

Term 1 March 2024

School website www.stmarys.ac.nz

School Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/stmarysschoolwanganui

School App From the Google Apps / Play Store: SchoolAppsNZ St Mary's School

We are thrilled with how quickly children have settled into learning this year.

At the beginning of last year we trialed a new behaviour management initiative called the **Reset Room**. This has run effectively and has changed the tone in classrooms. In a nutshell children who are disrupting the learning are sent to the Reset Room to reset, with their work. They complete their work with assistance if needed. They miss their next break time as a consequence and a phone call is made to whanau to keep you informed. We ask that a conversation is held at home to support this important learning. It is a win-win as while they are in the reset room the teacher and the rest of the class are able to get on with their learning too. After that block of teaching they go back into class with a clean slate. We know this is making a huge impact on learners and classrooms as we have very few children needing this reminder a year in.

In tandem with this we have revamped our whole school **Reward System**. We were excited to roll out our new system in Term 4 last year and after a few tweaks we have a reward system that is humming but more importantly reaching all children that turn up, day in and day out, making great choices. All children receive little ICIC (In Christ I Can Gospel Values), tickets for making great choices. Children save up their tickets and bring them to the 'Shop' on a Monday.

The 'menu' has a great variety with plenty to choose from and it has been interesting to see what children select. Favourites so far are renting the chair, renting the sandpit, renting the playground or field and having time in the craft corner. Check out the menus!



10 Tickets



10 Tickets



For a Day

15 Tickets



For you and 2 friends

1 HOUR

15 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

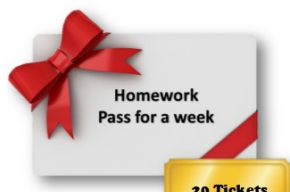
20 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

20 Tickets



Homework Pass for a week

20 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

20 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

20 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

20 Tickets



Opposite Break Time

20 Tickets



Bring 2 friends

1 HOUR

20 Tickets



20 Tickets



20 Tickets



20 Tickets



20 Tickets



CRAFT CORNER

30 Tickets



30 Tickets



Peer Mentor Cupboard

30 Tickets



30 Tickets



40 Tickets



40 Tickets



Own Clothes Day

50 Tickets



50 Tickets

Reading... the benefits are massive. This we know! Last year we began a focus on sharing the joy of reading. We ran a number of events over the year that were designed to bring reading and the love of books to the front. We continue this journey... Our first event is on the **22nd of March at the Whanganui District Library.** If you have any questions about this event please email Heather: heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz



EXPLORE THE LIBRARY

Come and join us celebrate books by exploring the Whanganui District Library at night!

The library will be hosting St Mary's for a private exploration of the library.

Children of all ages and whānau are welcome.

FRIDAY THE 22ND OF MARCH
6:05 - 7:30 PM

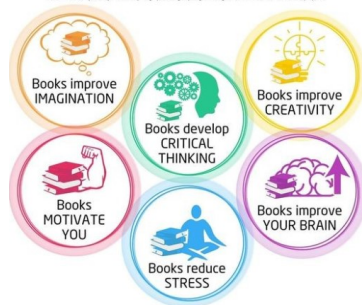
We will meet outside the main library doors at 6.05 to be welcomed in.

This is a family event for students and whānau. Children will need to be supervised.



Benefits of reading

Data source: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318904114> | Infographic design by @ingressdesign for educational and motivational purposes



"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read."

- Marilyn Jager Adams

**IF YOU READ JUST ONE BOOK
A DAY TO YOUR CHILD,
THEY WILL HAVE BEEN
READ 1825 BOOKS
BY THEIR 5TH BIRTHDAY.
EVERY BOOK COUNTS.**

**"THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A KID
WHO HATES READING. THERE ARE KIDS
WHO LOVE READING, AND KIDS WHO
ARE READING THE WRONG BOOKS."**



JAMES PATTERSON

**CHILDREN FALL IN LOVE
WITH BOOKS BECAUSE
OF THE MEMORIES CREATED
WHEN THEY SNUGGLE UP
AND READ WITH
SOMEONE THEY LOVE.
-RAISING READERS**

HOT CROSS BUNS FUNDRAISER

Your child will be bringing home a form for selling hot cross buns. This is our Term 1 school fundraiser for Education Outside the Classroom (school trips and camps that support and enhance their learning)

Order forms need to be back at school by Monday 11th March.

Pick up date of your orders (so you can distribute) will be Tuesday 19th March from the school hall.

HELP NEEDED

- send bags to school that we can use to put orders in
 - On Tuesday 19th—help with collating/bagging up orders for pick up.
- Please email heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz if you can help out on this day.

