



NEWSLETTER No. 8

Friday, 26th May, 2023



DIARY DATES

TERM 2

MAY

Saturday 27th Confirmation 6pm
Wednesday 31st School Advisory Committee AGM

JUNE

Thursday 1st Junior Swimming
Friday 2nd HDSSA Winter Sports
Tuesday 6th Responsible Pet Ownership incursion
Julie Matthews—Counsellor
Wednesday 7th SRC PJ Day for Remy
Thursday 8th Junior Swimming
Friday 9th Resource Centre Friday talk
Monday 12th King's Birthday Public Holiday
Wednesday 14th Wellington Winter Sports Gala
Thursday 15th Junior Swimming
Playground Craze incursion 3-6
Monday 19th SRC 80's Disco
Tuesday 20th Whole School Mass/Winter Appeal
Reports sent home
Wednesday 21st 3Rs Winning House celebration
Thursday 22nd Junior Swimming
Casual Clothes Day (for fun)
Last day of term 2 for students
Friday 23rd School Closure Day for staff PL

JULY

Monday 10th Term 3 commences

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

In recent weeks, I have received lovely feedback about our students from visitors, parents, families and staff. I have been told that they have been welcoming, respectful, courteous and polite. I couldn't have been prouder of them than at the Peace Mass today as their behavior was fantastic. They have also been commended for using their initiative and noticing how they can help others. Together, I think we are laying the foundations for our students/

TERM DATES 2023



TERM 2 - 24 April - 23 June
TERM 3 - 10 July - 15 September
TERM 4 - 2 October - 21 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Monarch's Birthday - 12 June
Melb Cup - 7 November

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

23/6/23
15/9/23
6/11/23

children to be caring and considerate citizens and that is what we need for the future. As the saying goes 'It takes a village to raise a child' and I think at St Michael's we have a pretty good 'village'. Our 'village' was evident at the open days—it was lovely to see how many parents, grandparents and friends were able to join us and celebrate the children's learning. We understand that you can't always be present for these events and we thank the kindness of some of the grandparents and parents who took other students 'under their wing' so that they didn't miss out. Thank you everyone for making this week a wonderful celebration.

I was very pleased to find out that Shane Fyfe will be your new principal from next term as he comes highly recommended and I know he is very happy about his appointment (he must have heard how wonderful we are at St Michael's). He is also keen to come across to school and meet everyone before the end of term so we will be expecting a visit in the very near future. I am sure the children are looking forward to meeting him and being able to put a face to the name.



St Michael's Primary School acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gunaikurnai people, traditional custodians of the land on which the school is built. As a school community, we commit to walk alongside our First Nations people for reconciliation, truth and justice.



SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I would like to thank Megan Underwood and Jess Tatterson for taking on the roles of parent representatives on the School Advisory Committee. We really appreciate that they are willing to commit to this important role in our school community and I am sure they will have a lot to offer. Sadly, we will be farewelling Sarah Christian from our Committee at our next meeting. Sarah has been a long time member of the Committee and her support and advice has been invaluable. I'd like to thank Sarah for her commitment and dedication to St Michael's. Our AGM is on Wednesday, 31st May at 7.00pm.

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Wally, Molly and Tahlia for competing in the Wellington District Cross Country. A further congratulations goes to Wally, who will be going on to the next level and competing in the Gippsland Region Cross Country. This is a huge achievement—let's keep our fingers crossed that he can continue on to State level!



SALE EISTEDDFOD BIG WIN

Our Choir have done it again! They won their section in the Sale Eisteddfod and, after reading the judge's feedback, I am very impressed. Mrs Cheshire and Mrs Wheeler said they performed exceptionally well and deserved the win. This is now the third year in a row that we have won the rural schools section. Unfortunately I don't have a choir photo for this newsletter but I'll make sure there is one in the next newsletter—maybe with their medals if I can get them engraved in time!

STUDENT REPORTS

Teacher are in the process of writing students' end of term reports at the moment. Written reports will be handed out in the last week of term. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment with their child's teacher/teachers if they have any queries about the report that is received. Teachers will be available to discuss reports in that week.

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Walk Safely to School Day. Especially to Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Freeman for meeting the children and walking with them. We were lucky it was such a beautiful morning.



FRIDAY 10 MAY 2023

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS

'Tournament of Minds' is a competition that challenges students to think 'outside the square' and be creative problem solvers and innovative thinkers. We entered a team last year and they competed against other schools at Federation University and won their section. Mrs Duncan has spoken with the 5/6 students about entering a team this year and the students are keen to participate again.

Information will be sent home about this as it is a big commitment on behalf of the students and their parents.



HDSSA WINTER SPORTS

Years 5 & 6 students will be participating in the Winter Sports next Friday. This is a round robin competition in netball, tee ball, football and soccer. Students select which sport they want to go in and the teams compete against other schools in our district.



19th May

Heath: For displaying the qualities of a great friend and being a role model to others in our class.

Corbin: For working hard in his reading group to learn new words and strategies to use when reading.

Millie: For producing a detailed digital pie graph from her surveyed results.

Yvette: For producing a detailed digital column graph from her surveyed results.

Zara: For embracing new friendships at the leadership day.

Poppy: For contributing ideas about leadership and fairness.

Tahlia: For pushing herself out of her comfort zone and making the most of the leadership day.

Lottie: For brainstorming great ideas to help make our school an even better place.

Molly: For reflecting on her own learning and discussing new goals for reading.

Corbin: For being a keen and positive learner.

Charlie: For giving great feedback during our repeated reading sessions.

ON TRACK WITH MARY MAC!

