

TERM 3 **2025** 

MENTE MANUQUE
WITH MIND AND HAND



The South Creek Magazine is published once a term and celebrates the vision and values of the St Marys Senior High School learning community.

We are an *inclusive*, kind, and supportive school which values diversity, independence and community.

We are an *aspirational* community which strives to achieve individual excellence.

We are *respectful* of our history, our people and our environment.

#### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that makes up our school community, the Wianamatta People from Darug Country.

We also pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend our respects to all First Nation Peoples as well as everyone who visits our school.

We must always remember that under the concrete and asphalt, this land is, was and always will be Aboriginal Country.

Shani-Lee Bolt, Year 12 2018

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## FAREWELL FROM THE 2025 CAPTAINS

Dear SMSHS, It's been a blast!! We're so grateful to have had the opportunity to lead you, serve you, and learn from you. Thank you so much for entrusting us with this responsibility. It's not something we take lightly. Class of 2025, we wish you the best in life post-high school. Never let anything stop you from achieving what you desire most!



Class of 2026, you're the future of our school and we are so

excited to see what your final year has in store for you. Mia, Sherman, Aaniaa, and Archaeli, we wish you every success in Captaincy. We'll be cheering for you from the side lines. You are destined for greatness!!



Jakov Bastac and Vishant Singh School Vice Captains 2025 school captains



sherman 🥝 A phull



mia victorino

hil i'm mid and i'm so honoured to serve as your 2026 school captain! my goals for this year are to grow closer as a conort and make this final year one to remember! - mia to

Hey guys my name is Sherman Phull, and I'll be your captain throngont this year. One message I'd like to give out is to he calm with these last few momments me have as students

and enjoy our time rather than Stressing,

- Sherman

meet your captains for 2026

ney guys! I'm archaeli, aka kylie! I'M super keen to serve you as your vice captain! I want our senior year to be a year to never forget! - kylicicions is

Hi avy, I'm Agnicea!! I'm so excited for our year to okine & mat of all have fun!! I want to make sure our senior year is remorable and filled with joy

-nini A



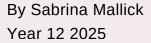
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This term, students and staff at St Marys Senior High School took part in Pyjama Day by coming to school dressed in their favourite pyjamas. The SRC hosted a 'Best Dressed' competition, encouraging students to get creative with their pyjamas.

While it was a fun and cosy way to spend the day, the event also raised awareness and funds for The Pyjama Pyjama Foundation Foundation. The empowers children in foster and out-of-home care with learning, life skills and confidence. The foundation works to break the cycle of disadvantage and help children in care change their life trajectory.

By donating a gold coin, students contributed to this cause while enjoying the comfort of their pyjamas. This







Photos were provided by the Marys Media Team

## Wear it Purple Day '25!















# R U OK Day



On 11 September St Marys Senior High School recognised R U OK Day, an event dedicated to raising awareness for mental health and personal wellbeing. R U OK is an Australian organisation centred around suicide prevention by starting a conversation. R U OK Day is held every year across different schools and for people from all different walks of life.



This year's R U OK Day theme was "Ask R U Ok? Any Day", and was advertised in Cluster through the 'Saints Unfiltered' video created by members of the SRC and the Student Support Officer, Isidro. The video featured a series of different questions for the student community centred around wellbeing and advice for starting conversations.



This day lets students know that if they ever need advice or support there are lots of options available. Outside of the school community these include, friends, family and peers. While at school there is support available in the Learning Centre, where you can speak to the Head Teacher Wellbeing, the Student Support Officer or counsellors.



If you or someone you know is struggling there are also community services available. These include:

13 11 14 (Lifeline) for 24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services.

1300 22 4636 (Beyond Blue) 24/7 for advice referral and support from a trained mental health professional.

# VALYOU DAY!

On Wednesday 27 August, FatFish hosted its annual event, ValYou Day, a vibrant celebration of connection and belonging that define our St Marys community. The campus was awash in blue, as students displayed solidarity, parading in their favourite blue gear - especially classic denim!

The school cafeteria buzzed with excitement during recess, where students eagerly gathered for group photos and received free gift bags filled with messages and tokens of encouragement. More than just a school event, the day emphasised our school's commitment to inclusivity to establish a positive environment, where students and staff alike are empowered to work together both in the classroom and beyond.