THANKS



Our whole school Mass will be on **Sunday 24th March at 9.30am.**

Students will be in full school uniform and will sit with their whanau. As part of the commitment you made when enrolling your child we encourage you to attend. It is so important to gather as a community. There will be morning tea after Mass, if you could bring a plate to share that would be appreciated.



Can we please have a tidy up with **uniform** items. Our uniform represents who we are and it is how we show respect for our school, its values, and our own identity as part of the St Mary's School community.

Uniform reminders:

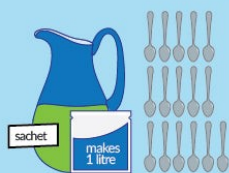
- **Hats:** We still have a few children without hats. This is hard for them as play is an important part of developing great social skills.
- **Naming:** this is so important! Please name your child's uniform as this saves us so much time. We do not run a lost property space as we deal with items on the day. If they are named it is so much easier to return them to the right place.
- **Long hair:** we require hair that is touching or below the collar to be tied up. This is a health and safety requirement.
- **Fringes:** please ensure fringes are above the eyes or tied back.
- **Head Bands, hair clips and hair ties:** please ensure these are plain navy or black.
- **Sandals:** please keep sandals to plain black ones. Crocs, sandals with patterns or sparkly bits are not permitted.

We really appreciate your support with this. If uniform is becoming difficult for you please come and see us as we do have some donated uniform that we can pass on to you. If you have uniform that you are happy to donate we are always grateful.

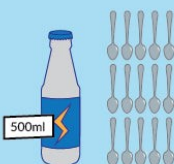
Merging into the new uniform... as far as we are aware the new uniform items will be ready by the end of March. As soon as we have more details we will let you know. Remember our new uniform will phase in over the next 5 years so there is no pressure to change straight away.

We are a water only school. This means we do not allow any other drinks at school. Check out how much sugar is in the drinks below. These should be special occasion drinks only.

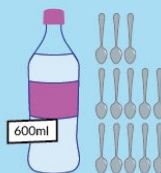
How much sugar is in your children's drink?



powdered fruit drink
16 teaspoons of sugar



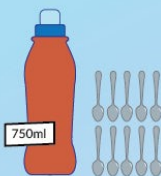
energy drink*
15 teaspoons of sugar
*Energy drinks are not recommended for under 18 years of age



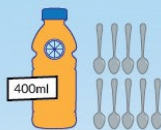
soft drink
13 teaspoons of sugar



frozen soft drink
13 teaspoons of sugar



sports drink
10 teaspoons of sugar



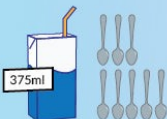
fruit juice
9 teaspoons of sugar



smoothie
9 teaspoons of sugar



novelty soft drink
9 teaspoons of sugar



flavoured milk
8 teaspoons of sugar



powdered chocolate drink with 200ml reduced-fat milk
5 teaspoons of sugar

Water is the best choice!

low or reduced-fat unflavoured milk is a good choice too



Zero Sugar tap water
0 teaspoons of sugar

School Nurse



Kia Ora

My name is Vivienne East and I am a Registered Nurse based at the Whanganui Hospital. I visit St Mary's School throughout the school year offering support, advice, and referrals for any health concerns that parents, caregivers, or teachers may have.

Some of the health problems may include allergies, nutrition concerns, growth and development, immunisations, puberty concerns, bedwetting, toileting issues, vision and hearing, and parenting support.

I can be contacted on my mobile on 021 373 212 or through the Whanganui Hospital on 06 348 3343 or you can email me at vivienne.east@wdhb.org.nz This is a free service offered by the Whanganui District Health Board.

Nga Mihi

Viv

Where to access free Kai in Whanganui?

1. **The Koha Shed**, 88 Duncan St
Monday-Friday 10am-12 - community fridge

2. **City Mission Whanganui**, 7 Park Place
Monday-Friday 9am-1pm - Food Bank

3. **Stone Soup, Te Ora Hou**, 32 Totara St
Tuesdays 1pm-2pm – Pantry

4. **Legacy Whanganui**, 150 Puriri St, Gonville
Tuesday 530pm – Dinner

5. **Majestic Square**, 98 Victoria Avenue
Wednesdays 5:30pm-7pm – Dinner

6. **Fairshare Kai – St Lukes**, 34 Mānuka St
Thursdays 12:30-1:30pm – Pantry

7. **Unity Food**, 243 Wicksteed St
Fridays, 3pm-4pm – Pantry

8. **Seventh Day Adventist Church**, 62 Dublin St
Saturdays, 8am – Breakfast

Also Kai Hub will stock our pātaka and those around the community as/when kai is available - keep an eye on our facebook page for when and where: **Whanganui Kai Hub (Facebook)**

WHANGANUI PĀTAKA KAI
267 St.Hill Street, Central Whanganui
232 Wicksteed Street, Central Whanganui
144 Somme Parade, Aramoho Shopping Centre
58b Portal St, Durie Hill
9a Totara St, Tawhero
47 Akatea St, Gonville
28 Koromiko Rd, Gonville

Do you bring your dog onto school grounds?

