



Term 4 Week 2  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
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## DIARY DATES

TERM 4	2021
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Kindergarten and Year 1 return to school
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Years 2 – 6 return to school
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	World Teachers Day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	All Saints Day
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	All Souls Day

## PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Welcome to Term 4! It will be wonderful to start welcoming children back to onsite learning from next week. Everyone is excited at the prospect of being back, including the teachers. The playground will once again be alive with the sounds of children laughing and chattering. The return to school process will start on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October with Kindergarten and Year 1 returning and on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October with all Year 2 - 6 students returning. Over the next few weeks, we will keep you updated with the latest events and news about returning to school.

As this strange year has unfolded and we have been unable to go about our usual routines, many have had the realisation that our need for person-to-person connection is paramount. For children and adults alike, we need a connection in which we are cared for, supported and loved. With this top of mind, this term we will continue to focus on connection for the wellbeing of all in our community. Connection between children, their teachers, other staff members, parents and friends.

Being back in the classroom, we will also be focusing on everyone finishing the year well and preparing all students for their new class (or High School) next year. No doubt, it will be an engaging term for all.

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We are extremely proud of how resilient and positive our children have been throughout the unprecedented period of lockdown. From coping with learning remotely and the absence of dear friends to migrating into the world of online school, the children have, without exception, embraced every stage with an impressive attitude. Congratulations one and all. St Mary's Primary will continue to follow NSW Health advice to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community. There will be considerable information shared in the coming days about our return to onsite learning and I encourage everyone to read through the information and ask questions if necessary. Please continue to stay safe and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Take care and stay safe,

Richard Blissenden  
Principal



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



October 13	Theo M Grace H Tamara K Isabella C
October 14	Isabella C
October 15	Jacob A
October 16	Jackson N Paige B
October 17	Alexander J Olivia W Gabriella L
October 18	Qiuchi Z Alessandro B Paris S
October 19	Tia Z
October 20	Timothy B Ariya S Amandi D Amelia P
October 21	Samuel C Jemma L Daashan W Joshua W
October 22	Francesca C
October 23	Jensen M Alysha R
October 24	Marc-Anthony N
October 26	Isabella R Olivia R Cooper S

We wish these children a very Happy Birthday!

## FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

### **SEMESTER 2 REPORTING**

In response to changes to the learning and teaching environment during COVID-19, St Mary's, like other schools in our Diocese, have needed to adjust their assessment and reporting processes. While the report at the end of Term 4 will look slightly different, it will still provide you with valuable information about your child's learning, while complying with government requirements. The second Semester report will not use the A-E scale. The report format for this semester will include a number of learning observations of what your child can do focussed on Religious Education, English and Mathematics as well as a general comment. We understand that you will have many insights to share about your child's current needs, particularly as parents you have spent many hours supporting your child's learning at home. The report from your child's teacher will complement this knowledge.

### **RETURN to SCHOOL GOOD HABITS**

Some of you might have fallen into bad habits with sleeping and eating through lockdown. That's okay! But there's time to put them right before school starts again.

#### **Get some sleep!**

Start going to bed at the time you usually would to get up for school. Do this at least a week in advance. To get the best sleep quality, don't use blue light (phones, iPad or TV) for half an hour before bed. Have a warm milky drink. Read a book to drift off.

#### **Eat well**

Try to prepare your body by eating well. Eat fruit and vegetables if you can and eat at roughly the same times you would at school. Ask your parents to get you some break time snacks so you're ready!

#### **Exercise**

Get out and about and prepare your body to be active again.

#### **Prepare and pray**

Lay out your uniform and pack your bag the night before. Say a prayer - ask for God to be with you!

*Dear God,*

*Help me have the courage I need when returning to school. Help me remember that you are with me. Help me to care for others and use my experience of lockdown to grow. Please be with all the staff at my school, as we face some uncertainty together. Thank you for keeping me safe. Amen*



### RETURN TO SCHOOL ROADMAP

Level 3 Plus – Staggered Return Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Kindergarten and Year 1 Return for Face to Face learning. Staggered Return of Staff onsite Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 continue online Learning
Level 3 – Full Return Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	All staff and students are expected to be at school with visitors and activities limited. All students should be at school on the date indicated for their year group, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness</li> <li>• they are currently unwell</li> <li>• they have been asked by NSW Health to self-isolate</li> </ul>

### SETTINGS TO ENABLE RETURN TO FACE TO FACE LEARNING

Vaccinations	St Mary's adheres to the Public Health (COVID-19 Vaccination of Education and Care Workers) Order 2021 (PHO) in relation to vaccinations
Masks	Staff: All indoor and outdoor settings Students: Masks are recommended indoors and outdoors for primary students: (unless exercising or eating)
Visitors	Non- essential visitors are <b>not permitted</b> on school sites. Parents should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate with the school via phone and email</li> <li>• Follow drop off and pick up arrangements</li> <li>• Follow physical distancing advice and avoid gathering outside of school gates</li> <li>• Remain outside of school grounds</li> <li>• Adhere to mask wearing requirements and sign-in using the Service NSW QR code and the school kiosk when entering the school</li> </ul>
Minimise student interaction across cohorts	To minimise physical interaction of students on school grounds we will implement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staggered afternoon pick up times and designated playgrounds</li> <li>• Assemblies will be live via zoom into learning spaces from 25<sup>th</sup> October</li> </ul>

