



TERM 1 WEEKS 3 AND 4

8 - 19 February 2021

Important Dates – Term 1 2021

W3	Fri 12 Feb	Valentine's Day Activities <i>Details to be advised, pending DoE advice</i>
W4	Tues 16 Feb	Academic Assembly <i>Details to be advised, pending DoE advice</i>
W5	Mon 22 Feb	School Swimming Carnival – Competitors Only <i>Details to be advised, pending DoE advice</i>
W5	Tues 23 Feb	School Council Meeting – AGM <i>Details to be advised, pending DoE advice</i>
W6	Tues 2 Mar	School Photos
W10	Fri 2 Apr	Good Friday (public holiday)



Principal's Report

Many thanks to all of our staff, students and parents for helping to get the new school year off to a very positive start. For us we have had many comments from students, staff and phone calls from community members regarding the smooth start to the year. We had a very successful informal meet and greet with Year 11 students with our Breakfast on the Lawn.

Although the Department of Education guidelines allow for swimming carnivals to go ahead in 2021, venue restrictions by Penrith City Council have created an obstacle to our swimming carnival proceeding in the format we would have hoped for this year. Initially we were hoping for a whole school swimming carnival and our plan B was two separate swimming carnivals, based on cohorts and age groups. Both these scenarios cannot proceed as the venue has restrictions of 328 people in their outdoor pool area. Plan C will proceed with a competitors' only swimming carnival taking place on Monday 22 February 2021. I would like to thank Jo Brines for her flexibility and many attempts to create the swimming carnival we were all hoping for this year.

Continued over the page →



Principal's Report continued

We will be meeting with the local highway patrol following concerns raised regarding the number of cars dropping students off on Kalang Avenue and double parking. We will continue to work with the police to ensure the safety of all students, pedestrians and other road users. We ask that parents drop students off on Creek Road or Kungala Avenue. These areas are much easier to access, are safer and provide an easier exit for drivers, rather than trying to navigate the narrow streets around Kalang Avenue which are filled with parked cars and narrow footpaths.

I have included in this newsletter the code of conduct from Transport NSW regarding student travel on public transport. Our students are very respectful to other transport users and this is simply a timely reminder about expectations. I encourage students and parents to go through the code of conduct to avoid the risk of losing their Opal Card. Students are also reminded that the NSW Government still requires them to wear masks whilst travelling on any public transport.

Excursions

At St Marys Senior High School there are a variety of extra-curricula activities offered including excursions to support students in their academic pursuits. We are very excited that excursions have been able to resume in 2021 to support the learning that is undertaken in the classroom. It is vital that students adhere to due dates for these excursions to ensure that our organisation runs smoothly. The Department of Education requires each excursion to include an extensive risk assessment differentiated for the students attending the excursion, including COVID-safe plans for all venues visited. This takes an enormous amount of time for the organising staff and we require your support to ensure we meet our work, health and safety requirements.

To ensure all students are provided with an opportunity to engage with these experiences, the school may be able to provide some financial support to families who are struggling with school costs. Please contact your child's Deputy Principal to discuss the options available.

How do I get involved with the school?

St Marys Senior High School does not have a P&C group. A School Council made up of parents, students, community members and staff make up the Council and meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Each representative group has a specific number of voting rights and are elected at the annual general meeting – the first meeting of the year. The AGM will take place on Tuesday 23 February 2021 in the meeting room in the Administration Block at 6pm. If parents want to be involved in decision making related to our school and develop a better understanding of the school's operations, this may be the path you choose to take. The parent representative group requires three voting members at each meeting that can be rotated. I encourage you to consider attending the first meeting to gain an insight into the School Council.



If you would like to attend the School Council meeting, please contact the school via the school email address stmaryssen-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au by **Friday 19 February** for catering purposes. At this meeting we will go over the Constitution, explaining each representative group on Council.

Year 12 had their first session with their Personal Mentors on the Friday of Week 2. This is an additional layer of support provided to assist students in their final year of formal schooling. The connections made in Personal Mentor have been highly valued by past students as stated in their exit surveys. I hope you take full advantage of this opportunity.

I hope everyone has a great upcoming fortnight at St Marys Senior High School.

Sally Smithard

Principal



Code of conduct for school students on metro and train services, and at stations

All students are to behave in a manner that ensures both their comfort and safety and that of other passengers in order to retain their school travel pass.