A sincere thank you to the Fatfish leaders and Daniel Kim for coordinating this remarkable event. Remember, you are valued!

Benjamin Reyes Year 12 2025





## Heritage Day 2025



St Marys Senior High School's largest and most anticipated event went off with a bang on Tuesday 15 September 2025! This year's theme was 'Soul to Sole' along with the catch phrase 'Bring your heart, Bring your home'. These tags reflected the many different experiences of our diverse student cohort and our ability to come together as one in celebration.



## What is Heritage Day?

Heritage Day celebrates the diverse and rich cultural ancestry of our school by allowing our students to attend in cultural dress and create cultural food for the wider student body. Students achieved this by hosting stalls on the day, selling all kinds of cross-cultural culinary delights, meals and desserts. These stalls were managed by students, teacher patrons and SRC members.



## A Day for All to Celebrate

We are all Australian and Heritage Day shows that no matter your background we can all come together to build experiences that everyone can look back on with joy and appreciation. With the HSC being a stressful time, sometimes its a good thing to remember, we are all in this together.



Kalden Yuthok Year 12 2025

## Heritage Day Assembly

On Heritage Day we celebrated the rich diversity of the school's community through an exciting and inclusive assembly. The event began with a lively parade, with students lining up in their cultural attire and representing their cultural heritage through flags. Some of these flags included India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tonga and most importantly our Australian flag. This is a tradition that establishes a proud and energetic vibe to the Heritage Day Assembly through recognition of both Australia and our families origins.



After the 'Parade of Nations', the school enjoyed a variety of performances led by students. All of the performances demonstrated the colour, vibrance and energy of different cultures from all across the world. These performances featured music, dances, and short skits which offered a unique glimpse into the traditions of our different societies of origin. To conclude the assembly there were interactive games and activities. These activities allowed everyone to join in, have fun, and experience cultural traditions first hand.

Sherman Phull Year 11 2025











## Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute School Science Award

St Marys Senior High School is proud to acknowledge the outstanding achievement of Dhanvi Patel, a Year 11 Science student who has been awarded the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute School Science Award. Dhanvi demonstrates academic excellence, consistency, and determination across Earth and Environmental Science, Biology, and Chemistry.



Pictured: Dhanvi Patel receiving her award.

She is a highly motivated and independent learner who consistently produces work of a high standard and extends her studies through participation in the Before School Chemistry Tutorial Program. Reliable, reflective, and respected within the science cohort, Dhanvi exemplifies the qualities of a dedicated student of Science.

On Tuesday 19 August, at the Penrith Civic Centre, she was formally recognised at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute's annual awards ceremony, which honours exceptional high school Science students across the region. The school congratulates Dhanvi on this prestigious and well-deserved recognition.

## Year 11 Field Trip to the Badu Mangroves Exosystem

The Year 11 students participated in a field trip to explore an Australian ecosystem, focusing on the Badu Mangroves. During the excursion, they investigated both biotic and abiotic factors, compiled a detailed site profile, and estimated the abundance and distribution of organisms using a range of ecological sampling techniques.





## **HSC Practical Exams**

Our Higher School Certificate (HSC) students have recently completed their practical examinations in Dance, Drama, and Music as part of the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) requirements. These exams are a vital component of their HSC assessment, designed to evaluate their technical skills, creativity, and performance abilities in line with the rigorous standards of the NESA syllabus.

#### **Dance**

In Week 4, four dedicated Dance students undertook their practical examination in a single-day. The Dance HSC exam requires students to perform a range of choreographed pieces that demonstrate their technical proficiency, control, and expressive capabilities. Students must also prepare a solo performance and may be assessed on choreography. Our students impressed the examiners with their strong technique, fluid movements, and emotional connection to the pieces performed, reflecting months of disciplined training and rehearsal.

With thanks to Mel for her ongoing support of our Dance students.

#### Drama

During Week 6, 27 Drama students participated in their practical exams over two days. The Drama HSC practical examination assesses students' abilities in performance, including acting skills, character interpretation, and use of dramatic techniques. Students present prepared monologues or scenes. The two-day format allows students time to showcase a diverse range of performance styles and genres across their group projects and individual projects.

