



Term 2 Week 4  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Website: [www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au)

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## DIARY DATES

TERM 2	2021
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Reconciliation Year 3 5:00 – 6:00pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	K – Year 2 Incursion "Buddies" 9:15am
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Reconciliation Year 3 5:00 – 6:00pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	NAPLAN
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Mufti House Winner
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Reconciliation Year 3 5:00 – 6:00pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Pentecost Liturgy
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	School Photos
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Athletics Carnival Whole School

## PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

It's never too late to be punctual! We have noticed some improvement in the attendance of children and less regular children arriving late each day – but to help our families even more here are some thoughts on being punctual.... Does your family start the day with repeated orders and pleading to various members to get up, get dressed, have their breakfast, pack their school bag, brush their teeth, catch the bus? Some children are always late – to school, to classes, with assignments – and the chaos of their lives has an effect on their ability to learn. A calm, well-organised start to the day and successful time management help develop the habits that lead to good learning. Effective time management leads to greater contentment. Satisfaction with how we use our time is an important predictor of happiness. Time is the basis on which we operate our lives and if we're happy with the way we manage time, we're happy with our life.

Being late is a way of life for many people. But good timekeeping can be learnt. For some, lateness is the only way they can get anything done. They have convinced themselves that racing to the deadline is the way they work best, and leave everything to the last minute to get that adrenaline rush that charges them up to get the job done. They usually never count the cost of the worry, feelings of panic and lying awake at night as the deadline looms and they haven't yet started.

Cont...

### How can you change these habits?

Help the unpunctual members of your family take responsibility for their own lateness. It pays to begin when they are young but it's never too late to start. Set their alarms, establish routines like who is first to use the bathroom, have breakfast ready and expect them to be out the door on time. One unpunctual member of the family can raise the stress levels for everyone. Being left behind just once is often all that it takes to change habitual lateness. Here are some other ideas to try

- **Try 'To Do' lists** and learn to enjoy ticking off each task as they get it done.
- **Keep a detailed calendar** and a checklist for progress.
- **Regard lack of punctuality as lack of manners.** People who always keep others waiting regard themselves as far more important. They are sending a clear message that your time is not as important as theirs.
- **Most lateness 'junkies' have developed ways of distinguishing 'important' appointments from those they think don't matter so much.** They feel in their own minds that they are on time for the things that matter – to them – and selfishly ignore the effect on others who are kept waiting.
- **It is nonsense to convince yourself that you work best when you are under pressure.** That really is no more than an excuse for time-wasting and refusing to get organised.

- **To feel more in control of your time, take note of when you are late and by how much.** It's often a standard amount and conforms to a pattern. Often you can be punctual by giving yourself a margin of only ten minutes — to get to the school gates, to work and to meet friends. Factor this in and arrive slightly earlier than you usually would. This might mean getting out of bed ten minutes earlier.

Best wishes for a punctual week!

Richard Blissenden  
Principal

### **BIRTHDAY** **CELEBRATIONS**

May 12	Yomika D Gabriel T
May 15	Amelia N Zara C
May 17	Julie L Alysha M
May 18	Josie C Faith L
May 19	Jake B Audrey L
May 22	Sarayah A
May 23	Zion K Victor K
May 24	Amanda B



We wish these children a very Happy Birthday!

## FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

### **DO YOU KNOW HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH ALL THE HAPPENINGS AT SMR?**

We endeavour to keep you completely up to date with happenings at our school – have you followed us on :

<b>Twitter</b>	@StMarysRydal
<b>YouTube</b>	search for St Mary's Rydalmere
<b>SchoolBag</b>	an app for your iPhone and Android – get push notifications and more
<b>Website</b>	visit <a href="https://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au/">https://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au/</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	available fortnightly, via email, on our website & through the schoolbag app
<b>Compass</b>	see recently shared information

### **PARENT HELPERS**

Despite the recent COVID case in Sydney plans continue to be finalised for the return of Parent Helpers to a range of roles in our school. Last week saw the P&F hold its Mothers Day Stall with 10 mothers assisting Katy Noone and Caterina Cipri who co-ordinated the event. Thank you to all our helpers. Other arrangements include:

- **Kiss and Go** - From Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May we welcome Parent Volunteers back to assist with Kiss and Go in the afternoons. Volunteer Parents help with the opening and closing of doors to help speed up the collection process. If you are able to assist and have completed the BCSC training please indicate your availability via email [stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au) or by phoning the School Office
- **Classroom Help** - Our teachers are planning for the return of Parent Helpers to the classroom in the coming weeks – stay tuned for details
- **Sharing our Learning** – we are planning some 'sharing of our learning' / 'open classrooms' for classes. By limiting these to a class at a time we will be able to maintain enough space for adults to visit safely. Details to follow
- **Pentecost Liturgy** – Parents are invited to our Pentecost Liturgy to be held (weather permitted) on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May.



