

Newsletter

Thursday 13 February 2020



Dear Parents and Caregivers

This year, one of the changes that has been introduced at St Mary's is the implementation of a Relationships and Sexuality program which runs from Foundation to Year Six. This program has been mandated by the Catholic Education Office for use in all Catholic schools in our Diocese.

Following the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, the evidence indicated children who had been victims of abuse often did not feel able to speak up about what was happening to them and sometimes did not have a sound understanding of appropriate relationships and how they should be treated by adults. The Relationships and Sexuality program aims to address this through a clear and evidence-based teaching program, specifically working to achieve Standard 7 of the Child Safe standards '*Strategies to promote child participation and empowerment*'.

Obviously, the content of this program has been designed so that it is age appropriate. For our younger students, the focus will be around friendships and relationships with others. For our older children in our Senior Learning Community, this will also cover learning about puberty and body development as children move into their teenage years. This program has been very carefully designed and is an important addition to the learning for the children at St Mary's. If you have any questions about the program or its content, please make time to ask Christine Bulger or myself so we can provide you with further information.

On another note, on Monday 24 February the Resilience Project is in Ararat and will be presenting a session for parents at 7.00pm at the Ararat Town Hall. This is a program that our school is seriously considering to support the social-emotional learning of our children. As someone who has taught this in other schools, is a program with a lot of benefits. If you are interested in attending, please let myself or Georgie Peel know so that we can give you more details.

God bless.

Bill

TERM 1

DATES

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY

Assembly @ 2.40pm
Middle Learning Community
Book Club Orders Due

TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

Joint SAC/Community Meeting
@ 6pm

WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY

Foundation Rest Day
Whole School Gathering @
5.30pm

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY

Foundation Rest Day
Ash Wednesday

THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY
Student Free Day—Staff PD
school closed

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY
Student Free Day—Staff PD
school closed

THURSDAY 5 MARCH
School Photos

FRIDAY 6 MARCH
Assembly @ 2.40pm
Senior Learning Community

MONDAY 9 MARCH
Labour Day Public Holiday

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH
Foundation at school
No more rest days for the
remainder of Term

FRIDAY 13 MARCH
Assembly @ 2.40pm
Junior Learning Community

FRIADAY 20 MARCH
Athletics Carnival

FRIDAY 27 MARCH
Last Day of Term 1

2020 Opening Mass



FEE ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) FORMS

CSEF forms are now available at the office for all eligible state concessions card holders. Forms need to be returned by Wednesday 19 February. Where an eligible application is received the CSEF benefit is \$125 for primary school students. This benefit will be paid directly to the school and will offset it against the applicable student Fee account, thus reducing the total fees payable. Family Fee Assistance is also available from the school for eligible families (parents/carers holding a HCC/Pension card).

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

2020 Conveyance Allowance forms are now available from the office. These are for Country Bus Travellers that are required to travel more than 4.8km to their nearest bus stop. This does not include town bus travel.

THE
EDUCATION
STATE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students

ELIGIBILITY

Must be a current health care or pension card holder & in the parents name, not in a students name.



SkoolBag

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 download the "SkoolBag" app on your phone, open the app and add our school!

St. Mary's Catholic Church Mass Times

| | Ararat | Lake Bolac* | Glenthompson** |
|----------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| Saturday | 6.00pm | | |
| Sunday | 10.30am | 8.30am | 8.30am |

* Lake Bolac Mass 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays

** Glenthompson Mass 2nd Sunday

CONTACT US

PHONE: 03 5352 5460

ADDRESS: PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

EMAIL: ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

WEBSITE: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

(Download the Church Bulletin from the site above)

PRIEST: Fr Andrew Hayes

adrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Centre

St. Mary's Parish Centre is available for hire Monday-Sunday and is ideal for Conferences, Meetings, and Family celebrations, large or small gatherings. It also boasts an Industrial Kitchen. Ring Joyce at the Parish Office to organise a tour 03 5352 5460. Rates are as low as \$100 for the whole day.



