



MEL MARIA  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# MEL MARIA NEWS

TERM 3 WEEK 8

ISSUE 13



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Billy Cart Day

#MakingADifferenceEveryday

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## TERM 3

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	17 JUL	18 JUL	19 JUL PN Confirmation Workshop 3.30pm & 5pm	20 JUL PN Confirmation Retreat  PAF Opening Mass 10am	21 JUL	22 JUL PN Reconciliation Commitment Mass 6.00pm	23 JUL PN Reconciliation Commitment 9.30am
2	24 JUL PN & SJP Housekeeping Assembly PN Author Visit PP – Year 2  Speak Up School Finals	25 JUL SJP Author Visit PP-Year 2  Interschool Cross Country Carnival	26 JUL School Photos PN & SJP Family Photos  Religious Education Prac Test	27 JUL School Photos PN & SJP Family Photos Year 6 Graduation Photo 9am – PN Campus	28 JUL School Photos SJP Family Photos	29 JUL	30 JUL
3	31 JUL SJP Reconciliation Parent/Child Workshop. 3.30pm & 5.00pm Yr 4 PN Excursion Yr 1 SJP Excursion	1 AUG Yr 1 PN Excursion	2 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5	3 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5 Yr 4 Ensemble Performance Yr 4 Red 9.30 – 10.46 Yr 4 Green 11.00-12.15	4 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5 SJP Year 4 Assembly 9am	5 AUG Robocup	6 AUG Robocup
4	7 AUG SJP Eucharist Parent/Child Workshop. 3.30pm & 5.00pm	8 AUG Feast of Mary MacKillop Mass 9am  P&F 7pm SJP	9 AUG PN Year 6 Mass 9am PN Reconciliation 10am	10 AUG Pre-Primary Brownies Dairy Excursion PN & SJP	11 AUG PN Confirmation 6pm	12 AUG	13 AUG
5	14 AUG <b>SCIENCE WEEK→</b> Year 3 Mystery Maths family afternoon PN 4-5.30pm	15 AUG Assumption Mass 9am  Year 3 Mystery Maths family afternoon SJP 4-5.30pm	16 AUG PN Year 3 Assembly 9am	17 AUG PP Constable Care Incursion CPAF Sacred Choir	18 AUG SJP Year 3 Assembly 9am  PN Confirmation 6pm	19 AUG	20 AUG
6	21 AUG <b>Pupil Free</b>	22 AUG CPAF Primary Choral Singing	23 AUG SJP Yr 4 Excursion	24 AUG SJP Bookweek PP Scitech Excursion	25 AUG School Tours PN 9.30am SJP 11.00am MAD STEM	26 AUG	27 AUG
7	28 AUG Education Assistants' Day	29 AUG PN Bookweek	30 AUG SJP Year 3 Shoenstatt Shrine PN Year 5 Assembly 9am PN Reconciliation Workshop 4pm & 5.30pm	31 AUG	1 SEPT Father's Day Breakfast	2 SEPT <b>TOMS</b>	3 SEPT Father's Day
8	4 SEPT SJP Year 5 Assembly 9am	5 SEPT PN Year 3 Retreat Shoenstatt Shrine	6 SEPT PN Year 3 Assembly	7 SEPT PN Billy Cart Day	8 SEPT SJP Billy Cart Day	9 SEPT	10 SEPT
9	11 SEPT	12 SEPT	13 SEPT <b>Open Night</b> 4.00-6.30pm	14 SEPT	15 SEPT Junior Athletics Carnival PP-Y2	16 SEPT <b>TOMS State Finals</b>	17 SEPT
10	18 SEPT SJP Eucharist Retreat 9am-3pm	19 SEPT	20 SEPT PN Year 3 Mass/Reconciliation 9am  SJP Reconciliation 3.30pm	21 SEPT PN/SJP Mercy Day Celebrations  <b>Junior School 50 years Eucharist Service 9.30am</b>	22 SEPT 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass 9.30am  P&F Colour Run 1.45pm	23 SEPT	24 SEPT
HOL	25 SEPT QUEEN'S B/DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	26 SEPT	27 SEPT	28 SEPT	29 SEPT	30 SEPT	1 OCT
HOL	2 OCT	3 OCT	4 OCT	5 OCT	6 OCT	7 OCT	8 OCT

# Principal's Message



## Week Eight Term Three

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past few weeks, I have had many opportunities to reflect on the many aspects of life here at Mel Maria Catholic Primary School...so many wonderful things transpire and encompass the many facets of our school community. We have committed staff who continue to provide the highest quality education, with our students making great progress. I am fortunate to share in these achievements on a daily basis when I drop into the classrooms, when students come to the office to share their successes or come and talk to me in the playground.