**SETTINGS TO ENABLE RETURN TO FACE TO FACE LEARNING Cont...**

Safety and Wellbeing including Essential Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• St Mary's is regularly and professionally cleaned including additional cleaning targeting high touch areas</li><li>• Bottle Refilling stations are available to refill drink bottles. Please send your child with a labelled water bottle.</li><li>• Continue to implement appropriate social distancing. Encourage good hygiene practices including washing hands frequently.</li><li>• Air conditioning services have been serviced in the last two weeks Windows and fans ensure ventilation of spaces</li><li>• If a child is unwell at school parents will be contacted to collect their child</li><li>• Parents please ensure that you do not send your child to school if they are unwell. If your child is even slightly unwell with a sore throat, cold, cough, upset stomach or temperature they need to be kept at home until they are 100% well and symptom free</li></ul>
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**SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Students return to school in full summer uniform including normal (uncoloured) school haircuts. For boys, 0 or number 1 hair cuts, rat's tails, mullets, steps, undercuts, lines etc are not acceptable. Hair length for boys must be above their collars. Girls with long hair are to wear their hair tied back in a pony tail or plait. No hair gel, colourings or streaks are permitted.

**CLOTHING POOL**

If anyone is in need of any items from the second hand clothing pool, please email [stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au) with the items and sizes you are looking for. Once you receive confirmation from office staff that your items are in stock, they can be collected from the office. Payment can be made by EFTPOS.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Congratulations to all the students who managed to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge this year.

There will soon be a chance for all our St Mary's avid readers to participate in another reading challenge. *The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge* will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November so stay tuned for all the details.

I'm very excited to have you all back in the library, the books and I have missed you terribly but there will be lots of great new books waiting for you to borrow them! See you soon.

Happy Reading!  
Mrs Radocchia.

## YEAR 2

The task was to read the book 'Red is Best' by Kathy Stinson. The little girl in the story has lots of reasons and examples for her opinion. Students in year 2 were asked to think about five examples of what colour they thought was the best and then write them down as Kelly in the book does.

### **Blue is best by Christian G, 2FM**

Inspired by *Red is Best* by Kathy Stinson  
An example of persuasive writing

Blue is best.

I like my blue soccer jersey the best  
I can score goals in my blue jersey  
I like my blue jersey the best

I like my blue hat the best  
It makes me happy in my blue hat  
I like my blue hat the best

I like my blue helmet the best  
I can ride my scooter and bike faster in my blue helmet  
I like my blue helmet the best

I like my blue toothbrush the best  
It can make my smile shiny  
I like my blue toothbrush the best

I like blue iceblocks the best  
They make my tongue blue  
I like blue ice blocks the best

I like blue because blue is best

YEAR 2

Pink is best by Adeline T, 2FM

Inspired by *Red is Best* by Kathy Stinson  
An example of persuasive writing

Pink is best

I like my pink glasses the best  
I can see better in my pink glasses  
I like my pink glasses the best

I like my pink folder the best  
My pink folder can hold more  
I like my pink folder the best

I like my pink ball the best  
It can bounce high  
I like my pink ball the best

I like my pink bag the best  
It makes me feel happy  
I like my pink bag the best

I like pink creaming soda the best  
Pink soda tastes more bubbly  
I like pink creaming soda the best

I like pink because pink is best

YEAR 2

Literacy task 2

1. Blue is the best  
I like my blue slide the best.  
I can go fast in my blue slide  
I like my blue slide the best.



2. I like my blue cup the best  
I can have fresher water in my blue cup  
I like my blue cup the best.



3. I like my blue floating bed the best  
I can be crazy in the backyard in my blue floatie  
I like my blue floatie the best.



4. I like my blue pencil the best  
My blue pencil makes me write better  
I like my blue pencil the best.



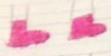
5. I like my blue water gun best  
I can shoot water at everybody in my blue water gun  
I like my blue water gun best.



Alice.B  
2RM

Literacy Task 2

1. I like my pink socks the best  
I can wash faster in my pink socks.  
I like my pink socks the best.



2. I like purple hats the best.  
It looks good on me. I like my purple hat.



3. I like my blue t-shirt the best  
My blue t-shirt makes me look strong. I like my blue t-shirt the best.



4. I like my green shorts the best  
I can hide in the green grass with my green shorts. I like my green shorts the best.



5. I like my orange shoes the best.  
I can run fast in my orange shoes. I like my orange shoes the best.



Sophia.M  
2RM

YEAR 2

**Pink is best by Hope E 2FM**

Inspired by *Red is Best* by Kathy Stinson  
An example of persuasive writing

Pink is best

I like my pink coat the best  
I can keep warmer in my pink coat  
I like my pink coat the best

I like my pink purse the best  
I can carry more in my pink purse  
I like my pink purse the best

I like my pink hat the best  
I can think harder in my pink hat  
I like my pink hat the best

I like my pink dress the best  
I can dance for longer in my pink dress  
I like my pink dress the best

I like my pink paint the best  
I can paint pretty pictures with my pink paint  
I like my pink paint the best

I like pink because pink is best

# YEAR 3

To take care of our wellbeing in Year 3 this week we have been making creatures from items we find in nature.

Name? Plant master

What he can do? He can grow bigger and stronger he can shoot vines out of his 10 arms. Has a head that that can be shaped as a hammer he uses the hammer to help people with construction.

Nivaan