Dear St Mary's Families

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience for the whole family



Welcome a new family member into your home

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED 2020

- ✓ Experience a foreign culture firsthand
- ✓ Be exposed to a new language at home
- ✓ Rediscover and share the beauty of Australia
- ✓ Develop friendships that last a lifetime

We have a wonderful group of students arriving in May, July and August 2020 for 3, 5 or 10 months and are excitedly waiting to hear news of their host family in Australia.

All students have a wide range of interests and hobbies.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today

1300 135 331 or info@studentexchange.org.au

www.studentexchange.org.au/hosting
experienceiseverything



say cheese!

School Photo Day is fast approaching.
Have your child's school memories captured forever
on **Thursday 5th March 2020**

Your photo order envelopes will arrive shortly. Please start planning your purchases and payment options.

Remember these helpful points:

- Read all relevant instructions for your preferred payment method.
All payments are due on photo day.
- You may pay online using your credit card. Each child will have an individual 'shootkey' listed on their envelope. This will help identify your child's order.
- You may pay by cash using the individual envelope provided.
Please enclose correct money as no change will be given.
- *Sibling photo envelopes are available at the school office upon request. THESE PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN DURING SCHOOL, ON PHOTO DAY, USUALLY AT RECESS*
 - Please instruct siblings to attend the photo studio during this time. Photographers are unable to search for students who do not attend.
- Do not seal envelopes inside each other. You may include payment for all children in one envelope, however, please indicate on this envelope the names of all the children you are paying for.
- All students should wear their correct school uniform.

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact

MSP Photography

P: 03 5333 5577

e : ballarat@msp.com.au



GARAGE

SALE

15 FEBRUARY 2020



ARARAT

ALEXANDRA HALL

9AM-2PM

ON SALE:

**SAUSAGE
SIZZLE,**

**DUTCH
PANGAKES,**

**FAIRY FLOSS
Cold drinks,
water**

**CAR BOOT
SALE!**

**\$20 per stand
please reserve
your spot.
RSVP
10 February.**

**0414 990 678
Alli
or 0437 010 020
Kath**

Furniture, kitchen wares, clothing,
tools, books, plants and much more...