Students will:

- Obey all signage instructions on metro and train services and at stations.
- Behave safely at all times (e.g. avoid running or riding bikes, scooters or skates on metro and train services and at stations, keep off metro and train lines, keep arms, legs and other body parts inside the metro or train, refrain from touching metro or train doors, safety equipment or any part of a moving metro or train).
- Use non-offensive language and behave appropriately at all times on rail property (e.g. avoid swearing, spitting, fighting, throwing items, keep feet off seats).
- Protect rail property and report graffiti and vandalism.
- Keep yourself and anything you are carrying clear of aisles, steps, thoroughfares and behind the yellow line on platforms.
- Take your rubbish with you and dispose of it thoughtfully.
- Follow the instructions of station staff, drivers, guards, transport officers and Police officers.
- Carry your School Pass during all school-related travel.
- Spread out along the platform so as not to overcrowd one carriage. Avoid boarding carriages that are already overcrowded.
- Allow other passengers to get off metro and train services before boarding and then board without delay.

- Move inside the carriage and stand away from the doors during travel.
- Comply with all laws relating to conduct and behaviour while travelling on public transport.
- Not possess any prohibited items, such as knives, spray cans or other implements intended for use in damaging property.
- Adhere to the law that bans smoking and drinking alcohol at stations, and on metro and train services.
- Use the School Travel Pass only for its intended purpose.
- Keep their School Pass for their own use – not lend their School Pass to other students or borrow one from them.

If issued with a School Opal Card, students must always tap on at the beginning of their metro and train trips and tap off at the end, even at stations without ticket gates.

The School Pass may be confiscated and a fine may also apply if these rules are not followed.

Vandalism is a serious criminal offence. Students caught tagging, etching or vandalising metro and train services and stations will be arrested and may face criminal charges.

Consequences of inappropriate behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour such as using offensive or racist language, disobeying reasonable directions from the driver, smoking, spitting, damaging property, eating on the bus, distracting the driver with persistent noise and failing to show the travel pass may lead to:

- Loss of subsidised school travel privileges for up to two school weeks for a second offence, and up to 10 school weeks for subsequent offences.
- Permanent suspension of school travel privileges or banning from travelling on buses may apply for repeated offences.

Dangerous behaviour such as seriously bullying or harassing other passengers, fighting, letting any part of your body protrude from the bus, throwing objects inside or outside the bus, using matches and lighters, carrying dangerous items and group misbehaviour may lead to:

- Loss of subsidised school travel privileges for up to four school weeks for a first offence, and up to 10 school weeks for subsequent offences – or if group misbehaviour is involved, permanent loss of school travel privileges.
- Permanent suspension of school travel privileges or banning from travelling on buses may apply for repeated offences.

Highly dangerous behaviour such as interfering with safety equipment, pushing students out of the doors or windows, assaulting the driver or other passengers and destruction of bus property may lead to:



- Permanent loss of subsidised school travel privileges and possible court action or police prosecution.
- Banned from travelling on buses.

The police will be called to deal with highly dangerous behaviour.

These penalties reflect the seriousness of the misbehaviour. They ensure that all students who misbehave on buses are dealt with in a fair and consistent manner, no matter which bus operator or school is involved.

If students are refused travel, parents/guardians/carers must make alternative travel arrangements and meet any costs of that transport. They will not be eligible for the Transport for NSW Private Vehicle Conveyance Scheme under these circumstances.

A group of school students behaving unacceptably may risk higher penalties if their conduct puts the safety of other passengers or the driver at risk.

The operator will inform Transport for NSW of its decision. Transport for NSW may inform an operator of a student’s record of misbehaviour. Please refer to the Guidelines for Managing School Students’ Behaviour on Buses for dealing with incidents of inappropriate behaviour.

If a student misbehaves on a bus, the bus operator concerned will contact the parents and the school.

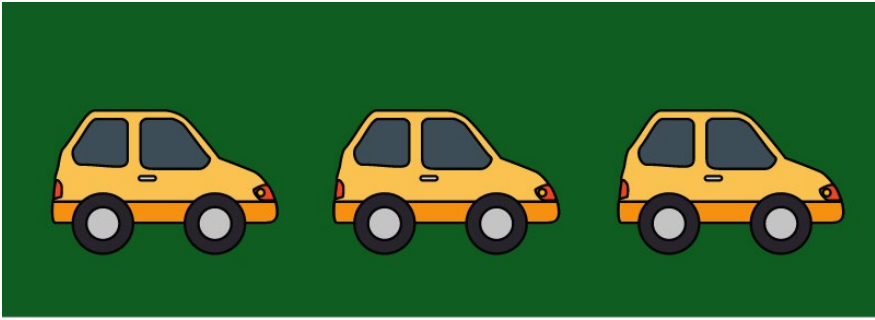
- Depending on the gravity of the offence, students may be required to give up their school bus travel pass or may be refused travel on the bus for a period of time determined by the bus operator.
- Heavier penalties may apply to students involved in group misbehaviour.
- School principals have the right to take additional disciplinary action against a student under the school’s discipline code or student welfare policy for any breach of the code of conduct.