Our Drama candidates delivered compelling and nuanced performances, demonstrating deep understanding of their characters and effective stage presence, earning positive feedback from examiners. Our Year 11 Drama students had the opportunity to make up the audience as per the NESA requirements, gaining inspiration for their own HSC in 2026.

Individual projects not only include performance but also submitted works in lighting design, set design, costume, script writing and more!

With thanks to Nicole for her on going support of our Drama students.

## **HSC Practical Exams**

#### Music

In Week 8, 34 Music students completed their practical examinations across two days. The Music HSC exam evaluates students' performance skills on their chosen instrument or voice, as well as their ability to interpret and express a variety of musical styles. Students perform prepared pieces that represent their topics studied in the HSC coursework. Our Music students displayed exceptional musicianship, technical accuracy, and expressive interpretation, captivating examiners with their dedication and artistry.

Two of our candidates also submitted a composition as part of their program, demonstrating their personal style whilst fulfilling the requirements of the task.

With thanks to Fatima and Michael for their ongoing work to support our Music students.

Overall, our HSC Performing Arts students have demonstrated remarkable commitment and talent throughout their examination period. We congratulate all students on their achievements and thank our dedicated teachers for their support and guidance. We look forward to celebrating their results and watching their continued growth in the arts.

See over page for our HSC Practical Nominations in Dance, Drama and Music for 2025.



## **HSC Practical Nominations - CAPA**

































## **HSC Practical Nominations - CAPA**

























Congratulations to these students, and all our Major Works students.

A special thank you to their teachers, Nicole Bonfield, Fatima De Assis, Melissa Jacka, Sharon Lang, Vanessa Linas, and Michael Nolan for their support of these students.

## **HSC Visual Arts Exhibition**



Over the course of two days, the 2025 Visual Arts HSC Body of Work Exhibition was presented to family members, friends, and educators. accompanied by light refreshments. The exhibition was accessible to family and friends on Thursday evening and to students and staff during Friday recess. Throughout the year, the 2025 HSC Visual Arts cohort has diligently developed ideas and concepts, engaged in material experimentation, and embraced unanticipated outcomes to produce their Bodies of Work, culminating in this distinguished exhibition. The event showcased a diverse range of expressive forms, with students demonstrating commendable pride as they articulated the significance of their works to peers and teachers alike. We extend our sincere appreciation to all those who contributed behind the scenes, and to those who attended to support and acknowledge the students' achievements.







During the exhibition the audience had the opportunity to vote for their "favourite artwork", and although it was tight this year we would like to announce and congratulate the winner of the Peoples Choice Award ( Drum Roll ) Klancy Godsell!!!

Again, congratulations Klancy on your amazing Body of Work.



## Year 11 Visual Arts Installations

#### TEMPORARY GALLERY AT SMSHS

This term, 50 art students collaborated to showcase their abilities in the form of numerous installation artworks for their Year 11 assessment task. They worked for around two months to complete their pieces to be temporarily installed for the entirety of week 8.

Installation art can be described as an immersive 3D experience for the viewers, where they may typically be allowed to interact with it directly. These installations are usually made within art studios, designed to be installed within a specific location and removed at a later date, leaving little to no trace of its previous existence.

Students conveyed many of their own ideas, beliefs, and interests within their installations. Many of these included waste, nature, nostalgia, human experience and identity. There was a range of materials used across the pieces, involving paper, paint, yarn, recycled materials and ribbon.

'Not Alone' represents human endurance through the metaphor of koi fish, which are known to be capable of swimming against the current, illustrating their resilient nature. Using a combination of clay and paper, these artists have delivered their message and reminder of human endurance.

'The Gates' was a recontextualisation of the artwork by Christo and Jeanne-Claude "The Gates." Their artwork conveys the possibility of freedom, and one's own ability to achieve it. 'Nature Recycled' utilised recycled materials to convey the message of the deterioration of our earth, forcing the viewer to consider a reality in which nature is mimicked rather than naturally occurring.

One student states: "Revolutioary ideas have been protrayed through simple measures. Maybe these minimalistic pieces can

have a larger impact than we expect."











## Year 11 Visual Arts Installations

#### FROM CONCEPT TO CREATION: YEAR 11'S IMMERSIVE ART INSTALLATIONS

Installation art: large-scale, mixed media constructions designed for a specific site. These pieces are only on display for a short period of time; their temporary nature is a display of an artist's will. These installations reflect upon the artist's perspective of the world, and allow for valuable insight on key concepts.