We need your help!

We have lot's of students who love dogs, however, we do have a number of students who are frightened of dogs or have allergies.

Please could you wait outside of the school grounds with your dog when collecting your child.

Thank you for your help with this.



We need your help...

We have a lot of bugs floating around and they are spreading.

If your child is unwell with flu like symptoms, vomits or has diarrhoea you are required to keep your child home **48 hours**

after all symptoms have stopped. This is vital to contain the spread of illness. It is really helpful if you could ring our absentee line or message us using the absentee button on our school app to let us know if your child is going to be away.

It saves Ivy a lot of time and it is appreciated.

Colds

If you or a family member has a cold, it means you have a virus that is affecting your head and chest, including your nose, throat, sinuses and ears.

Summary	Symptoms	Treatment	Prevention
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You can help prevent the spread of colds.

- Turn away from others and use tissues when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Wash your hands often and especially before touching food, dishes, glasses and cutlery.
- Use paper towels in bathrooms.
- Don't let your nose or mouth touch public telephones or drinking fountains.
- Don't share food or eating utensils with others.
- Avoid close contact with others for the first 2–4 days.

To lower your risk of catching a cold

- Avoid close contact with people who have a cold.
- Keep your hands away from your nose and mouth.
- Wash your hands often, especially after coming in contact with someone who has a cold.
- Eat a healthy diet.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Do not smoke.



St Mary's School
Whanganui



< Absentee

Call office

Email

All fields are required.

Student's Full Name

Student's Class or Room No.

Parent's Full Name

Parent's Email Address
[email address]

Parent's Contact Number
041234567

Reason
Please provide a clear reason for this absence.

Send

We have discovered we have a problem with children bringing and swapping **toys**. Thank you to the whanau that have brought this to our attention. Children are very clever at keeping this 'underground'. We actively discourage students from bringing toys to school. We do this because they create issues, upset children and understandably upset whanau. Please ensure your child is not bringing toys to school. If you discover your child has toys that are not theirs can you please send them to school and we will facilitate any returns needed.



As you are aware we are under a new Government. At the change of government schools go into a 100 day plan which is essentially a waiting time. This means schools continue as usual while the new government make the changes they are wanting to make. You would have heard talk in the news about schools being required, from Term 1 2024, to teach **reading, writing, and maths for an average of one hour a day** in each skill.

The good news is that we have already been doing this so it will be business as usual for us. The other one you will have heard about is the banning of **cell phones**. Again, no changes required as we already have students handing in their phones as they arrive and pick them up on their way home.

I will keep you informed as new information comes through.

This year we are required to hold two staff only days for staff to attend Professional Development around our new curriculum. This is an important time for our teachers to ensure we are keeping as current as possible for your children's learning.

Please mark your diaries: **School will be closed for instruction on the 31st of May and the 29th of October for a Staff Only Day.**

Easter falls in term time this year. **School is closed Friday 29th of March and the 1st and 2nd of April.**

Have a great weekend!

Mā te Atua e manaaki
Jacqui Luxton

Who to see...

If you have a query or concern regarding your child please email or see your child's Teacher first. If you still require assistance please see your child's Team Leader as follows:

Junior Team

Team Leader Dallas Limpus: dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz

Students from the JLC, Room 3 and 4

JLC: dallasl@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 3: amandab@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 4: theresec@stmarys.ac.nz



Middle Team

Team Leader Cath Daignault: cathd@stmarys.ac.nz

Students from Rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8

Room 5: heatherl@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 6: alexc@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 7: tammyf@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 8: cathd@stmarys.ac.nz

Senior Team

Team Leader Chris Scudder: chriss@stmarys.ac.nz

Students from Rooms 9, 10 and 11

Room 9: chriss@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 10: tash@stmarys.ac.nz

Room 11: iank@stmarys.ac.nz

If you are requiring further assistance:

Ivy: ivys@stmarys.ac.nz

DRS: cathd@stmarys.ac.nz

Deputy Principal: katiel@stmarys.ac.nz

Principal: jacquil@stmarys.ac.nz