I am also very grateful for the many, many hours that our Teachers and Education Assistants, Admin, Ground and Canteen staff put into preparing and delivering these quality experiences for our students. We also have students who love coming to school and are involved in so many activities, which not only enhance their learning, but contribute to the development of them as a 'whole' person.

Finally, we have parents who freely volunteer their time in so many ways in assisting with various tasks in and out of the classroom. All three facets of our school community working together is what makes us so effective in delivering a quality education and without any one of these, the system is sure to be less effective.

### Dealing with Grievance

As the end of term comes into sight and the fatigue of what is generally a difficult term in so far as illness takes its toll, some students can at time endeavour to stretch the boundaries of expectation in terms of appropriate behaviour. While all staff exercise every effort to maintain the culture of a safe and respectful learning environment, there are occasions when issues may not necessarily be made known to staff and it can be through you as parents and carers that such are brought to our attention. In these instances, I am always extremely grateful and certainly value the support that you as parents play in the maintenance of our school as a happy place.

### Pope calls for October to be dedicated to praying for peace in Ukraine

Insisting that there is "a need for more prayer, for conversion and an end to the conflict" in Ukraine, Pope Francis has invited Christians to dedicate October to praying for peace and reconciliation in the war-torn country.

Pope Francis "expressed his desire that during the month of October, especially in [Marian] Shrines, the Rosary be dedicated to peace and reconciliation in Ukraine". Source: Vatican News



## Father's Day Breakfast

It was great to see so many dads at our 'Father's Day Breakfast' last Friday morning. We hope all dads enjoyed the opportunity to share a special time with their child/ren as well as catch up with a few of the other dads within the school. A special 'thank you' to the parent helpers and school staff who assisted with the breakfast. These helpers were at the school from 6am cooking and setting up for the occasion. It was tremendous to have this level of support. Well Done!



## Catholic Performing Arts

We are incredibly proud of each and every one of our students who participated in the Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival this year. Additionally, a special congratulations goes out to the students who have received Awards in their relevant sections. Our School Choir received an Outstanding Grade for their Choral singing performance.

## Tournament of Minds

Two teams participated in this event on Saturday 3 September. Both Teams have been selected for the State Finals with the Team from SJP winning the Creativity and Innovation Section from the four categories. This is a wonderful achievement. The judges were impressed with the highly creative ideas generated in the students' discussions and shown in their presentation. The State Final will be held at ECU Joondalup on Saturday 16 September



## School Pods Areas

A major undertaking over the next two years will be the upgrading of the school wet areas (Pod areas). The aim is to make these the "fifth classroom" so to speak. There is so much potential that can be achieved in

these spaces. The support of the P&F Association in assisting with the cost of purchasing this new equipment and furniture for these areas will be instrumental in us achieving this outcome. We are very grateful for their support.

## Celebrating the 50th Anniversary at Mel Maria

As we celebrate community at Mel Maria many events have been organised to commemorate this anniversary year. Mercy Week in the final week of term will hold special significance this year as we will be visited by our founding Sisters of Mercy.

We have invited the sisters, Sr Joan Smith, Sr Florence O'Sullivan and Sr Eileen McVite to share their stories with our students and to discuss and celebrate their great legacy. Our students will show them around our school in celebration of their early endeavours.

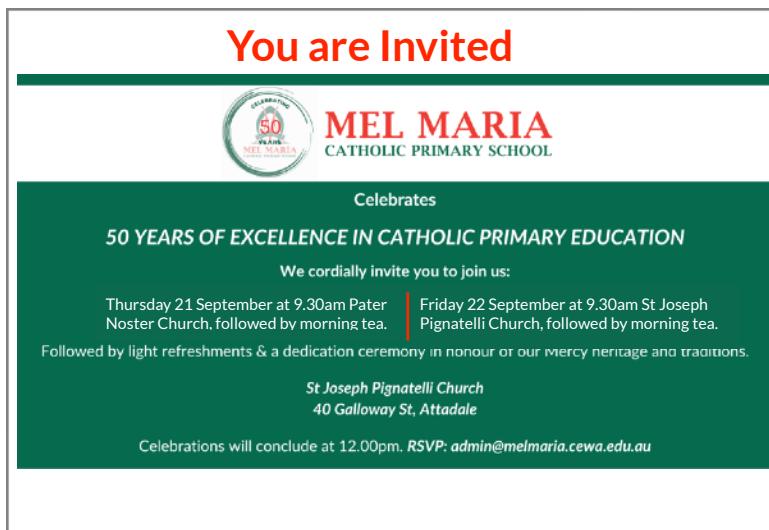


## 50th Anniversary Masses

Masses will be held at:

- Pater Noster Campus on Thursday 21st of September at 9.30am for years Pre- Primary to Year 2.
- Saint Joseph Pignatelli Campus for Year 3 to 6 on Friday 22nd of September at 9.30 am.

Each celebration will be followed by morning tea with the Sisters of Mercy and other invited guests. All parents and community members are invited to attend.



## Open Night

The 13th September is a celebration of our excellent contemporary learning environment in which our students thrive. IGNITE the HEART, INSPIRE the MIND will be the lens through which we share our student's learning. Our students are looking forward to sharing their success and hard work with family and friends.

## P & F Colour Run

Our P&F Colour Run will be celebrated on Friday 22nd of September at 1.30pm on each campus oval to conclude our Mercy week celebrations. As it is the last day of the term, parents can collect their child from the oval at the end of the day, once signed off by the Class Teacher.



## Billy Cart Day

Throughout this week, our campuses hosted the yearly Billy Carts Day event. Students collaborated with their parents and peers to construct their own billy carts using recyclable materials. It was truly inspiring to witness the impressive display of creativity and teamwork among all the participating teams. As the race day arrived, the entire campus came together to enthusiastically cheer on the Year 6 students. The races were exhilarating, with even the parental race delivering nail-biting moments. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the Year 6 students. Additionally, we express sincere gratitude to the parents who joined us to provide invaluable support to our students.



## From My Readings ..

### Friendship Skills

Below is interesting article by Michael Grose outlining the friendship skills children require titled **"12 Friendship Skills Every Child Needs"**.

Friendship skills are generally developmental. That is, kids grow into these skills given exposure to different situations and with adult help. Kids can be picky about who they play and mix with. Popularity should not be confused with sociability. A number of studies in recent decades have shown that appearance, personality type and ability impact on a child's popularity at school. Good-looking, easy-going, talented kids usually win peer popularity polls but that doesn't necessarily guarantee they will have friends.

Those children and young people who develop strong friendships have a definite set of skills that help make them easy to like, easy to relate to and easy to play with.

Here are twelve essential skills that children have identified as being important for making and keeping friends:

- Ability to share possessions and space.
- Keeping confidences and secrets.

- Offering to help.
- Accepting other's mistakes.
- Being positive and enthusiastic.
- Starting a conversation.
- Winning and losing well.
- Listening to others.
- Starting and maintaining a conversation.
- Ignoring someone who is annoying you.
- Cooperating with others.
- Giving and receiving compliments.



In past generations 'exposure to different situations' meant opportunities to play with each other, with siblings and with older and younger friends. They were reminded by parents about how they should act around others. They were also 'taught' from a very young age.

### **Arrested Development**

The New Child grows up with fewer siblings, fewer opportunities for unstructured play and less freedom to explore friendships than children of even ten years ago. A parenting style that promotes a high sense of individual entitlement rather than the notion of fitting in appears to be popular at the moment.

These factors can lead to delayed or arrested development in these essential friendship skills, resulting in very unhappy, self-centred children. Here are some ideas if you think your child experiences developmental delay in any of these essential skills or just needs some help to acquire them:

1. Encourage or insist that kids play and work with each other: Allowing kids the freedom to be kids is part of the message here but parents have to be cunning with the NEW CHILD and construct situations where kids have to get on with each other. For some kids "Go outside and play" is a good place to start!!
2. Play with your kids: Interact with your kids through games and other means so you can help kids learn directly from you how to get on with others.
3. Talk about these skills: If you notice your kids need to develop some of these skills then talk about them, point out when they show them and give them some implementation ideas.

Kids are quite ego-centric and need to develop a sense of 'other' so they can successfully negotiate the many social situations that they find themselves in. As parents we often focus on the development of children's academic skills and can quite easily neglect the development of these vitally important social skills, which contribute so much to children's happiness and well-being.