For their Year 11 assessment task in Visual Arts, 50 art students were involved in a vast gallery, leaving their pieces up for a week. These Year 11 installation artworks incorporate three-dimensional and immersive elements that transform a space to express a narrative. Students have used a range of materials, including found objects, textiles, paper, and sculpture, to convey ideas related to identity, environment, social issues, or personal experiences. These works encourage audience engagement and are designed to evoke thought or emotion, reflecting both creative exploration and critical thinking.

"By combining a surreal entity such as a mythological creature... with an organic object such as a tree, the artwork conveys the duality of fantasy and reality, exploring the idea of hidden identity or presence within everyday spaces", states an artist partaking in the exhibition.

Kiri Mahanga





## **NAS Intensive Studio Practice**

I completed the 10 day intensive practical course at the National Art School in Sydney. It was challenging and fun. I learnt about ceramics hand building and working on a wheel. All the works were put into an exhibition at the end and it was open to the public. It was a new experience and I made some new friends.

My sculpture was about cute relationships that initially seem like they don't get along.

Into The Woods



Madi Wentworth

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## 2025 Dance Showcase

We were proud to present the outstanding works of our Higher School Certificate Dance students alongside a captivating group performance by our Preliminary Dance students early in Term 3. The evening was a resounding success, marked by impressive performances that highlighted the hard work and creativity of our dancers. A heartfelt thank you to our supportive audience whose encouragement and enthusiasm made the night truly special. Congratulations to all the students and staff involved in bringing this vibrant showcase to life!

From Year 12, Ella Formby and Klancy Godsell (pictured with Mel below) presented their entire program.

A massive thank you to their teacher, Mel Jacka for facilitating this event. We also extend our thanks to our Entertainment crew for operating audio and lighting.



### HSC Drama Showcase

The school recently hosted its annual Higher School Certificate Drama Showcase, captivating audiences across two thrilling nights early in term 3. Students presented a diverse range of group and individual projects, highlighting their creativity and dedication throughout the year.

The performances were warmly received by a supportive audience made up of family, friends, and staff, whose encouragement contributed to the vibrant atmosphere in the theatre. Both nights showcased the impressive talent nurtured within the school's drama program.

Special recognition goes to our drama teacher, Nicole Bonfield, for their expert guidance and commitment, which was pivotal to the success of the showcase. Behind the scenes, the entertainment crew delivered seamless stage management, lighting, and audio support, ensuring each performance ran flawlessly.

Congratulations to all performers on their exceptional work. Their passion and professionalism set a high standard for future productions and left a lasting impression on all who attended.









## HSC Drama Showcase continued ...













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## Upcoming **CAPA** Events

Keep an eye out for these upcoming CAPA events in Term 4 2025...

- ICONIC Music Showcase
- **Lunchtime Concerts** Music students hone their skills and build their confidence in concerts for their peers on Wednesdays at lunch time. Entertainment students provide the technical support and operations for the concerts.
- Schools Spectacular 2025 Students from Year 11 and 12, as well as a number of staff are involved in this years Schools Spectacular at Qudos Bank Arena in November. This showcase of talent involves 5,500 students from NSW Public Schools, this year celebrating 42 years!
- *HSC Visual Arts Excursion* Year 12 Visual Arts students will be attending the AGNSW to engage with Ron Mueck and Mike Hewson Exhibition exploring notions of Curatorial Practice.
- *Library Exhibtions* If you haven't seen them yet Year 11 Visual Arts "Identity" works are still on display in the Library, as well as items from the Year 11 Photography Portraiture series.
- **Back To The Future** Students from a number of our performing arts subjects will have the opportunity to see this musical later in Term 4.

#### TAS/COMPUTING

## HSC Nominations - Industrial Technology, Multimedia





































Congratulations to these students, and all our Major Works students.

A special thank you to their teachers, Vanessa Linas and Matthew Topp, for their support of these students.

Students have been very eager to represent St Marys Senior High in a variety of sports this year. They have all competed with great enthusiasm, sportsmanship and school spirit. Many students have been very successful in their chosen sport and have been selected into Werrington Zone sporting teams and also Sydney West teams. Here are some highlights:

#### **Swimming**

The SMSHS Swimming Carnival was held at Ripples Pool on Friday 21 February. It was great to see so many students dressed in their cluster colours and bringing plenty of enthusiasm with them. The students should be commended on their excellent behaviour, participation, and school spirit throughout the day. It was a great day, with many positive things happening including the loud and creative cluster chants. One of the highlights came towards the end of the carnival with the Year 11 v's Year 12 water polo match.

Congratulations to our age champions -

#### **Swimming Age Champions 2025**

**16 Years Female** Jordan Williamson

16 Years Male Cameron Shearan

**17 Years Female** Evie Bullock

17 Years Male Jack Barry

**Timothy Cheng** 

Students were awarded points during the carnival for participation and race placings, to compete for the Cluster Cup. The total points are then divided by the number of people in the cluster to make the points fair as some clusters are quite small while others are large.

The results from the day were -

#### Cluster Results -

1st place - Cluster 7

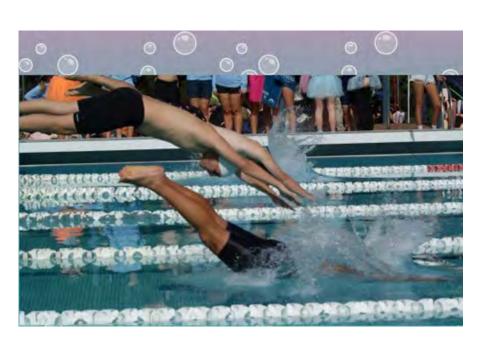
2nd place - Cluster 3

3rd place - Cluster 2

4th place - Cluster 8

5th place - Cluster 6

6th place - Cluster 5



**Congratulations Cluster 7!** 

Our swimmers did a remarkable job representing SMSHS at the Werrington Zone Swimming Carnival on 12 March. A special mention goes to Jordan Williamson, Emma Borg, Evie Bullock and Jack Barry who were named Age Champions and also to Cameron Shearan and Timothy Cheng who were runner up Age Champions.

All athletes qualified for the Sydney West Championships and again competed admirably. The girls relay team, consisting of Isabella Bolton, Emma Borg, Evie Bullock and Liana Meredith came 1st in the 4 X 40m freestyle relay and 3rd in the medley relay qualifying for CHS. Jack Barry came 3rd in the 100m breaststroke and Emma Borg finished 3rd in the 100m freestyle, both qualifying for the CHS Championships. Once again the students competed with great sportsmanship at the CHS Championships.

#### **Athletics**

A great day was had by all at our Athletics Carnival on Monday 2 June. Our student participation rate was fantastic and we had the opportunity to witness fantastic performances in the events. There was one record broken this year. Congratulations to Ainsley Giampietro, 17 Years girls 400m in a time of 11.09.80.

Cluster chants were amazing, as always. They seem to get bigger and better each year, and there was a lot of friendly rivalry. It really was great to see everyone getting into the spirit of the carnival. The costumes this year were next level.

The winner of the Cluster chants is... Cluster 8! Congratulations, Cluster 8!

To determine the winner of the Athletics Carnival, the number of points collected by each Cluster were tallied. These were earned by students entering events, Cluster chants and returning notes early. Once the points were added up, they were divided by the number of people in each Cluster, making it fairer for the smaller Cluster groups.

The overall winner of the carnival was Cluster 3. Well done Cluster 3!



Congratulations also to our Age Champions:

#### **Athletics Age Champions 2025**

**16 Years Female** Caitlin Northam Runner Up: Maxi Newsome 16 Years Male Artham Jhamat Runner Up: Darby Weber 17 Years Female Ainsley Giampietro Runner Up: Emma Borg 17 Years Male Michael Gardiner Runner Up: Luke Pelle

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Our athletes did a great job representing SMSHS at the Werrington Zone Athletics Carnival on 24 and 25 June. A special congratulations goes to Ainsley Giampietro and Michael Gardiner who were named Age Champions.

Some other results include -

Luke Pelle - 1st 100m

2nd 200m

Siddharth Chinnanelli - 2nd 100m

Aiden Clune - 2nd 110m hurdles

3rd long jump

Michael Gardiner - 1st discus

1st javelin

1st long jump

1st triple jump

Equal 2nd high jump

3rd shot put

Abdo Alkhouri - Equal 2nd high jump

Nathaniel Matugas-Barnes - 3rd triple jump

Gabriel Geach-Andrews - 3rd 400m

Ainsley Giampietro - 1st 400m

1st 800m

1st 1500m

2nd 200m

3rd 100m

Isabella Vella - 1st 100m hurdles

1st javelin

1st triple jump

2nd 3000m walk

Jessey Bektas - 1st 3000m walk

2nd 3000m

Agampreet Kaur - 3rd discus

3rd shot put

Mia Victorino - 2nd high jump

Abbey Bektas - 3rd long jump





Many athletes qualified for the Sydney West Championships and again competed admirably. Michael Gardiner came 1st in triple jump and discus and 4th in Javelin, and Ainsley Giampietro came 2nd in the 400m and 3rd in both the 200m and 800m. Both Michael and Ainsley qualified for the CHS Athletics Championships. At this competition Michael came 7th in triple jump and 8th in discus and Ainsley came 10th in the 400m.

#### **Cross Country**

The Werrington Zone Cross Country was held on Tuesday 3 June at the Sydney International Regatta Centre. We had eleven students competing and all students qualified to represent the zone at the Sydney West Cross Country Carnival.

The results from the Zone Cross Country are as follows -

Emma Borg – 6th 17 years girls
Bridgette Cosma – 3rd 16 years girls
Annabelle De Giorgio – 2nd 16 years girls
Ainsley Giampietro – 1st 17 years girls
Mitchell Goddard – 2nd 17 years boys
Liam McWhirter – 1st 17 years boys
Saarim Murad – 4th 18 years boys
Cameron Shearan – 10th 16 years boys
Kias Tomlinson - 7th 17 years boys
Safwan Umarji - 9th 17 years boys
Lachlan Wynd - 3rd 17 years boys

The Sydney West Cross Country was held on the 26 June at Sydney International Equestrian Centre. Athletes at this level are highly competitive and our students gave it their best. Congratulations to Liana Meredith who came 7th and Ainsley Giampietro who came 6th and qualified for the NSW All Schools Cross Country.

At the NSW All Schools Championships Ainsley came 27th in government schools and Liana came 50th in government schools.

#### Soccer

SMSHS competed very strongly at the Werrington Zone Soccer Gala Day on 19 February. Both the boys and girls teams went through the day undefeated taking out the title of Werrington Zone Champions.

Congratulations to Rielly Broome, Ashton Heald, Koby Mathie, Luke Pelle, Fahad Raza, Spencer Webster, Shae Brukman, Abbey Cox, Annabelle De Georgio, Marla Despi, Kiahna Koutsonikolis, Keeva Lemaire, Caitlin Northam who were selected into the Werrington Zone team to compete at the Sydney West Championships.

Congratulations also to Spencer Webster who was then selected to represent Sydney West at the CHS Championships.







#### **Basketball**

The Werrington Zone Basketball Gala Day was held on Wednesday 26 February. We sent two boys teams and one girls team to compete. Once again everyone played in the spirit of the game and gave 100% effort. The girls finished in 2nd place and the boys B team took out the day undefeated.

Congratulations to Zoe Abian, Cathleen Graza, Marianna Qasha, Ysabel Rimando, Khloe Veloso, Matilda Williams, Chadd Ablaza, Abdo Alkhouri, Jack Barry, Hargun Chhina, Alexavier Chhuy and Duane Lapitan who were selected into the Werrington Zone team to compete at the Sydney West Championships.

A further congratulations to Abdo Alkhouri and Khloe Veloso who were selected to represent Sydney West at the CHS Championships.







#### **Rugby League**

Congratulations to Mia Hyde who was selected into the Sydney West Rugby League and competed at the CHS Championships.

#### Netball

The Werrington Zone Netball Gala Day was held on Monday 17 March. The girls played amazingly all day to finish in 1st place defeating Kingswood in a nail biting final.





Congratulations to Arika Gear, Tahnee Hine, Suliana Luke and Amelia Sutton who were selected into the Werrington Zone team to compete at the Sydney West Championships.

A further congratulations to Suliana Luke who were selected to represent Sydney West at the CHS Championships.



#### **Gymnastics**

Congratulations to Isabella Vella who was selected into the Sydney West Gymnastics team and competed at the CHS Championships.

#### Cricket

The boys cricket team played Plumpton High School on Friday 7 March in a 20-20 match. The boys bowled extremely well with Gardiner and Michael Godla taking two wickets for 12 runs each and getting Plumpton out for a total of 80 runs. St Marys then had their turn at the bat with Adam Badesha scoring 21 not out and Artham Jhamat scoring 45. Our team ended on 2-84 and have now progressed to the next round which will be held during Term 4.



#### Volleyball

The Werrington Zone Volleyball Gala Day was held on Friday 23 May. We sent two boys teams and one girls team along to compete. This year, the gala day was an opportunity for students to participate and compete but not be selected into zone teams. This is due to the fact that the Sydney West Championships were held at the end of last year and the CHS Championships were held at the very beginning of this year. However, the zone still wanted to provide students with the chance to participate.

Congratulations to Ishmael Bilal who was successful at the end of last year in being selected into the Sydney West and competed at the CHS Championships.









#### **LAWN BOWLS**

Congratulations to Sophie Payne who was selected into the Sydney West lawn bowls team to compete at the CHS Championships.

#### **FUTSAL**

We entered two teams into the NSW Futsal Championships this year. Unfortunately, it wasn't our day at the competition, however, both teams had a great time and developed many new skills.





#### **HOCKEY**

Congratulations to Liliana Turner who was selected into the Sydney West Hockey Team to compete at the CHS Championships.

#### **OZTAG**

The Werrington Zone OzTag gala day was held on Monday 1 September. We came up against some very strong competition and unfortunately did not have any students selected into the Werrington Zone team. However, the students had a great day as can be seen from the photos below.







Yours in sport, Jo Brines, Katelin Ellyard and Daniel Kim

## Major Works Assembly

In 2025 we continued the long standing St Marys Senior High tradition, set up by the founding Principal of the senior high school, of the Major Works Assembly. In Week 10 we celebrated the achievements of our top performing Major Works students across the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA), Technical and Applied Sciences (TAS), Computing, Human Society and Environment (HSIE) and English Extension areas.





On the day we heard from our current Principal, Sally Smithard, who spoke about the year and celebrated all of our students who completed Major Works for their Higher School Certificate in 2025. Alumni Sala-O-Vea Walter joined as as the keynote speaker. The audience enjoyed listening to her as she spoke about her Major Works journey at St Marys Senior High School.

During the assembly, we had the opportunity to hear a selection of pieces presented by our award winning students in Music. They performed two medleys made up of their nominated HSC performance program.

As well as the many awards, we also had the announcement of our new School Captains, whose duties began instantly in preparation for the Year 12 Graduation later that week.

Congratulations to the 2025 award recipients.



## Year 11 Seminar Day

On the last day of term Year 11 students had the opportunity to learn more about universities and commence planning for their future after graduation. This was their last seminar day before they moving into their final year of high school. Students were given insight on a variety of topics such as study methods, early entrance opportunities as well as one on one conversations with the ambassadors for personal inquiries. Through this seminar day each student developed their understanding of the value of skills and habits in planning for their future.

#### Universities that joined us:

- USYD
- UTS
- · Macquarie University
- WSU
- U-TAS
- UNSW
- SEADA
- Torrens
- CSU
- Notre Dame
- ADF
- ATOMI
- UOW
- ICMS
- ACU

#### **Keynote Speaker**

Shane Hardcastle from Beyond; Career's Platform

#### **STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE:**

Loved the university ambassadors sharing their personal experiences during their degree which helped me and some others to consider and learn new information.

Aditya Govada Year 11 SRC

#### **Individual Workshops:**

Workshop title	Description
Law Mooting Challenge	Be part of a law moot and understand how the law applies to varying situations
Engineering & Sustainable Environment	Take on an engineering challenge from an industry brief that considers the importance of sustainable practices.
Early Entry Panel	Various Universities presenting their early entry models. Tips & Tricks for successful applications.
Psychology in Today's Workplace	How a psychology degree is used and the professional roles available in the various workplaces
Trushing the Salls of the 21- Century Conscion	The skills required of teachers in the 21st century, both professional and interpersonal skills, incorporating technology into classroom delivery.
Nursing; the Skills of the 21st Century Healthcare Professional	The skills required of nurses in the in the 21st century, both professional and interpersonal skills, incorporating technology into healthcare.
Design Thinking Interactive	This workshop goes through how to approach problems and achieve viable solutions, by utilising the "double diamond" framework.
Sporting Skills	the professional roles available in the many & varying workplaces and the skills required
Design fundamentals; working to a brief	Design your way through professional and creative skills whilst working to the brief.
Media & Communication	Understanding the various media formats that exist to effectively communicate information and how to utilise your skills within this industry.