Beaufort & Skipton
Health Service

**Prizes
Raffles**

Beaufort and Skipton Health Service

TRIVIA

NIGHT

Friday March 13th | 6.30 pm

All funds raised going to
local CFA Brigades

WHERE

Beaufort Community Bank Complex
Park Road, Beaufort

**TICKETS
AVAILABLE**

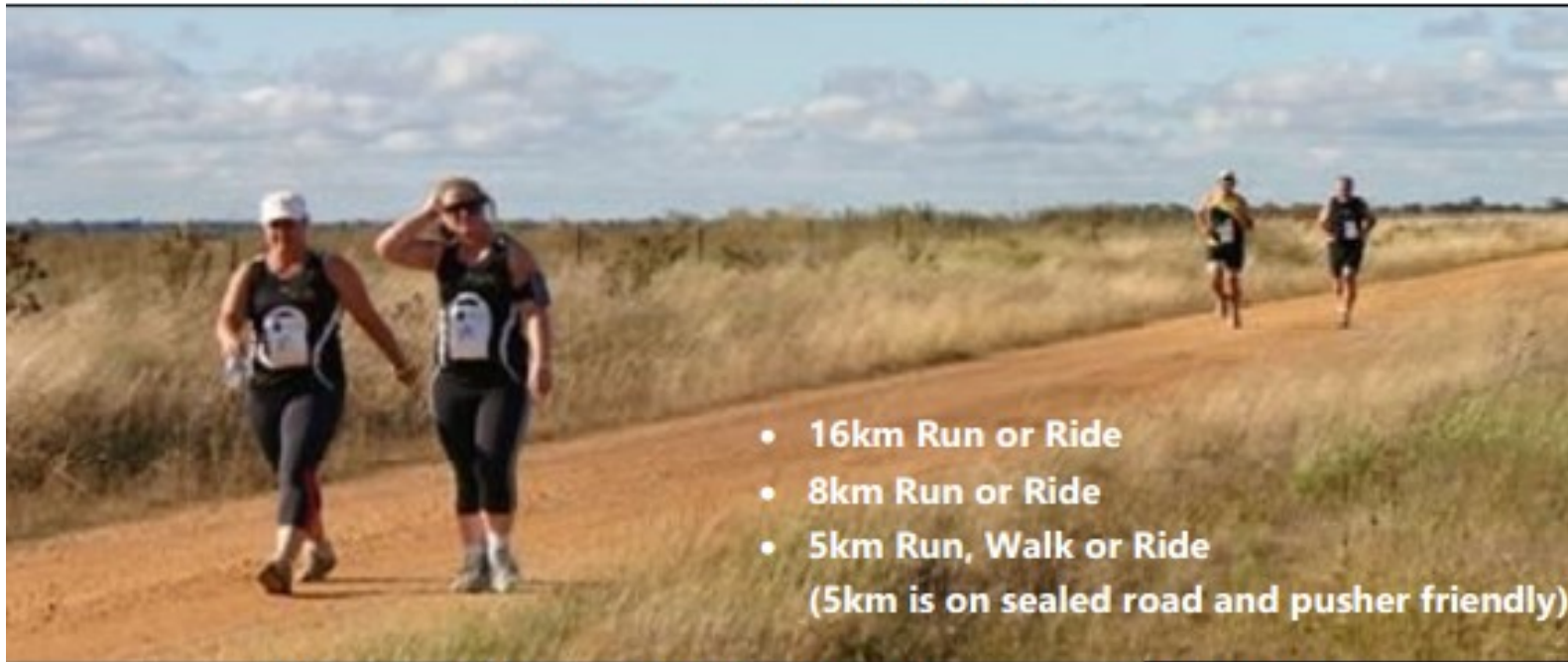
Tahlia 5349 1600
tahlial@bshs.org.au

\$15 per player - tables of 10 - cash bar - BYO snacks

YOU'RE INVITED

WILLAURA Farm To Pub

RIDE · RUN · WALK




- 16km Run or Ride
- 8km Run or Ride
- 5km Run, Walk or Ride
(5km is on sealed road and pusher friendly)

Saturday 22nd February 2020

- *A family friendly event concluding with a free Jumping Castle & Mini Golf at Willaura Recreation Reserve*
- *Children 14 Years and Under- \$10*
- *Adults- \$20*
- *Bar open at 4pm*
- *Meals available from 5:30pm*

For full details and to enter go to: www.farmtopub.org

— *Profits to Red Cross Bushfire Appeal*

— *Raffle proceeds to*  *beyondblue*





ARARAT EAGLES FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING:

JUNIOR PLAYERS FOR ALL TEAMS

Junior Football Age Groups:



**Under 16.5
Under 12**

Junior Football training
begins Wednesday 19th
February @ 5pm Alexandra Oval
Contact: Laurie Moyle or
Ned Hutchinson on messenger

Junior Netball Age Groups:

**13 and Under
15 and Under
17 and Under**



Junior netball training and
try-outs begin Wednesday
4th of March @ 4.30pm
Contact: Melissa Murnane on
messenger



Follow us on Facebook @ Ararat Eagles Football Netball Club
for training times and updates.



WILLAURA HEALTHCARE OUTDOOR MARKET

Sunday March 1 2020, 10am-2pm

Grounds adjacent to Willaura Healthcare, Delacombe Way



The Willaura Market is a charity event run by the Willaura Healthcare Auxiliary, with funds raised going towards improving the lives of residents and patients at Willaura Healthcare, East Grampians Health Service.

This boutique country market offers goods from local and regional artisans and is set in Willaura, surrounded by fertile farmland, which lies 34 kilometres south of Ararat on the south-eastern edge of the Grampians in Victoria's Western District.

Local producers and local artisans:

- Homewares
- Cards
- Jewellery
- Giftware
- Condiments
- Art and craft
- Soaps and skincare
- Olive oil
- Clothing
- Plants
- Handmade chocolates
- Candles
- Metal art

Variety of food vendors including:

- Gourmet food vendors
- Willaura Auxiliary Tea House
- Lions barbecue
- Coffee
- Icecream



Musical entertainment and children's activities including jumping castle, mini golf and trackless train.

For more information: willauramarket.com



Visit: facebook.com/willauraoutdoormarket

We thank the following sponsors of the market:

