



School Newsletter

Term 1 Issue 9

April 1 2020

St Mary Star of the Sea School Board

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 9, 2020

Friday April 3rd
Friday April 3rd
Friday April 3rd
Friday April 3rd

POSTPONED Thanksgiving liturgy 9.30am
POSTPONED PP-2 Water Fun Day
POSTPONED Reconciliation—High School
Last day of Term 1 for students

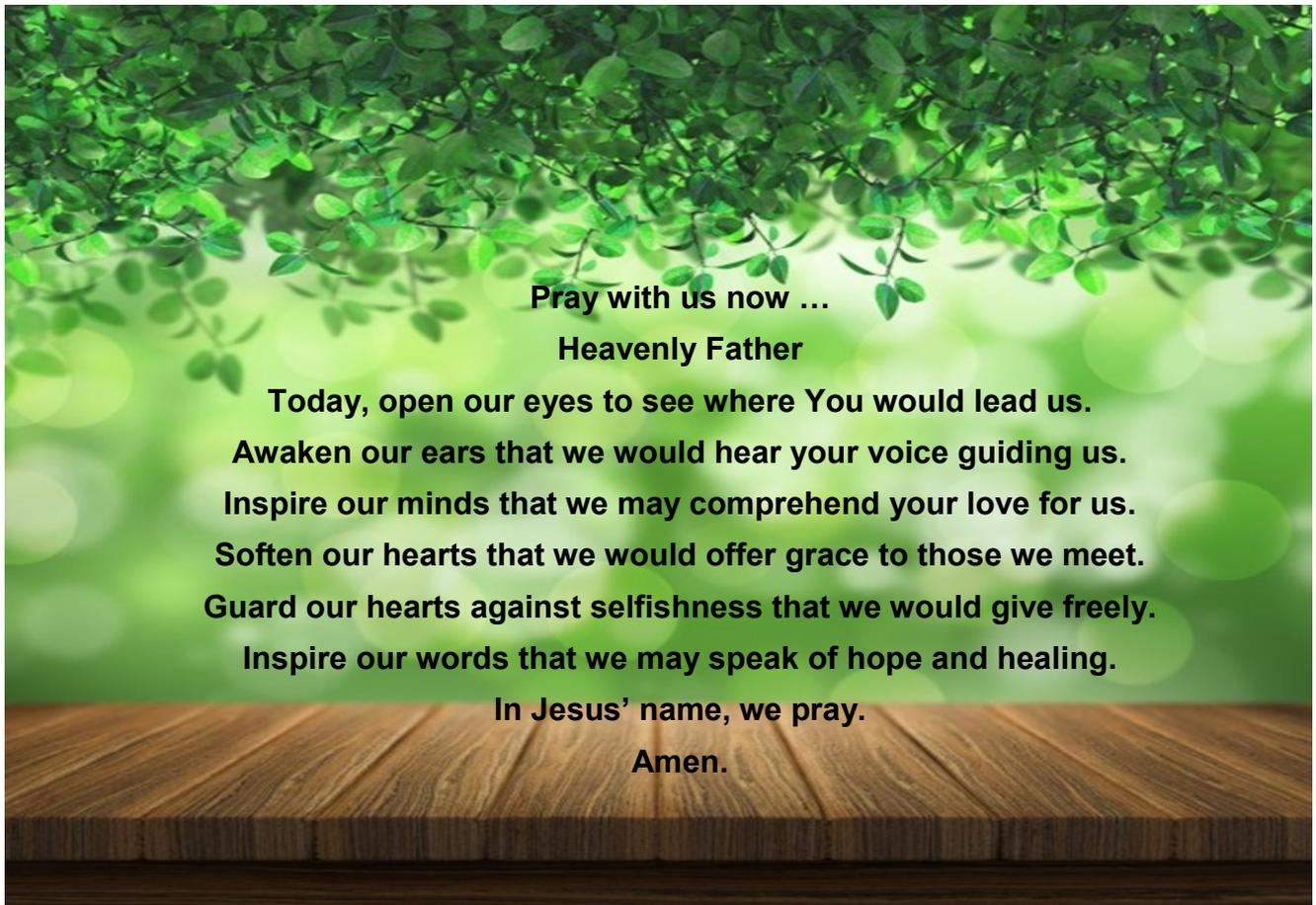
Week 10, 2020

Monday 6th—Thursday 9th
Friday 10th April

School open for Essential Service Workers' children
Good Friday

Prayer

We are living in uncertain times. Do not allow the fear of "What if" to ruin the joy of "What is".



Pray with us now ...

Heavenly Father

Today, open our eyes to see where You would lead us.

Awaken our ears that we would hear your voice guiding us.

Inspire our minds that we may comprehend your love for us.

Soften our hearts that we would offer grace to those we meet.

Guard our hearts against selfishness that we would give freely.

Inspire our words that we may speak of hope and healing.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

With school currently in till Friday, many students are learning remotely from home or accessing lessons via devices on campus here at St Mary's. During this week, we are refining our learning platforms in readiness for the beginning of next term, 28th April.

When school begins next term, we are not on an extended break nor are we in hibernation, lessons will start from day one and all students need to be participating in one way or another to ensure learning continues. We are unsure how long this will be; however, we don't want St Mary's students to resume school after COVID19 and be behind their same age cohort across Australia. I need to make this point very clearly to all parents and students, schooling during Term 2, whether it be on campus or off, IS NOT OPTIONAL. Student attendance will be taken, non-attendance will be followed up and responses to teachers' lessons will be expected.

To ensure we have all students ready for this transition to a new way of learning, parents are asked to check emails to ensure that children are ready to participate. We have had a number of families not responding to requests and this is causing some concerns. It is up to all of us to ensure St Mary's students are successful learners in Term 2.

If parents are finding their children are unable to participate in the online learning that will be provided, they need to contact the school ASAP so a solution can be arranged.

ATTENDANCE

Each morning, from the 28th April, student attendance will be taken from 8:15 to 8:25 for all classes from Pre-primary through to Year 12.

For primary students, a message will be sent to parents via class dojo asking them to respond as to their child's readiness to learn that day. For secondary students, there will be a Home Room session each morning where their Home Room Teacher will connect and record attendance. In the event that attendance has not been registered, follow up procedures will begin.

WEEK 10

With formal lessons concluding this week, students are not expected to attend school Monday 6th April to Thursday 9th April. We will remain open for children whose parents are involved in essential services work. There will be no teaching on these days, however supervision will be provided. It is important on these days for those students attending school that recess, lunch etc. is brought each day. The canteen will not be operating. Free dress can be worn during this week.

God Bless



Mr Steve O'Halloran
Principal



Keep up to date with what's happening around school.
Please follow and like our Facebook page



St Mary Star of the Sea
Catholic School
@smesd701

From the REC ...



Scripture portrays Jesus as a person who is passionately interested in children and their spirituality. Children, he said, are models to be imitated if we adults are to enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:2-3). The harshest judgement he ever made was directed against those who led his little ones astray (Matthew 18:6).

"Let the little children come to me" (Mark 10:14) is Jesus' demand. It is addressed not only to the first disciples but to modern parents as well.

As not all of our students are able to attend their classes at the moment, it is vitally important that parents as first educators of their children, pick up the mantle in the faith formation of their children. You can achieve this by continuing to maintain structure and first in that structure has to be our relationship with God. We have several opportunities to participate online in prayer through Mass, the Angelus and Adoration, but here are some thoughts from <https://netcatholic.org/faith-formation-for-families> for faith formation: both for your children and for yourselves.

On the importance of the Family as Domestic Church

When we contemplate the Holy Family, we are reminded of the sacredness of family. No matter what our family looks like or our unique way of being blessed and broken, it is in the family that we learn our values and that we become who we are. The family is the school that shapes our hearts, character and personality. Families do not need to be perfect, and in fact no family is. By accepting the shortcomings of our own family and learning to value our differences we learn how to properly relate to others in the way that God relates to us: loving all without exclusion, forgiving, and supporting our every small effort to be better. Depending on how we treat each other in our family we can become a school of judgement, exclusion and harshness or a school of mercy and love. A school of judgment will produce unhappy people that will make life difficult for themselves and for others. A school of mercy, will produce people that are open to finding the good in all, to forgive and embrace and encourage and to celebrate diversity: in sum, happy people that will make life more enjoyable for themselves and others.

Living Mercy as a family

Our families are called to be domestic churches, this is communities where human beings are built in the likeness of Jesus Christ. Our Families then are to become schools of Mercy.

Pope Francis recommends three simple practices for family life that embody this practice of respect and love and mercy among all members of the family:

Say thank you: Do we truly appreciate what other family members do for the family? Do we let them know that we do?

Ask for forgiveness: Do we respect all in our family? Do we ask for forgiveness when we unjustly punish our children or when we lose our temper? Do we ask for forgiveness when we disobey our parents? Do we ask for forgiveness when we fail our spouses in big or small ways?

Ask for permission: Do we respect others enough to take them into account when we are making plans and decisions? Do we take their needs and desires into account? Do we ask if what we are planning to do would be good for all the members of the family?

Continued

From the REC ...

We are all navigating uncharted waters here as none of us have lived through a pandemic before. For some of us, we will be spending time together all day long and, for others being alone may be something new and frightening; however, we are not on our own as God walks with us every step of the way.

Do you remember that famous poem *Footprints in the Sand* by Margaret Fishback Powers?

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.
After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.
This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."
He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

May God bless you all. Stay safe and well ...

Sam Da Luz



SECONDARY NEWS

Term 1, 2020 will definitely be known as the Term of 'CHANGE'. We began the year with a movement from a Middle School structure of years 7 – 10, to a Secondary School structure, incorporating Years 11 – 12. This did boost our student population and added in a new school uniform into the mix but it also meant our teachers had to learn not only new curriculum and syllabus as well as the legalities of Senior Secondary. This has meant new syllabus', assessment outlines, assessment tasks, assessment marking keys and their marks books all had to be individually approved by SCSA. Fortunately, we received our feedback yesterday, and despite small changes to be made, the teacher's documents were approved. On top of fitting in two new classroom requirements each period into our new timetable, we also took on a new timetabling system which has been interesting to say the least. It impacted on our changed look to SEQTA which came into place at the end of last year. The student's, parent's and teacher's patience with the new changes have been greatly appreciated.

Our new furniture for the Year 11 and 12 space arrived and we have also received our new uniforms for the Year 11 and 12 ... just in time for them to go to remote learning! Thank you again for your patience. And the biggest change of all ... the ongoing daily change that COVID-19 has brought into the daily lives of everyone! For the past 3 – 4 weeks the goalposts shifted daily and at times by the hour. This has meant the school has had to be extremely flexible while at the same time consistent to keep our students in a routine to maintain their sense of wellbeing to the best of our ability.

We have gone from having over a 100 students physically located in the school to just 8 boys and the development of remote learning for both students and teachers. This has been a drastic change for both parties.

As we now enter into our last week of term prematurely, it is still a legal requirement for students to continue their education. Our teachers are using Microsoft Teams and SEQTA to monitor student attendance and deliver the course content to students. Regular face-to-face calls are made throughout the week with each of the teachers. To assist with the extra load, teachers are distributing the load amongst all of our teachers. This may mean your child may have a different teacher for the duration of the remote learning. The new teacher is working alongside their current teacher and ensuring the program according to the original program.

All students are expected to complete 30 – 40 minutes of their 5 core areas; Religious Education, English, Maths, Science and Humanities each day. The non-core and practical areas have provided additional activities which are not compulsory for students to complete. We are being extremely mindful of not making our students spend long periods of time online and therefore their devices.

Unfortunately, Year 11 and 12 students need to maintain their course content as consistently as possible. As a consequence, teachers are attempting to deliver the course to the best of their abilities as we are still unsure of how the reporting structure will occur through SCSA. Year 12 parents will be receiving a letter from SCSA in the near future. In the meantime, it is essential Year 11 and 12 students address the same course load.

We understand the changes that have occurred to home life in regards to your child's education. Please feel free to call the school with any questions you may have.

Until next term, we hope you are able to enjoy the time with your families and we are very much looking forward to having our students return as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Mrs Narelle Holtham

Around the Classrooms...

Year 4

This term Year 4 have been learning about the life cycle of flowering plants, the process of germination and what plants need for growth.



Year 2
Enjoying swimming lessons!

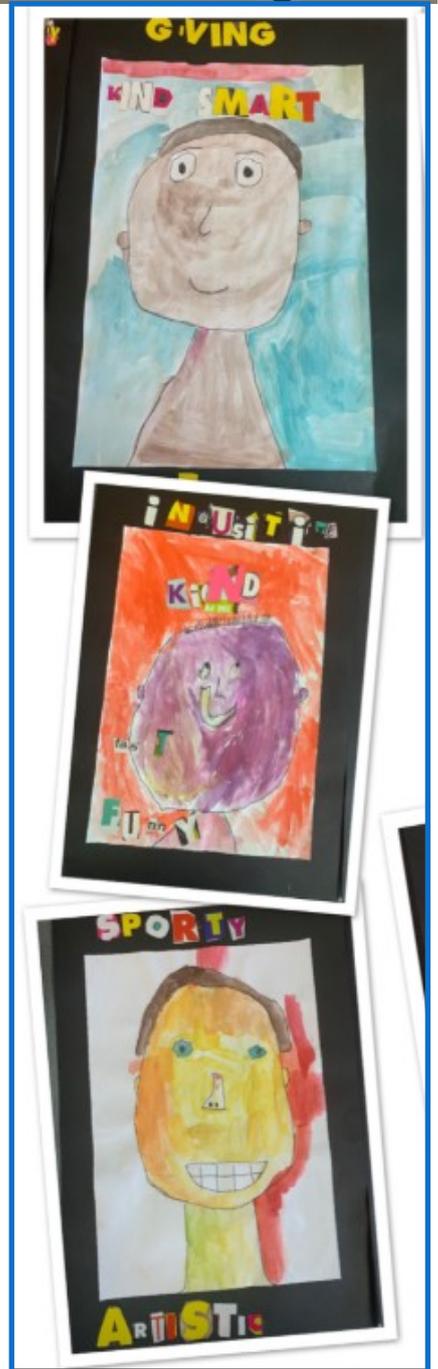


Year 1—Students have been busy learning how dinosaurs defend themselves. They then constructed their own dinosaur shields.

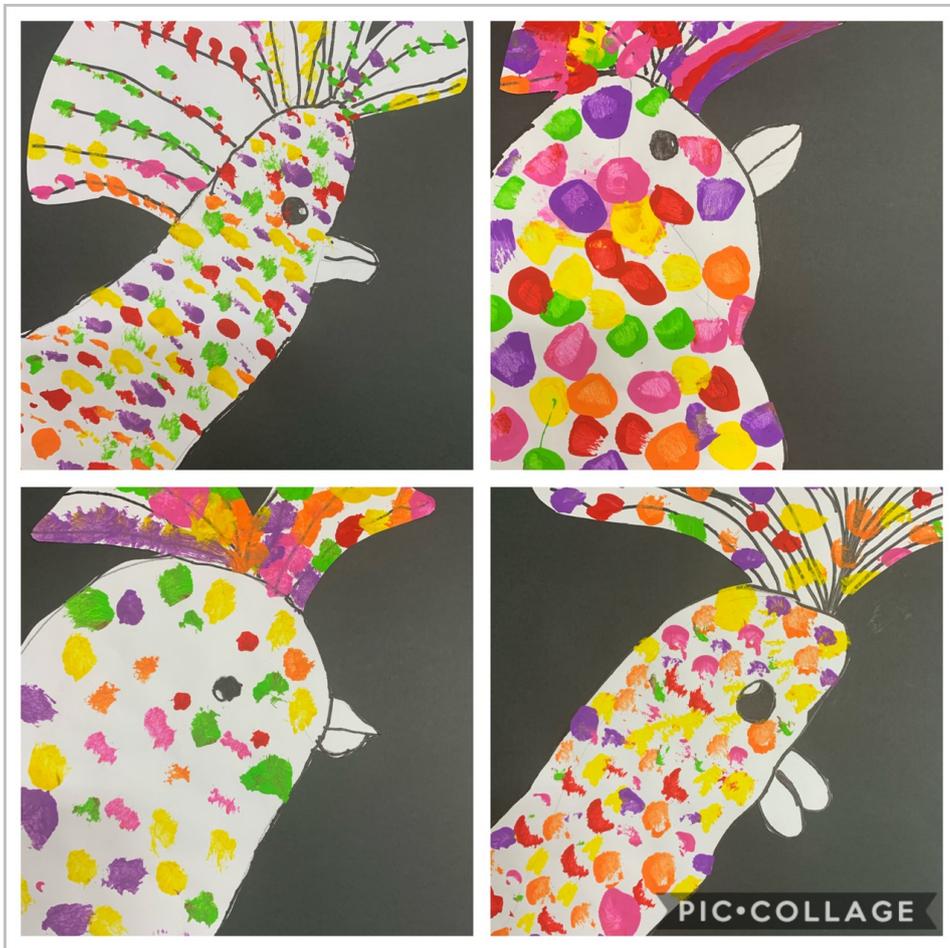


Kindy:
Easter Cross

Year 2:
Self Portraits with
self describing
adjectives



Pre Primary—Fish Art
Year 1—Bird Art: Exploring colours



Book Week 2020

Our Book Week parade will be on Thursday 27th August 2020.

This years theme is:

“ Curious Creatures, Wild Minds ”



LIBRARY NEWS

If your child would like to borrow books from the School Library before end of term, please let me know and I can arrange for books of your choice to be collected from the school office.

A simple on-line library search for book titles found in our library can be accessed by visiting

<http://bookmark.central.sa.edu.au/smsc.htm>

Scholastic Lexile users can also search a list of titles in their lexile range by logging in to their Lexile homepage. Please remember to tick the boxes

- In my lexile range
- In my school library
- With quizzes

Please also contact me if I can be of any help with the above.

Carnarvon Library also has a range of eResources available. For assistance please contact Carnarvon Library staff on 99413727 or email library@carnarvon.wa.gov.au.

Stay safe, be kind

Tina McMeekin

Tina.mcmeekin@cewa.edu.au

99411328



FEE CONCESSIONS FOR HOLDERS OF HEALTH CARE / PENSION CARDS

HEALTH CARE CARD FEE CONCESSIONS

Kindy to Year 12 Holders of Centrelink Health Care and Pension Cards may be eligible to receive Fee Discounts. The card must be current and show the names of the children attending school. The discount can only be given to the person responsible for payment of the school fees.

Holders must have one of the following cards:

- Pensioner Card—issued every two years on the cardholders birthday
- Most Health Care Cards—reissued automatically if eligible (usually valid for 1 year)
- Low Income Health Care Card—usually valid for 1 year and must be renewed each year

Parents of children who are in receipt of ABSTUDY are NOT eligible to receive HCC Fee concessions.

Department of Education Secondary Student Assistance

Parents of children in Years 7—12 who hold Health Care Card or Pension Cards are also eligible to receive assistance through the Dept of Education.

Applications for Secondary Assistance close on **FRIDAY 9th April 2020**. Claims cannot be made after this date. Parents of children who received ABSTUDY are eligible to receive a small rebate from this assistance scheme.

All families claiming fee discounts **MUST** complete new forms for 2020.

YOU MUST HAVE YOUR CARD WITH YOU WHEN YOU COME TO THE OFFICE TO COMPLETE PAPERWORK. Electronic form of the card is not acceptable as we are required to take a photocopy of your card.

If you have any queries regarding your fees, fee payments, Fee concession discounts please contact the School Bursar, Sarah Berson, on 99411328

Thankyou.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7 TO 12
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

\$350

towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A: ● CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
(OR) ● CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
(OR) ● VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close
Thursday 9 April 2020

Ask School Reception for More Information



In this time of uncertainty...

please be patient, please be kind...

Please note: The committee have decided to postpone the next General meeting until Term 2 (depending on circumstances).

Please keep following the P & F Facebook page for updates and all things P & F!



Parish News



St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Parish, Carnarvon

Monday at 5:41 pm · 🌐

Hello to all our Parishioners. We hope you are staying safe and well. As we are currently not allowed to attend Mass, Fr Mariusz has asked that we share the following link to daily Masses from the parish of Revesby in NSW. The Parish Priest of St Lukes in Revesby is Fr Tadeusz who was assistant priest here several years ago. We hope these will bring you comfort at what is a very difficult time for all.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChvfQ4Ibu4ZeKLSbn5UluNQ/>



St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Parish, Carnarvon

2 hrs · 🌐

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CELEBRATION

Due to the current outbreak of Coronavirus it saddens us to announce the decision to postpone this year's celebration of Our Lady of Fatima, which was scheduled for 13/05/2020.

Our priority is the safety and health of our community. We look forward to picking a new date when all is well.



These beautiful stained glass crosses have been made by Pre Primary Students in their Religion class.

SEQTA



SEQTA Learn and SEQTA Engage are now available as apps!
Bring SEQTA's functionality to your mobile device, plus a few extras:



Never miss a thing

Receive push notifications whenever there's something you need to know about.



Hassle-free authentication

Login by scanning or tapping a secure code no username or password required!



Keep it secure

Enable fingerprint locking to ensure that only you can access the app.

Other functionality

The SEQTA apps build on the existing capabilities of SEQTA Learn and SEQTA Engage, so you'll be able to:

- > View upcoming assessments and submit work
- > View marked assessments and teacher feedback
- > View and search your courses and lessons
- > Take notes and make task lists
- > View pastoral care information
- > Track upcoming homework
- > View unresolved absences
- > Send and receive direct messages
- > Interact with students, teachers, and parents in forums
- > View relevant school notices
- > Access academic reports
- > View and colour your timetable

...and much more!

If you have any questions, please contact...

The school office on 99411328

The address is:

<https://smcsc.coneqtp.cathednet.wa.edu.au/>



Download on the

App Store



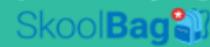
GET IT ON

Google Play

An Education Horizons Group company



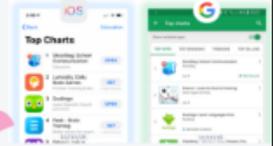
5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed



SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:



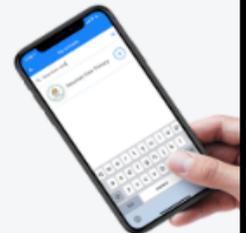
SkoolBag: School Communication

2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

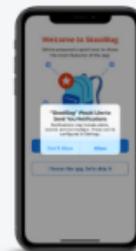
3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



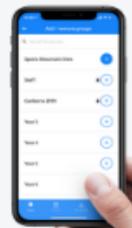
4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.



9:41



Don't forget to download our school's SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

School newsletters
Notices
Events
Cancellations
Reminders
...and more!

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Just search for our school's name in the App Store on your phone and download our app!

St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School Carnarvon

2020 Enrolment

3 year old pre-Kindergarten to Year Twelve

Please contact the school on 9941 1328 for an enrolment form or visit the school website at www.smcsc.wa.edu.au



St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School

Keep up to date with what's happening around school- Please follow and like our page on Face Book

Kiss and Drop

Friendly reminder— the roundabout is to be used for picking up and dropping off students only.

This is a “No Standing” zone.



If you are collecting your child from this area, please remind your child/ren to be waiting in order to avoid congestion.

Thank you

Term Dates 2020

Term 1, 2020

First Day of Term 1—Monday 3rd February
Last Day of Term 1—Friday 3rd April

Please Note: Change of date

Term 2, 2020

First Day of Term 2—Tuesday April 28th
Last Day of Term 2—Friday July 3rd



Homework Classes

Homework classes have now commenced and are scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday after school.

Please see the School Office for application forms.



The Uniform Shop is open from 2:15pm to 3:15pm every Tuesday and Thursday for all your uniform needs.



Lost Property

There is a large amount of lost property currently outside the School Library, including jumpers, drink bottles, hats and lunch boxes—all with no names.

Please take the time to check out anything that may be yours.
Thank you.



**PLEASE
RETURN
YOUR
LIBRARY
BOOKS!**