky family will receive a \$100 voucher.

## NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN testing begins on Tuesday May 11 and will conclude for our school on Wednesday May 19. The testing schedule is as follows:

Tuesday May 11	Yr 3 Writing (paper test) Yr 5 Writing	Tuesday May 18	Yr 3 Numeracy Yr 5 Numeracy
Wednesday May 12	Yr 3 Reading Yr 5 Reading	Wednesday May 19	Catch up tests
Thursday May 13	Yr 3 Language Conventions Yr 5 Language Conventions		
Friday May 14	Catch up tests		

Students in Year 3 and 5 will do the NAPLAN tests online in a change from the paper-based NAPLAN to NAPLAN Online in order to



provide a better and more precise assessment that is more engaging for students. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, in which the test presents questions of higher or lower complexity depending on a student's performance. Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely.

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Teachers are ensuring students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. To see the types of questions and related functionalities visit [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site).

If you do not want your child to participate in one or all NAPLAN tests please contact your child's teacher for a withdrawal form.

**Tanya Barrett**

*Director of Learning*

## ANZAC Day by 4/5RM



## 4/5RM

4/5RM began Term 2 by facilitating a reflection for ANZAC Day and sharing the significance of this national day of commemoration.

Year 4/5 students led a liturgy which included listening to the ODE which was followed by the Last Post. The school were then able to offer their personal reflection during a minute silence.

In class, we did some further reflection on the '**Prayer for Peace**' (see below) which is based on St Francis of Assisi's Peace prayer, which we used during our gathering.

We then created an artistic response to ANZAC Day which further extended our commitment to honouring those who served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces.

**A Prayer for Peace**

*Dear God,*

*As I live every day, help me to be a channel for peace. May I bring love where there is hatred and healing where there is hurt; joy where there is sadness and hope where there is fear.*

*I pray that I may always try to understand and comfort other people as well as seeking comfort and understanding from them.*

*Wherever possible may I choose to be a light in the darkness, a help in times of need and a caring, honest friend.*

*And may justice, kindness, and peace flow through my heart forever.*

*Amen*

# Interested in a St Mary's education?

Let your daughter come and try St Mary's. Join us for a day, with friendly staff and buddies, special activities and lessons. We'd love to welcome her to our school.

Term 2 **Monday 3 May**  
Term 3 **Monday 9 August**  
Term 4 **Thursday 28 October**

**9.30am–2.30pm**

Register at **[stmarys.sa.edu.au](http://stmarys.sa.edu.au)**

\*Limited to students who have not yet accepted a place at St Mary's College\*

St Mary's College, 253 Franklin St, Adelaide  
Contact the Registrar on **8216 5704**  
or **[enrolments@stmarys.sa.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@stmarys.sa.edu.au)**



**ST MARY'S COLLEGE**



Senior Campus

# Principal's Tour

Thursday 6 May

Saturday 29 May

Thursday 24 June

Register online

[www.cbc.sa.edu.au/tours](http://www.cbc.sa.edu.au/tours)

For more information phone

**8400 4210**

Christian Brothers College

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