### **DRIVING AND PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Council rangers have been on site in the mornings and afternoons recently – including issuing infringement notices and speaking with drivers trying to drive straight into the Kiss and Go line from Myrtle Street. Please remember you may **not queue along Pine Street** (this is the road which has the Crossing Supervisor) – if you cannot join the Kiss and Go queue in Myrtle Street then you must turn right and go around the block to try again.

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE CROSSING SUPERVISOR**

Our Supervisor has asked us to remind those people that use the crossing that **all pedestrians must wait** until the Supervisor is in position before crossing the road. **Please do not cross until told to do so.**

### **SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP**

The second hand uniform shop is open and running again each Thursday morning from 8.30-9am. Please remember to use the QR code to sign in. The QR code is available near the shop and on the gate as you enter.

## FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

### **BABY CONGRATULATIONS**

We would like to congratulate the Zwatzka family, Kiara in 6L and Nixon in 3VR, on the birth of their baby sister.

### **REMINDERS**

Staff and students should not attend work or school if they are unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Staff and visitors to schools should maintain 1.5m distance from other people where practicable. Avoid congestion of groups of visitors in specific areas. All visitors to a school site must comply with sign-in arrangements for record-keeping purposes. This includes signing in at the 'Sign In Kiosk' at the office and also checking in via the QR code on display in multiple locations.

Office / administration procedures can be viewed via this short video. You can access it here [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KyDG64-rHQoSkkjKV2\\_9LN0HaBe7sO59/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KyDG64-rHQoSkkjKV2_9LN0HaBe7sO59/view?usp=sharing)

### **PRINCIPAL'S HOLIDAY CHALLENGE**

We had some very creative entries in my holiday challenge – all entries went into a draw and there was a lucky winner per grade. Winners received a voucher at Smiggle to continue their creative pursuits. Lucky Prize Drawer Winners were:

Kindergarten	Milan S
Year 1	Marion P
Year 2	Shane B
Year 3	Aurelia R
Year 4	Ava L
Year 5	Isla M
Year 6	Imogen S
Special Award for Creativity	Japreet K 5G

### **COMPASS PARENT PORTAL**

#### **We are changing the way we receive absence notifications...**

All parents should have received personalised login details for our new Compass Parent Portal. We are phasing out Skoolbag as Compass becomes our primary method of electronic communication for notification of absences and important news updates that currently are shared via Skoolbag.

Please ensure you login to Compass to activate your account. Parents are now encouraged to start sending the school absent notification via Compass. All absence notifications should be sent before 10am each day. Commencing on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, parents will begin receiving an automated SMS message should their child be absent without explanation.

If you have any issues logging into your account, please contact the school office.

# BUDDIES

On 20 May Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing performance 'Buddies' for K-2.

'Buddies' is a live educational theatre performance that follows the journey of Lucy and Charlie as they discover the secrets to building positive friendships and staying safe online.

Lucy is impulsive and breaks the rules to try to fit in. Charlie is being bullied, but he's afraid to stand up for himself and show his true feelings. As players in an exciting virtual reality video game, Charlie and Lucy must co-operate to navigate the cyber chamber, overcome the forces of Aggrator, earn the eight Friendship Discs and restore the Ancient Ring of Friendship. They learn important lessons about online safety, such as not sharing passwords, not talking to strangers, protecting their privacy on apps and games and asking for help if something makes them feel uncomfortable. Together they discover that a true friend is someone who is kind, tells the truth, listens, helps you feel safe and allows you to be yourself.

'Buddies' is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and has been developed by teachers and psychologists. This exciting live theatre experience gives students practical skills to make and keep good friends, take a stand against bullying and stay safe online.

Brainstorm Productions is one of Australia's largest and most respected theatre in education companies, performing to over 360,000 students every year. They offer a range of programs to help schools build healthy and harmonious environments, addressing issues such as cyber safety, bullying, resilience, diversity and inclusion.

If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, you can visit their website: [brainstormproductions.edu.au](http://brainstormproductions.edu.au), or their Facebook page: [facebook.com/Brainstorm.Productions](https://facebook.com/Brainstorm.Productions).