6th December 2018     Term 4 Week 8

First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

“Miraculous signs will occur in the sun, moon, and stars. The nations of the earth will be deeply troubled and confused because of the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint as they fearfully wait for what will happen to the world. Indeed, the powers of the universe will be shaken.

“The then people will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

“Then these things begin to happen, stand with confidence! The time when you will be set free is near.”

“Make sure that you don’t become drunk, hung over, and worried about life. Then that day could suddenly catch you by surprise like a trap that catches a bird. That day will surprise all people who live on the earth. Be alert at all times. Pray so that you have the power to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand in front of the Son of Man.”


Gospel Reflection

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus predicts things that will happen at the end of time when he comes again in glory. He says that many people will not understand these things, and they will be frightened. But Jesus tells his disciples that they should not be frightened, and he tells them what they should do so that they will be able to see these things clearly.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C).

The Liturgical Cycle
The Liturgical Cycle covers a three-year period.
Year A - focuses on Matthew’s Gospel
Year B - focuses on Mark’s Gospel
John’s Gospel is interspersed throughout the years, particularly during Easter.
All Parents, Friends and Family

School Presentation Day

Friday 1st December - 12noon in the School Hall

Special Class Awards to be presented include Outstanding Achievement in English, Outstanding Achievement in Mathematics, Consistent Effort and Christian Leadership.

A Sporting Blue Award will be presented to those students who have represented our school at the highest possible level.

An Academic Award will be presented to those students who have received the highest possible award in academic competitions.

Other special awards include The Lynne Beattie Memorial Award for Outstanding Participation in Cultural Activities, The Helen Locke Memorial Award for Service to Others, The School Spirit Award, The Academic DUX of the school and The House of the Year.

Our School Captains will present a farewell speech on behalf of Yr 6 and our 2017 badged leaders will receive a small token of appreciation.

The Changing of the Guard will take place at the conclusion of the awards. This is when the 2019 badged leaders are announced.

Our Presentation Day is expected to take approximately 1 hour.

We sincerely hope you can join with us to celebrate just some of the amazing success stories from 2018.

ALL CHILDREN ARE TO BE IN THEIR FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM ON FRIDAY

Those students who are going home after Presentations are asked to have their parent/carer sign the class sheet in the classroom before leaving the premises.
Christmas Dance Concert
Thursday 13th December
5pm Start

All grades will be performing a Christmas carol and their dances they have been learning in PE lessons.
Bring a BYO picnic dinner and enjoy the entertainment.

NEWS FROM KINDER GOLD

We are coming to an end of a fabulous year in Kindergarten.

In Kindergarten Gold we have started learning about Advent and preparing for Jesus’ birth on Christmas Day. We have learnt that the Advent colour is purple. We are also preparing for our special assembly on Friday 14th December.

We have been reading the book “Wombat Divine” by Mem Fox. We are continuing to focus on what happens at the beginning, the middle and the end of the story. It is also a great story about the Christmas nativity.

In Science we are learning about the basic needs of living things. We have been exploring what animals need to survive by looking after our classroom pet “Lightning”. Lightning is a stick insect. We had our awesome excursion to the ‘Bathurst Sheep and Cattle Drome’.

In Dance we are learning some fantastic dance moves and a wonderful routine. We are really working hard and we can’t wait for you to see it at our Dance concert in Week 9.

We love Kindergarten!!!
Chess
**In Term 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>10-Dec-18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>11-Dec-18</td>
<td>Yr6 Grad Mass 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>12-Dec-18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>13-Dec-18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>14-Dec-18</td>
<td>Kindergarten Assembly 12:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>17-Dec-18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>18-Dec-18</td>
<td>End of Year Mass 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>19-Dec-18</td>
<td>Flag Raising 9:30am; Last day of 2018 school year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School resumes for staff Tues 29 January 2019.