Congratulations to Zara for receiving a Mary MacKillop Award. Zara has shown great resilience and optimism. She has focused on the positives despite disappointment and worry. At the same time, Zara has upheld her responsibilities as a school leader. Thank you Zara for being a great role model to others and making our school a better place.



This year we want to be on track with Mary Mac and...



"Never see a need without doing something about it"



BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday in the last fortnight.

Matilda: 16th May

Jayden: 25th May

Alex: 26th May



CONFIRMATION

Lottie and Luther will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday, along with students from St Mary's in Maffra. The Mass will be celebrated by the Bishop. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this important stage of their faith journey and we congratulate them on making this commitment.

FATHER EDWIN'S VISIT

Father Edwin came to visit the 5/6 class this week. The students had lots of questions for him after they had been working on their RE Inquiry unit about Pentecost.



TREE PLANTING AT THE PUMP TRACK

Everyone enjoyed themselves at the tree planting—it's always good to get outside in the fresh air and do something active. Once again, we were blessed with lovely weather. The exciting part about this project is that the students will be able to monitor how the trees are growing by uploading photos to the website link and seeing how the area changes over time. This will be something we can do as a school. It's also good to know that we are doing something great for the environment.

More photos are included further on in the newsletter.



SRC REPORT

SRC's Mission is:

To make our school and the world a better place.

On Wednesday, 7th June, SRC are having a PJ Day. This will be a fundraiser for Remy. Everyone is asked to wear their PJs on that day and donate whatever money they would like to give. There is a reason it is a PJ Day—SRC thought that it would be a good idea to get Remy a voucher that she could use to buy herself some nice PJs because she probably needs them for her hospital visits.

On the PJ Day we will have hot chocolate and Mrs Miller will see if the snow machine is working and we'll have a wintery theme for the day. It should be lots of fun.

SRC will be meeting on Monday to go over the details of the lunchtime Disco. This is a fun activity that SRC will be organising in the last week of school. It will be an 80s theme so everyone might want to start thinking of what they can wear.



OPEN DAYS

As I mentioned on the first page of the newsletter, we had wonderful open days to celebrate Catholic Education Week. I'd like to thank Bev for the delicious scones that she made for us—we didn't have any left overs. Bev makes the scones for us every year and very kindly donates her time and the ingredients. I'd also like to thank the two Kerries for making sure that everyone had a cup of tea and scones, jam and cream before they headed for home. We hope everyone enjoyed the open mornings—we know we did. It's always great to show off our school. Here are just a few photos from the days.



TREE PLANTING AT THE PUMP TRACK



OUR PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Edwin Ogbuka

Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com 0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY: Willie Schoenmaekers

Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au

Mass is celebrated at St Michael's Church in Heyfield on Tuesday mornings at 9.30am and Saturday evenings at 6.00pm.

We are a 'Parish in Partnership' with Maffra, Newry, Cowwarr and Dargo.



Children were taken because of official laws and government policies at the time, which aimed to assimilate the Indigenous population into the non-Indigenous community.

The children were renamed, forced to stop speaking their native language, and were told their parents no longer wanted them.

The policies were in effect right up until the 1970s, and many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are still searching for lost parents and siblings today.

Former rugby league star and proud Wiradjuri woman Katrina Fanning said National Sorry Day was about having empathy.

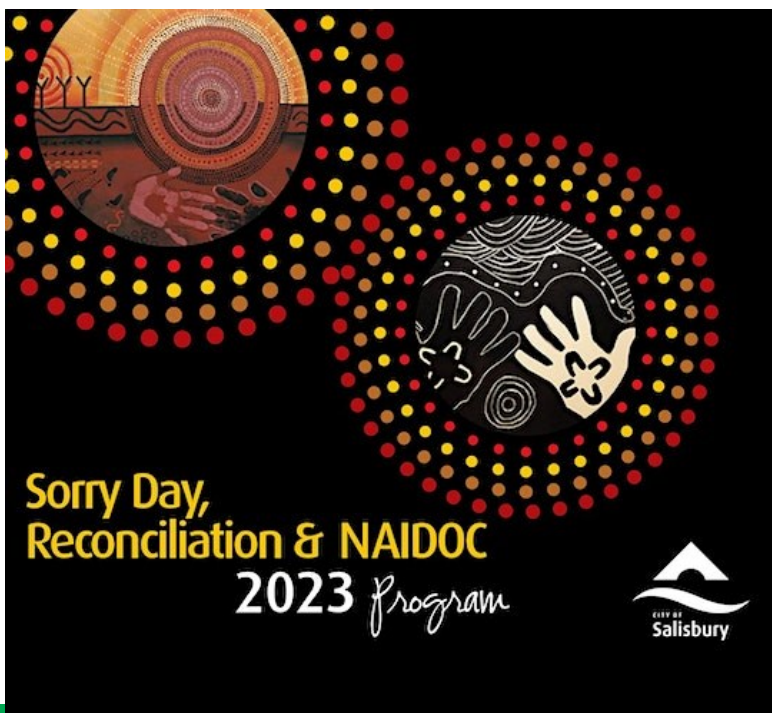
"Where there's parts of our history where there's tragedy, where there's struggle, I feel emotions for those people," she said.

Ms Fanning said providing support to others should not be limited to people you had personally wronged.

Extract from ABC News—the full article can be found at: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-05-26/national-sorry-day-indigenous-australians-why-should-i-apologise/102393738>

NATIONAL SORRY DAY

Australia marks National Sorry Day on May 26 each year, remembering and acknowledging the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed as children from their families and communities, otherwise known as the Stolen Generations.



NATIONAL SORRY DAY

FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023