### **Prayer for the Week**

Christ, our Light, we believe that you are here among us as you promised you would be when we gather in your name.

With a trust that goes far deeper than our limited capacity to imagine, you have handed over to us responsibility to carry out your works and wishes in our world.

We ask you now to walk beside us on our journey, to fill our minds, memories and imaginations with hope and vision. Help us to see our lives and work within your Church with strong creative clarity, so that we may serve more effectively, all who search for faith and meaning in our world.

### **Thought for the Week**

Money can buy a fine dog but only kindness will make him wag his tail'

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Hille".

Paul Hille

Principal

**#MakingADifferenceEVERYDAY**

Joanne Scouler and Ros Nichols

# A Term of Achievements

## CEWA STEM MAD Showcase

All six Year 5 PN teams represented Mel Maria with pride at the the CEWA STEM MAD ShowCase. With Marco Li, Kate Gowland and Tyler Abbiss winning the Innovation Award with their invention Double R: Rubbish Remover: This robot is designed to pick up rubbish in parks and after community events as an efficient means of sorting and distributing recyclable materials.

Come along to Open Night and see all our Year 5 students creative and innovative ideas such as;

### CleanAir 2000

The CleanAir 2000 is a multipurpose machine designed to clean the carbon monoxide from the exhaust of your car. A simple flick of a switch will have you travelling cleaner and the trees will thank you.

### Bin-Bot

The Bin-Bot transforms your ordinary wheelie bin into an efficient and fun way to sort and recycle your rubbish, while protecting the environment.

### TranslateMe

Have you ever wanted to know how to say, "Where is the nearest bathroom?" in Mandarin? TranslateMe is the easy, convenient way to translate those awkward conversations when traveling.

### Super Safety Heroes

Cyber safety is an issue that concerns us all. The Super Safety Heroes app will help keep your young ones safe from online bullies and free to search with confidence.

### RADAR Pole

This handy, portable device can help solve the problem of overfishing. With a simple click, you will be able to know if the fish population in an area is sustainable to be fished, or should you move on.

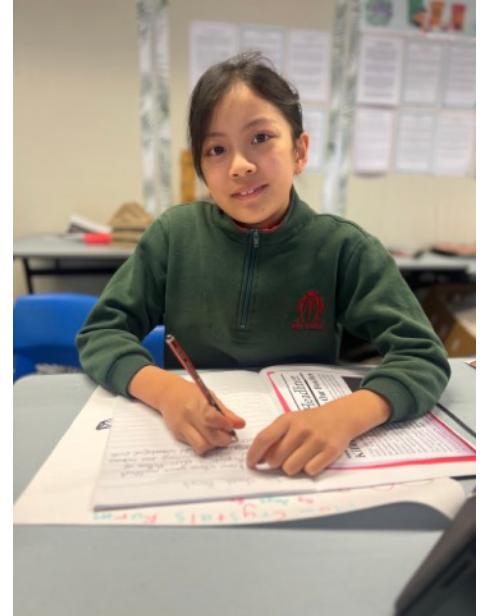


Joanne Scouler and Ros Nichols

## Craig Silvey (Previously Tim Winton) Writers Award

Congratulations to one of our budding authors Anya Aryaputri-Edoi who placed in the top three of the Tim Winton Writing Competitions. What an amazing accomplishment.

Every year our students amaze us with their talent and ability.



## Speak Up Awards

Three very talented young ladies, Georgia Matthews (The Secret of Playing Cards), Emma Pascoe and Chloe Loftus (The Power of Plants) represented Mel Maria in the Semi Final Speak Up Awards. It was an absolute pleasure for us to listen to these three very talented public speakers share their well researched and clever views on their topics of interest.



Joanne Scouler and Ros Nichols

# Father's Day

CELEBRATING OUR AMAZING DADS



#MakingADifferenceEveryday



# Join the COLOR RUN FUN!

## Mel Maria 2023 Colour Run!

**22 Sept 2023  
1:45-2:45pm**

What you need:

All black or all white clothes all day for students up to year 2, **year 3-6 are to wear formal winter uniform to school for the anniversary mass and bring a change of clothes.** Hat, Sun cream, Water bottle and optional goggles and dust mask... and Lots and lots of fun! Please contact Lucy Dillon on [lucydillon77@gmail.com](mailto:lucydillon77@gmail.com) if you have any more questions.

More detailed info:

What to wear: all white or all black (year 3-6 to bring this to school for after the anniversary mass).

There will be 7 stations of colours and a water station.

Parent volunteers and teachers will be at the stations throwing the chalk when you walk through the allocated area. (If your child does not want chalk thrown on them they can walk around the outside of the area).

Optional extras: if you'd like to wear goggles you are welcome to (although they are not necessary). Dust masks will be available if you would like one.

The water station is set up so the participants get a bit of moisture on their skin and clothes as the chalk sticks better to this.

It is recommended you have a towel in your car for the trip home.

The students will not go back to class after the colour run. They will receive an icy pole at the end of the event and then can go home once their teacher has dismissed them and their parents are there to collect them.

Sun cream and a hat are recommended. They do not need to wear their Mel Maria hat.

# Religious Education



## Sacrament of Penance

Our Year three students on each campus are ready to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. All have participated in a visit to the Shoenstatt Shrine to experience prayer and reflection in the lead up to receiving the Sacrament.

Family members are invited to be present with their child on this special occasion which will take place Wednesday 20th of September at each Parish church.

What words come to mind when you think of going to Confession? How about conversion, healing, forgiveness, reconciliation, honesty, courage, or even celebration?

The Church uses all of those words to describe the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. It is one of the two sacraments of healing (the other being the Anointing of the Sick); it is sometimes called the sacrament of conversion, the sacrament of confession, or the sacrament of forgiveness. Pope John Paul II called it an act of honesty and courage. And the Catechism of the Catholic Church refers to it as a celebration eight times.

All of those descriptions belie the popular stereotype of the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation as focusing primarily on guilt. In fact, many who attend the sacrament use another word to describe its effects: joy.

### Reconciliation



**Wednesday  
20th September**

**Pater Noster**

**9.45am**

**St Joseph  
Pignatelli**

**3.30pm**



**Mercy Market  
Day Celebrations**

**PN  
Wednesday  
20th  
September**

**SJP  
Thursday  
21st  
September**

# Pater Noster Pre-Primary



## Pre-Primary Class News

WOWEE!! What a busy term the Pre-Primary's have had! This term we have been out and about visiting places in our community that link closely with our learning in the classroom.

First up, we visited Brownes Dairy to learn more about the process of how we get milk from the farm to fridge. We were also lucky enough to have Pre-Primary from SJP join us for our Scitech excursion, immersing themselves in real life STEM involving Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The children visited the Planetarium and Discoverland which gave children the opportunity to understand the basics of push and pull forces by investigating cogs, wheels, pulleys, screws and other simple machines. This is closely linked to our learning in the classroom, as the children are currently investigating, designing and making things that move out of recycled materials.



# PN Pre-Primary

## More Pre-Primary Class News

As part of our inquiry learning this term, the Pre-Primary children have wondered and researched about World Biomes.

### DID YOU KNOW A BIOME IS A NATURAL AREA OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS?

In small groups, the children have researched one particular world biome (habitat) and shared their learning by bringing their chosen biome to life through a diorama.

The magic of Book Week and Father's Day saw the Pre-Primary children transformed into various characters from books that inspired their minds. It was great to see the children bring their characters to life and talk about their favourite book. We then welcomed our Pre-Primary Dad's into the classroom for our Pre-Primary Father's Day Morning. The children made tie's for their dads and got to spend some special time together.

A highlight this term was having our first Early Childhood Mass, celebrating Our Lady's Assumption. PP-Yr2 from SJP joined us at Pater Noster Church for this celebration, followed by a joint recess for Pre-Primary. It was so exciting and lovely to see all the children playing and interacting with each other. We look forward to many more opportunities to get together in the future.



# SJP Pre-Primary

## Pre-Primary Class News

**Young children are fascinated with the world around them!**

The Pre-Primary students at both campuses have been inquiring about their world through research and hands on activities.

Hands-on, student-driven, powerful learning prepares children for a future of creative, critical thinking by learning the essential skills in a context where they feel motivated to learn and succeed.

**"Research is creating new knowledge."**

The students have shown curiosity and a deep interest investigating a variety of habitats and the animals that live in them. The students were asked to research habitats in small groups using a variety of informational resources such as non-fictional books from the school library and internet websites using iPads.