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**Billy Blood Drop Challenge**

There's only two weeks left of the 2018 Billy Blood Drop Challenge!! We're currently sitting on 410 donations which is **1230 lives saved**! Let's make a final push to see where we can finish!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation Name</th>
<th>Whole Blood</th>
<th>Plasma</th>
<th>Platelets</th>
<th>Total Donations</th>
<th>Lives Saved</th>
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<tr>
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<td>103</td>
<td>309</td>
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<td>63</td>
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<td>99</td>
<td>297</td>
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<td>Bletchington Public School</td>
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<tr>
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<td>135</td>
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<tr>
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<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>48</td>
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</table>

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**Term 4 Dance Timetable**

Children will be required to wear their sports uniforms on the following days for Term 4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS</td>
<td>CLASS AWARDS</td>
<td>BOOKWORK</td>
<td>HOUSE POINTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| KG    | Nyjah Hardman
     Lewis Hinchcliff
     Mikaili Elliott
     Andrew Greatbatch
     Hannah Sara
     Heidi Barrett | Arley Arat
     Constance Whittaker
     Mason White
     Ivy Scovell-Wynne | MacKillop - 510
     McNamee - 610
     McAuley - 770
     Shannon - 550 |
| 1B    | Toby Chalker
     Aiden Shore
     Georgia Maurice
     Harrison Kelly
     Amelia King | | |
| 1G    | Charlton Gill
     Tripp Pearson
     Jake Newham
     Macy Prevett
     Ella Mason | | |
| 3B    | Joshua King
     Mariel Libunao
     Luke Prevett
     Macey Thomas
     Alexandra Ward
     Edward Hiney
     Amelie Curran
     Hunter Slattery | Shaylee Holmes
     Millicent Benton
     William Pell
     Charlie Hook
     Thomas Nelson
     Alexandra Ward | MacKillop - 250
     McNamee - 250
     McAuley -300
     Shannon - 300 |
| 3G    | Thomas Mason
     Cleo Graystone
     Ryley Simmons
     Isabelle Perkins
     Noah Chislett
     Cooper Woods | Mia Holmes
     Ryley Simmons
     Daniel Moloney
     Patrick Frew | MacKillop - 250
     McNamee - 300
     McAuley - 250
     Shannon - 300 |
| 4G    | Ava O'Brien
     Lachlan Godson
     Aram Logan
     Hugh Collins
     Taniyah Jaimon | | |
| 6G    | Seb Benton
     Ollie Perkins
     Harrison King
     Seth Muhall
     Zara Pickering
     RJ Libunao | | |
BYODD - 2019
ATTENTION all students in Year 3 2019 and any students in Year 4, 5 or 6 new to the school who have not yet purchased a Chromebook.

Our Chromebook Portal is Now Open!

The designated ACER Chromebooks are to be purchased only through the JB Hi Fi Purchasing portal. To purchase a Chromebook you will need to go to the following website and then enter in our school code.


School Code: SMCBYOD2019

The total cost of the Chromebook is $379. You will also have the option to select additional warranty and insurance for the device. As well as this, there is the option to purchase the Chromebook through JB Hi Fi for 12 months Interest Free. We are asking all families to purchase the Chromebook by the end of the 2018 school year so that we can ensure all students will have the device for the beginning of next year.

If you have any financial concerns regarding the purchasing of a device before the 2019 school year, could you please contact the School Office or Mrs Basha or Mrs Maher so that alternative arrangements can be made for your family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Helper Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 7/12/18</td>
<td>Bec Cheney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 11/12/18</td>
<td>Helper Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 12/12/18</td>
<td>Helper Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 13/12/18</td>
<td>Helper Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 14/12/18</td>
<td>Jo Banks &amp; Mandy Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you can help in the canteen please text Mandy on 0418 664 741 or contact the school.

Count down is on to school holidays. As we are not ordering more supplies for the canteen we ask that you make 2 choices for lunch orders just in case we don’t have the stock.
Next week Thursday December 13 St Marys’ will host the annual music concert and instrument demonstration to all students in years 2-5. The students will be entertained by our talented 2018 instrumental students and their tutors.