Occupations Tristring	The skills required of occupational therapists in the 21st century and how you can utilise your interpersonal skills to form lasting relationships with clients
ADF Gap Year	What is this opportunity, what role/s can I apply for and how do I apply
Atomi	Using the ATOMI platform as a study skills resource
Medicine Pathways	Understanding the medicine degree and the pathway degrees linked
Medicine Interpersonal skills	Understanding the medicine degree and the Interpersonal skills required to complete the study
Stational and Farmer	The skills required of business/economic and finance in the 21st century, both professional and interpersonal skills, incorporating technology.
Role of a Physiotherapist	The skills required of Physiotherapist both professional and interpersonal skills, incorporating technology into healthcare, who are their clients and how they treat them

## Year 11 Seminar Day

# BEYOND

#### What to do next...

#### **Beyond Platform:**

Beyond is a careers based platform that provides students with essential information for their future. This includes, university courses, study skills to maximise study time and information about various courses.

#### Other features:

- Build and showcase your own portfolio
- View early entrance schemes, scholarships and apprenticeships
- · Live sessions about courses
- Micro credentials from reputable providers
- Access to webinar recordings, practice papers and study notes across multiple subjects

Students should check their emails for information on how to access the Beyond platform.









would also like to thank the representatives from each university who took time out of their busy day to inform students about future pathways and reassure us the best is always yet to come.

A huge thanks to the teachers who supported this day filled with learning and passion. We

A special thanks to Cheryll for all her work coordinating the day. Finally, we would also like to thank the students from the Opportunity Knocks Club, who helped with presenting and keeping all the students entertained.

Without you this day would not have been possible!

Precious Johnson Year 11 2025

# Congratulations!

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2025!
Graduates we wish you a heartfelt farewell and wish you all the best in all your future endeavours.









### **Our Staff**

Principal: Sally Smithard

School Council President: Sonia Matthews

School Captains: Elliott Moore Rosetta Yankson

School Executive:

Deputy Principal (Year 11) Danielle Ervine Deputy Principal (Year 12) Leah Havord Julie Robinson English Mathematics Simone Pett Science Lidija Radovancevic **Commercial Studies** Salochna Reddy **HSIE** Shara Walsh Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) Nicole Bonfield

- TAS / Computing
- LOTE
- LOTE
- TAS / PDHPE
- Secondary Studies
- Wellbeing
- First Australians
- Business Manager (Acting)
- School Administrative Manager (Rel)
- TAS / Computing
- Matthew Topp
- Luigi Serra
- Sharon Francis
- Lucas Widdison
- Melissa Jacka
- Leah Havord
- Rebecca Zinghini
- Angela Demaio

Student Advisers:

Year 11, Surnames A-G
 Year 11, Surnames H-O
 Year 11, Surnames P-Z
 Year 12, Surnames A-G
 Year 12, Surnames H-O
 Year 12, Surnames P-Z
 Year 12, Surnames P-Z
 Jeff Larsen

Learning Support: Carmel Harriden (M, T)
Anne-Maree Magi (T, F)
Carly McPherson (T, W, T)

Ashlee Pleffer (M,T, W)

Student Support Officer: Isidro Alfonso

Careers Adviser: Cheryll Ruskin

### **Contact us**



St Marys Senior High School Kalang Avenue St Marys NSW 2760



02 9623 8333



stmaryssen-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



St Marys Senior High School Facebook

### **South Creek Production Team**

#### Kerri-Anne Brown - Teacher Librarian

Austin Bernal
Benjamin Reyes
Braellan Nogal
Clara Williamson
Hadid Khan
Henna Orya
JC Mohseni
Kalden Yuthok
Precious Johnson
Haresh Krishnamoorthy

Rebecca Gao
Sabrina Mallick
Safa Chishty
Samantha Goyena
Siddharth Chinnanelli
Sophia Madrid
Valerie Gunawan
Yavisht Behari
Arfa Muzaffar



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