The students used design skills to create habitat dioramas using a variety of natural and man made materials. Negotiating individual ideas and working cooperatively ensured all students contributed equally to their habitat creation.

The students were asked to choose an animal that belongs in that habitat, one that sparked their interest and that they were curious to investigate further.



I wonder how fast Camels can run?

Antonia



I wonder what Koalas do all day?  
Flynn

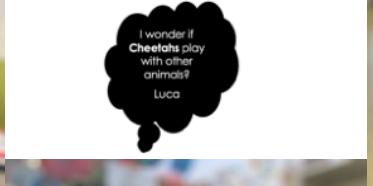
I wonder how Gorillas make their own shelter?  
Nate



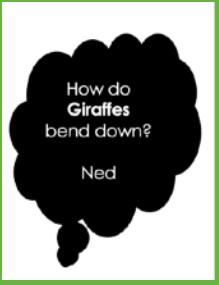
I wonder how many teeth a Crocodile has?  
Cade



I wonder how a Polar Bear doesn't slip on ice?  
Alana



I wonder if Cheetahs play with other animals?  
Luca



How do Giraffes bend down?  
Ned



I wonder why Penguins have three toes?  
Levi

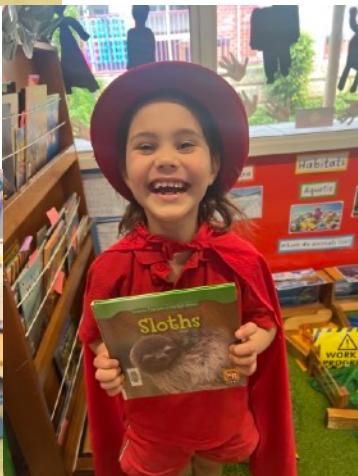


I wonder how long a Sloth sleeps for everyday?  
Thea

I wonder how many years a Red Kangaroo lives for?  
Lochlan

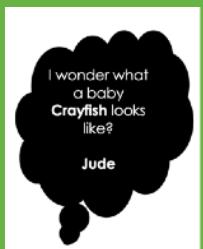


I wonder if Tigers go to school?  
Bianor



I wonder where Sea Turtles sleep and if they make a house?  
Ruby

I wonder if Polar Bears can skate on ice?  
Jamie



I wonder what a baby Crayfish looks like?  
Jude



I wonder if Brown Bears jump or can do the monkey bars?  
Indiana



I wonder how you can tell if a Poisonous Dart Frog is a boy or a girl?  
Cooper



I wonder why Gorillas climb up trees?  
Cayden

I wonder why the face of a Red Panda glows?  
Emily



I wonder if Giraffes can dance?  
Gia



I wonder why Joey's are born the size of jellybeans?  
Alexis

I wonder why Mountain Goats climb up the mountain?  
Therese





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## JUNIOR FACTION CARNIVAL

### JUNIOR FACTION CARNIVAL

**Friday 15th September, 2023**  
**Troy Park, Attadale**

The Junior Faction Carnival is fast approaching! Pre Primary, Year One and Year Two students are keenly practicing their games and practicing their sprinting in preparation for what is one of the great days on the Mel Maria calendar. Students will use skills such as running, passing and catching, underarm throwing, balancing and agility to help earn points for their faction. Every kilometre students have run at Running Club across the term will also contribute a point to their faction's total. All students will be involved in one 50m sprint event and five tabloid games during the day, while parents get the chance to participate in the inaugural Dress Up Relay. Parents, start getting your teams of 6-8 together for this one and practice how fast you can get your tie, scarf, hat or glasses on!

The program for the day can be found below. Our Year Six Sports Ministry will be attending to help the students and cheer them on, and all classes will move together in year groups to each of the activities. These are mapped out and planned to allow all students to have at least one go at all of the games.

Parents who wish to take their child home after the Carnival, will need to notify the class teachers. Children can be collected from their class teacher at the conclusion of the Carnival.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr David John ([david.john@cewa.edu.au](mailto:david.john@cewa.edu.au)) or Mr Damian Williams ([damian.williams@cewa.edu.au](mailto:damian.williams@cewa.edu.au)).