St Mary’s will be offering the Instrumental Music Program in 2019. The program will be offered to students who will be in Year 3 and higher in 2019. These students will be given the opportunity to learn woodwind, brass, guitar, strings and percussion instruments within the school program in conjunction with the Orange Conservatorium. The benefits of learning to play a musical instrument are well documented.

Music participation enhances teamwork, goal setting, self-expression, coordination, self-confidence, concentration and much more. The instruments being offered in this program are Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Guitar, Violin, Cello and Percussion, including the Drums.

We are also hoping to begin a St Marys Primary Choir in 2019.

If your child is interested in joining this worthwhile program, please fill in an application form and return before the end of term.

COST: Group lessons are offered at a cost of $10 per lesson

**String Ensemble Nursing Home Performance**

Students from our fantastic String Ensemble will be performing for the aged residents at Ascot Gardens next Thursday morning at 10:30. The students along with our Talented Strings teacher Doreen Cummings will perform Christmas Carols for the residents. This will be our first of many performances and we are so excited to have this opportunity to give back to our community. Permission notes for students to walk to Ascot Gardens accompanied by Doreen and myself will need to be signed and handed in before next Thursday.

We look forward to a musical year in 2019. Thank you for your support.

*Fiona Nell*
*Music Coordinator*

**YEAR SIX UNIFORM CHANGES**

**Week 9**

Monday - sport uniform
Tuesday - sport uniform (so their school uniform will be clean for Mass)
          - school uniform for Mass at 6pm
Wednesday - school uniform
Thursday - dress-up day
           - evening Christmas colours for dance & bush shirt or hat for carols
Friday - school uniform

**Week 10**

Monday - sport uniform (reward day)
Tuesday - school uniform - Mass
Wednesday - Christmas clothes
**Student Initiative**

**FUNDRAISER**

‘Bust Brain Cancer—Fund Cancer Research’

Miss Steph is the dance director of ‘Dance Fuse’. Miss Steph has been teaching the students of St Mary’s Dance for the past 3 years. Miss Steph has been diagnosed with a brain tumour. She has had radiation treatment with positive results. Miss Steph is now in recovery and has started up a charity to raise money for brain cancer research. Lyla Luxford’s initiative is for the school to support Miss Steph’s charity.

**Thursday 13th December**

**Bring in a coin donation to dress up in your best Dance outfit.**

At lunchtime the school will have a disco on the playground.

All money raised will go to Miss Steph’s Charity “Bust Brain Cancer - Fund Cancer Research”.


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**Year 6 Graduation Mass**

We invite our St Mary’s School Community and all the parents, grandparents and families to join with the school to celebrate and farewell our Year 6 students at their Graduation Mass.

**Tuesday, 11th December – 6pm at St Mary’s Church.**

Students are invited to join the school choir. There will be singing practice at school on Monday, 2nd half of lunch. On Tuesday evening please come and sit over near the organ.

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**End of Year Mass**

We invite all parents, grandparents and families to join with the school to celebrate our last Mass together for 2018.

**Tuesday, 18th December – 9:30am at St Mary’s Church.**
This year the needs of the Orange community are centered on the FAMILY. We would like to continue to help those who are less fortunate than us have a joyful family experience.

You can help by giving a gift for a family to use. For example:

- Gift vouchers to local coffee shops,
- Flip out entry ticket, Movie tickets,
- Ten Pin Bowling, coffee shop vouchers
- or even a garden shop gift vouchers.

All items will be donated

St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

Thank you for your support.
Together we can create a world where there is justice for all.
Millthorpe Excursion

Year One have been studying Past and Present Family Life and as a component of this History unit we travelled to Millthorpe. While at Millthorpe, the students visited the Golden Memories Museum and walked through the village looking at old buildings such as the Millthorpe Railway Station. The students gained a valuable insight into what family life was like in the past by looking at so many interesting things, especially at the museum.

