



# St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2018



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*Wishing you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*



No. 40 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018

Dear Parents,

Tuesday night we had a wonderful Graduation Mass and celebration afterwards. What a fantastic evening it was and what a wonderful, talented, resourceful and friendly group of young adults these Year 6's are. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to St. Mary's and wish them every success in their future adventures, remembering they are always welcome back at St. Mary's.

I would like to especially thank Olive, Megan, Stefanie, Marg M, Angela, Maree and Nicole for all the planning and organisation that went into the mass, speeches and the celebration afterwards as well as the End of Year Mass on Wednesday with our school choir and all the awards and certificates that have been presented. It is an enormous amount of work and I would also like to congratulate and thank other staff that have assisted in one way or another.

There are a large number of people that make St. Mary's School such an outstanding school to be part of that I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge their contributions and sincerely THANK them.

**To all the parents:** Thank you for your support, contribution and involvement in all matters relating to your children's education. Especially those parents that have their youngest child leaving St. Mary's and therefore have been involved for at least 7 years or in many cases a lot longer.

**To all the parents that help around the school:** For e.g. our Book Club organiser (Beryl Henry who, even though she no longer has any children at St. Mary's, continues to run the Book Club which benefits the families and the school enormously). Also to the many other ways parents assist around the school; the Parents & Friends Association, the Uniform Shop, the book coverers, classroom helpers, laminators, excursion helpers, sport helpers, etc. THANKYOU!

**To all the children:** Thank you for your enthusiasm to learn, to improve, to have fun, to compete, to be friendly, to be welcoming.

**To the STAFF & I'm including:** All Teachers & Learning Support Officers, Valda & Carolyn from the Office, Eva & Amy from the Canteen & Tony our maintenance person.

Each year the demands on your time and what you are expected to cater for and offer in your roles seems to increase unreasonably however you continue to respond to these ever increasing demands with enthusiasm and expertise. Thank you & Congratulations.

**To Margaret Masseni:** Last year I thanked and congratulated Marg on what a fantastic job she had done in her second year in the joint role of Deputy Principal & Wellbeing Leader. Well I have a problem this year because she has done an even better job both in support of me and in her ability to juggle two very significant yet diverse roles. I AM and WE ARE very fortunate to have someone with her talent, patience, calmness, organisational ability and sense of fairness and fun. THANKS MARG!

**To our School Captains: James Hills, Jacob Yacono, Chloe Zuvela & Sofia Bitaks** for their co-operation and wonderful leadership throughout the year and especially over the last couple of weeks as they have had to prepare for their involvement in our end of year celebrations: Final Assembly, Graduation and End of Year Mass. Well done to you all and Thank you. You've set the bar high for the 2019 Captains but knowing who they are I'm sure they're up to the challenge.

**To all our other School Leaders: House Captains, Wellbeing, Social Justice & Choir Leaders** thank you for your outstanding efforts throughout the year.

**To Archpriest Michael Kalka:** Thank You for your unwavering support of me and your deep desire to bring the school community and parish community closer together.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

Congratulations to the following Year 6 children who received awards at Tuesday night's Graduation Mass:

**Academic Excellence:** James Hills

**Academic Persistence:** Olivia Charalambous

**Sports & Values Award:** Lachland Green

**Performing Arts Award:** Marcus Kruger

**Creative Arts:** Grace Moon

#### **COMMENCEMENT OF SCHOOL 2019:**

The staff will commence on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

**ALL CHILDREN INCLUDING PREPS** commence at **8.50 am on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January.**

Children assemble with their bags on the netball court. We will have a short assembly.

Year One – Six then move to their classrooms with their teachers.

Once all other levels have moved out of the area our preps will then follow their teachers to their classrooms.

The Parents and Friends on behalf of the school invite all parents to the hall for a cuppa, a chat and some scrumptious food.

**Our Prep children WILL NOT attend school on the next four Wednesdays in February. They will be timetabled to attend for a half hour or so on some Wednesdays to complete some testing but parents will be notified of these times next year.**

#### **SCHOOL LEADERS FOR 2019**

**Girl Captains** for 2019 are: Kiani Howell & Shannon Williams

**Boy Captains** for 2019 are: Zed Didenkowski & Zaii Pittas

**Our House Captains** for 2019 are:

**Blue:** Eliza Pelns & Michael Morda

**Green:** Isabella Merola & Thomas Pye

**Yellow:** Summer London & Jett Porter

**Red:** Rachel Currie & Jesse Longaretti-Schreppel

**Our Wellbeing Leaders** for 2019 are: Alana Vuleta & Ava Zammit

**Our Social Justice Leaders** for 2019 are: Grace Azzopardi & Noah Ligudzinska

**Our Choir Leader** for 2019 is: Julie Wakfer

#### **SCHOOL STRUCTURE FOR 2019:**

Prep - 2 classes                      Yr 1/2 - 4 classes

Yr 3/4 - 3 classes                      Yr 5/6 - 3 classes

**POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP:**

Deputy Principal & Wellbeing Leader - Ms Margaret Masseni  
Religious Education Leader - Mr Matthew Taylor  
Learning & Teaching Leader - Ms Stefanie Harvey  
Junior Literacy Leader - Ms Cathy Sims  
Senior Literacy Leader - Ms Stefanie Harvey  
Maths Leader - Ms Lisa Said  
Learning Diversity Leader - Ms Cathy Sims  
Digital Technologies Leader - Veronica Tucker

**STAFF CHANGES FOR 2019:****The following staff have retired:**

Ms Eva Coppola - Canteen Manager.  
Mr Henry Zun - Guitar teacher.

**The following staff are not returning:**

Ms Lisa Vella - classroom teacher  
Ms Megan Loft - classroom teacher

**We welcome two new teachers to St. Mary's:**

Mr Matthew Taylor - Year 5/6T  
Mr Ethan Tartaglia - Year 1/2T

**Existing Staff Changes:**

Ms Jane Kirkwood - Year 3/4K.

**IMPORTANT: Beginning of the year Parent / Teacher 5 minute "Getting to Know You" interviews will be held between 3.20 – 5.30 pm. on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February.**

The purpose of this meeting is to learn as much as we can about your child from you. It is NOT a progress report but rather a sharing of information meeting.

We ask ALL parents to attend. If you are unable to make this meeting we ask you to arrange with your child's teacher another mutual date and time to meet in the near future

If your child has the same teacher as this year and circumstances haven't changed you do not have to make an appointment. You can book interviews at times that suit your family best.

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions or click on the icon on our school website. The booking code is **2u8py**.

**BOOKINGS OPEN – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and close Sunday 3rd February 2019.**

I would like to wish all our families a very happy and holy Christmas and a peace filled New Year.

I look forward to seeing you all again in 2019, after a fun-filled, enjoyable, restful and well-deserved holiday.

David Kelly  
PRINCIPAL

**UNIFORM SHOP 2019**

Uniform Shop opening times for 2019:

Monday 8.30am – 9.00am (TBC)

Wednesday 2.30pm to 3.00pm (TBC)

Orders via email (found on uniform order form) can still be placed at any time.

**PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING CLEARLY ESPECIALLY ITEMS THAT MAY BE REMOVED**

e.g. hats and jumpers.

The Uniform Shop will also open for 1.5 hours ONLY between 11am – 12.30pm on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019, the day before the children start school. Thank you to Patrice and her helpers who have made this possible.



### EMMANUEL NEWS:

Well done to our VCE High Achievers: Congratulations to Jamie Formosa on his outstanding VCE achievement with an ATAR ranking of 97.85. Well done also to the following high achievers on their impressive VCE results: Jamie Rust 96.45, Amani Sungkar 95.95, Han Nguyen 95.55, Montana Spiteri 95.4, Diego Portillo Ducua 95.05, Filip Bjelosevic 94.85, Joshua Litherland 93.1, Erik Hristovski 93, Ashleigh Brooker 93, Christina Suntovski 93, Robert Milich 92.95, James Whitfort 92.9, Olivia Mihalache 92.75, Neil Pande 92.55, Alisha Farrugia 92.4, Justin Riazaty 92.1, Lucas Gauci 92.1, Christian Adamcewicz 91.1, Anne Go 90.55 and Nathan Phung 92.5. It was also pleasing to note that the Class of 2018 outperformed the State in ATAR outcomes, including our top 30%.

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### 2019 Sacrament Dates

#### CONFIRMATION

##### TERM ONE:

**Rite of Commitment Masses:** (Four masses to select from)

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: **9.15am & 6pm**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: **8.30am & 10.30am**

**Confirmation Family Workshop:** (Two sessions to select from)

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March **5pm & 7pm** – with Michele Linossier.

##### TERM TWO: (Week One)

#### **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:**

– **Friday 26th April, 2019 at 7pm – Bishop Mark Edwards**

*(The Sponsor must be a baptised Catholic over the age of 16)*

#### RECONCILIATION

##### TERM TWO:

**Rite of Commitment Masses:** (Four masses to select from)

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May: **9.15am & 6pm**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May: **8.30am & 10.30am**

**Reconciliation Family Workshop:**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May - **7pm** – with Maria Forde.

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

**Individual Reconciliation. Appointments to be made with Archpriest Michael for the month of JUNE 2019.**

#### EUCCHARIST

##### TERM THREE:

**Eucharist Family Workshop:** (Two sessions to select from)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July **5pm & 7pm** – with Michele Linossier.

**Shared Meal:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August **6pm** – in School Hall

#### **SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST:**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August – 6pm**

**&**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August – 6pm**



As we celebrate Christmas day  
With presents, trees and lights.  
We play fun games with loved ones  
And eat food that's really nice.  
For this day is the birthday of  
A precious little boy,  
Sent to save the world forever  
Sent to bring us joy.  
Jesus





## CREATIVE MUSIC – GUITAR / KEYBOARD LESSONS

Creative Music will offer GUITAR lessons as well as KEYBOARD lessons at St. Mary's in 2019. See attached flyer for more information.

# Learn music

here at school

Come and join in the fun of  
learning to play

GUITAR or KEYBOARD

here at St. Mary's.

Creative Music for Schools  
conducts a music program  
here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one  
lessons of up to 30 minutes give chil-  
dren an excellent grounding in music  
where they will learn to read music  
and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$17.00 per lesson and  
enrolments are now being accepted for  
limited places in term 1, 2019.

Interested parents should call Brenda dur-  
ing office hours on 9818 2333 or email  
[brenda@creativemusic.com.au](mailto:brenda@creativemusic.com.au)



Creative Music

[www.creativemusic.com.au](http://www.creativemusic.com.au)