Junior Primary Carnival 2023			
9:30 – 9:45	Students arrive, Briefing		
	Pre-Primary	Year 1	Year 2
9:50 – 10:10	Races	Rob the nest	Bean bag relay
10:10 – 10:30	Rob the nest	BREAK	Egg and spoon
10:30 – 10:50	BREAK	Races	Passball
10:50 – 11:10	Bean bag relay	Egg and spoon	BREAK
11:10 – 11:30	Egg and spoon	LUNCH	Races
11:30 – 11:50	LUNCH	Bean bag relay	Baggo
11:50 – 12:10	Baggo	Passball	LUNCH
12:10 – 12:30	Sack Race	Baggo	Rob the nest
12:30 – 12:50	PARENT DRESS UP RACE		
12:50 – 1:00	PRESENTATIONS		



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## BREAD BAG RECYCLING FINISHES



Thank you to everyone who has been collecting bread bags this year. With your help, we have managed to fill four large boxes of bread bags!

The program has now finished for the year. Our bread bags will now be sent in and we will receive a notification of how many points we have earned to use on sports gear for our school. Keep an eye out in Term Four for the new additions!

It has been fantastic to see so many students actively recycling and showing enthusiasm for it. Thank you again to those students and families who were doing their bit to help out the planet and the school!

## RUNNING CLUB

Mel Maria's Running Club program continues again until the end of Term Three.

**Who:** Years K-6 (all students have a laminated QR card with their name on it)

**Where:** SJP and PN Ovals

**When:** 8:00am-8:30am, Mondays at SJP; Fridays at PN

**How it works:**

- When they arrive, students come and retrieve their card from one of the staff or Year Six Leaders.
- Start running!
- Every time a student completes a lap, they scan their card at one of the devices next on the tables provided.
- When they are finished or at 8:30am, students return their cards to their year level containers and head to class. Staff and Year Six leaders assist with this process for younger/new students.

**Do I need to sign up?**: No! The more the merrier, so please come down at any point during the half hour.

We hope to see you there!

**Mr David John and Mr Damian Williams**

Physical Education Teachers



## Getting started with parental controls on devices and accounts



### Many digital devices and accounts now come with parental controls

Here are some examples of the parental control features included in common devices and accounts.

#### Your home wi-fi network

Some wi-fi routers and accounts with internet service providers (ISPs) come with software that allows you to set up parental controls across your whole network. However, you don't always get as much control and monitoring as you get from the tailored software installed on each device. If you would like to learn more about controlling content using your wi-fi network, contact your ISP provider.

#### Apple devices

Apple allows parents to set up family sharing accounts. Family sharing enables parents to share purchased apps and manage their child's device. You can find out more about setting up parental controls at [Apple families](#). The [Apple Support YouTube channel](#) has videos that provide step by step advice.

#### Follow these steps to get started:

1. In your settings, select your Apple ID and account info.
2. Go to family sharing and click on '+Add member' to add a new account for your child.
3. Go to Screen Time settings to set limits on apps, block websites and restrict purchases – whenever you change this it will update on your child's device.
4. On your child's device, activate the account.



# LIBRARY NEWS



**Wanju nidja Wudjuk  
Noongar boodja Wanju  
Bibool miya**

Mel Maria children and staff celebrated another glorious Book Week and Indigenous Book Swap during week six and seven. It was wonderful to see the huge effort parents, children and staff put into finding their favourite author, choosing a book and character and creating their costumes.

Everyone's involvement in the assembly, providing books for the book swap and supporting the book swap was outstanding. A huge thank you to staff, parents and staff who supported on the day of the book swap. A special thank you to the parent helpers who ran the book swap., they were amazing. It was a great success. We raised just over \$800.00. to contribute to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation to provide remote Indigenous communities and service organisations with access to new, culturally appropriate books and literacy resources.





MEL MARIA  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# LIBRARY NEWS



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MEL MARIA  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# JAPANESE NEWS



Make sure you come on down to the Mel Maria Catholic Primary School Open Night to view our fantastic Japanese scrolls.



Take a trip to Japan as you visit our Year 5 classrooms and see these traditional Japanese scrolls, designed and illustrated by our very clever Year 5 students.

Here is a sneak preview!



# SOCIAL WORKER

## How schools and parents can support neurodiverse students

*Giving all children tools to thrive academically and socially*

Neurodiversity refers to the idea that a kid's brain functions differently from those of neurotypical children. And it comes in many forms, such as learning disorders, ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, or sensory processing issues. While neurodivergent students may possess unique strengths, such as exceptional memorisation skills or hyper-focus abilities, they often require additional support from teachers, counsellors, administrators, and support staff in the school to excel academically and socially. Three fundamental areas where neurodivergent students tend to need help are behavioural issues, social challenges, and executive functioning.