My favourite thing at the museum was the big tractor because when you pressed the button it moved. I also liked rubbing the old coins. By Nicholas - 1 Blue

I sat on a chair and put a head piece on at the telephone exchange. It was fun pulling the cords out and putting them into the holes. I used an old phone to talk to people in the other room. By Rabblyn - 1 Gold

I saw lots of old stuff. It showed me what life was like in the past. I saw pictures of horses pulling machines that cut grass. By Sebastian - 1 Blue

I liked watching the blacksmith. I hadn’t seen one before. I liked how he made the fire hotter with the bellows and how he twisted the hot metal. By Macy - 1 Gold

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers at the Golden Memories Museum and to Mr Maguire, Mrs O’Brien and Mrs Woodham for coming along too.

Year One Teachers

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![Images of students during the excursion](images.jpg)
MISS STEPH’S BUST BRAIN CANCER

Nerium Hamper - valued at $1,700

Tickets available for $5 each at the
St Mary’s Dance Concert - Thursday 13th December

Drawn 16th December

Let’s Support Miss Steph

WIN OUR NERIUM HAMPER!

For every donation made to
Steph’s Bust Brain Cancer - Fund Cancer Research
will go into the draw to win our Nerium hamper!

Hamper includes:
2 x day creams, 2 x night creams, 2 x eye serums, 2 x body firming lotions, 2 x hydrogel eye patches, 2 x double botanical cleansers, 2 x Prolistic body lotions, 2 x Illumaboost brightening and shield serums, a cosmetic bag and a canvas bag – valued at over $1700 in retail value!
Giving kids social scripts

Recently, I heard my adult daughter rebuke a male friend who told her that she’d lost weight.
“You just can’t say that,” remarked my daughter.

Realising his mistake this young man said, “Okay. Sorry. What should I say instead?”
“Tell me I look healthy.”
“Hey, you look really healthy!”

“That’s better,” remarked my daughter, who has clearly inherited an assertiveness gene from her mother.

This young man was well intentioned but his scripting was askew. He knew that a male complimenting a female about losing weight maybe no compliment at all, however he didn’t know what else to say. My daughter gave him a new script, which he can use in similar situations in the future.

This scenario is relevant to parenting. At Parenting Ideas, we always encourage parents to look for opportunities to give their kids social scripts so they can express themselves appropriately and effectively in different situations.

You’re never too young or too old to be hugged. Just as you’re never too young or too old to receive a social script from a well-meaning friend or parent.

Benefits of social scripting for kids

Social scripting achieves the parenting trifecta. Giving kids scripts can help them stay safe, become social and importantly, become independent.

The job of parents is to wean kids off them, and social scripting is a big part of this process. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. Asking a teacher for help or assistance
   Kids often coerce parents to do their bidding with teachers, coaches, siblings and other adults. It’s easy to pick up the phone and arrange to meet a teacher or go into your child’s room and ask for something on behalf of your child. Take a different approach. “Choose a time when your teacher is free, and then ask her if you can sit at the front of the classroom. You could say….”

2. Entering a game at school
   Many kids struggle to enter into a game or activity at school, so they sit on the sidelines and miss out. Social scripting involves timing, not just the words to use. Consider coaching a child about how he or she may approach a situation. Suggest that he or she looks for someone they know, and waits for a lull in the game before asking.

3. Telling a sibling to stop annoying them
   “Jessica, please stop flicking the ruler while I’m watching TV. I find it annoying.” This may work. If not, this child could try, “Jessica, could you flick your ruler elsewhere.” It may work. It may not. But it’s infinitely better than yelling, “Jessica, DOOOONNNN’TTT!!!!” Give kids the scripts they need to help them negotiate their sibling relationships.

4. Saying no to a friend without losing face
   Research shows that many teenagers struggle with peer pressure because they don’t know how to say no in a way that maintains their status. One strategy is to use an excuse rather than say give an outright no. “I don’t want to drink tonight because I’ve got football training in the morning.”

5. Expressing their emotions
   Both genders can struggle to express their feelings, particularly if they haven’t been taught the words to use at home. Recently, I saw a mother prompt her three year old when he was clearly annoyed. “Are you frustrated Maxie?” “Yes, I fusttated!!” “Would you like a hug? Yessss!”

You’re never too young or too old to be hugged. Just as you’re never too young or too old to receive a social script from a well-meaning friend or parent.