If a child has behaviour issues, it's best to validate their feelings and assist them in problem-solving those behaviours by calmly talking through alternative ways to express themselves. Implementing supports that benefit both neurodivergent and neurotypical students can help prevent behavioural problems. These

supports include visual aids, relaxation exercises, designated relaxation areas, and movement breaks.



Executive functioning skills, which encompass planning, organising, prioritising, and initiating tasks, are commonly challenging for neurodivergent students. Teachers can incorporate executive functioning tools like checklists, dedicated binders, reward systems, timers, planners, and calendars to aid these students. Various executive functioning curricula and resources are also available.

Lastly, neurodivergent students need social support to be happy and do well in school. They often face difficulties making and maintaining friendships due to challenges reading social cues and entering play situations. Creating an accepting classroom environment and providing social scaffolding outside the classroom, such as mentoring programs, Lunch Bunches, and coaching for peer models, can help address these challenges.

Parents can support their neurodivergent children by providing teachers with an "About Me" letter highlighting their child's strengths, areas of difficulty, stress indicators, and preferred approaches. This letter facilitates collaboration between parents and teachers and opens avenues for ongoing communication to ensure individualised attention for neurodivergent students.

The link below has further suggestions. Parents are also encouraged to contact their child's teacher or the school social worker if they have any concerns about their child's progress.

<https://childmind.org/article/how-schools-can-support-neurodiverse-students/>



**MEL MARIA**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# School Holiday Programs



## 2023 SPRING HOLIDAY ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS CAMP

**Perth WA (for grade 1-7 students)**

Locations	Date	Booking Link
Perth Greater Metro - Clarkson, Joondalup, Ellenbrook, Caversham & Rivervale	Sept 26, 27 Oct 3-6	<a href="https://gmpert.h.young-engineers.com.au/registration/">https://gmpert.h.young-engineers.com.au/registration/</a>
Perth North – Osborne Park	Sept 26-27	<a href="https://perthnorth.young-engineers.com.au/registration/">https://perthnorth.young-engineers.com.au/registration/</a>
Perth CBD	Oct 3-4, 5-6	
Perth West & South - South Perth, Swanbourne	Sept 27-28 Oct 5-6	<a href="https://app.iiclasspro.com/portal/yepert">https://app.iiclasspro.com/portal/yepert</a>
Bunbury	Sept 29	

**Engineering & Robotics Workshops:** These workshops provide students with a full-day of fun, hands-on STEM learning Lego® models, programming robots and conducting other fun-filled experiments & activities.



"Elliot has continued to talk about how fun Engineering Camp was. A wonderful camp and he will be attending again in the future."  
- Parent



"Fantastic experience for young minds. Nate had an absolute blast and cannot wait to do it again next year. He is still talking about it nearly 2 weeks later. Thank you!"  
- Parent



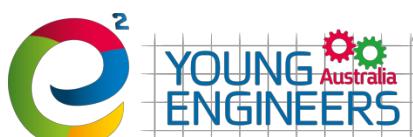
Parents are requested to provide crunch & sip and lunch clearly labelled with the child's name.

The students can enrol for one or two days. Students will learn and build different models on each day.

The students may also go through an outdoor activity. Please ensure the child has a hat and sunscreen. We have a strict policy of "**No hat no outdoor play**".

For more information please contact us on 0406542912

<https://www.young-engineers.com.au/>  
[perth@young-engineers.com.au](mailto:perth@young-engineers.com.au)



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# School Holiday Programs



## School Holidays - Minecraft Survival Mode



**Mel Maria Catholic School**

**26-27 Sept, 2023, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

**AUD\$285.00**

Learn to code with a brand new Minecraft Education course

Suitable for students aged 7-12 years

Mel Maria families are entitled to a discount of \$25 if they use code newbie25 for the Minecraft Class that is being held on 26 and 27 Sept in the PN Hall.

[https://jnrengineers.com.au/product/view/?zoho\\_id=988808000117151150&aelia\\_cs\\_currency=AUD](https://jnrengineers.com.au/product/view/?zoho_id=988808000117151150&aelia_cs_currency=AUD)

"My child was engaged and enthusiastic and excited to go each day"

★★★★★

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