The bus operator must provide written notification to the parents, guardians or carers before a school bus travel pass can be withdrawn.

What to do if you disagree

If parents, guardians or carers don’t agree with a decision, they should contact the bus operator. If they are still not satisfied, they can contact the nearest Transport for NSW office.



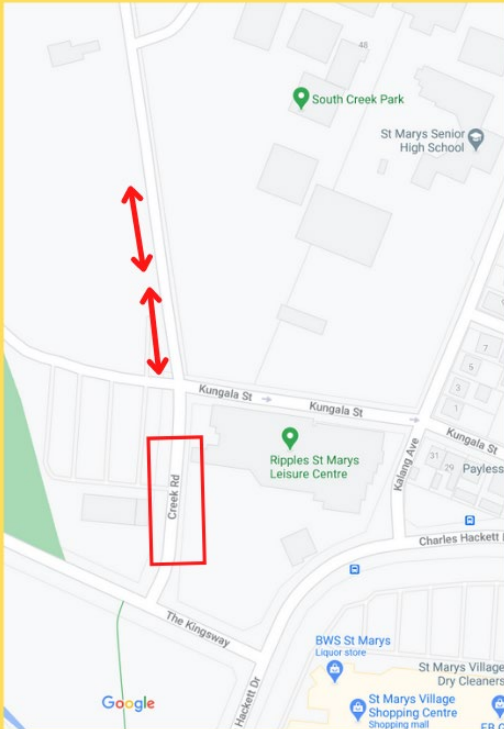


SMSHS

STUDENT PICK UP AND DROP OFF

**Please use Creek Road
- at the back of the school**

**Creek Road is a
two way street,
and there is lots
of parking
available to
parents and
family members,
easing safe
student entry to
and exit from the
school via the
gates provided**





**YEAR 11 SUBJECT CHANGES
CLOSE ON
FRIDAY FEB 26
WEEK 5**

PURPLE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY



Research Skills After School Tutorials

In this age of information overload, it is crucial that students are equipped with the skills to be discerning users of information to ensure academic success. An understanding of the research process is implied in most Stage 6 Board Courses and is a key component of a range of assessment tasks for these courses. Well-developed research skills are also essential for higher education.

The Research Skills After School Tutorials aim to develop students' research proficiencies and skills in academic writing. The knowledge and skills gained to effectively source, analyse and synthesise information will equip students for academic success in their Higher School Certificate and assist with their transition to higher education.

Tutorials will take place each Wednesday this term, 3:30 – 4:20 pm in the Library Media Room

Week	Topic	Activities
5 Wednesday 24 February	Planning for Research	The Research Process Developing a Research Plan
6 Wednesday 3 March	Identifying your Research Focus	Brainstorming and concept mapping techniques Developing research questions
7 Wednesday 10 March	Search Strategies	Using synonyms and Boolean operators Using a search engine effectively Google Scholar Skimming and scanning
8 Wednesday 17 March	Academic Information Sources	State Library Accessing and using journal databases
9 Wednesday 24 March	Evaluating and Organising your Information	Is it CRAAP? Note taking skills Digital bookmarking tools
10 Wednesday 31 March	Academic Integrity	Referencing styles Citation tools Creative Commons

Please see me in the Library to collect a permission note to attend the tutorials or to ask any questions about the program.

Kerri-Anne Brown

Teacher Librarian



Learning Centre Timetable Term 1

WEEK A					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:20 AM	Carla Commercial 6B	Carmel English / LAST 1A	Deborah English 7B	Deborah English 4A	Andrew F Science 8A
9:32 AM	Andrew M Science 4A	Nicole B English / Drama 6A	Dianne HSIE / LAST 5A	Dianne HSIE / LAST 1A	Nicole B English / Drama 2A
10:44 AM					
11:14 AM	Christine Maths 1B	Ila Science 7A	Ila Science 2A	Gillian English 5A	Christine Maths 3A
12:26 PM	Carla Commercial 5B	Andrew M Science 3A	Ellen Science 8A	Carmel English / LAST 6A	Robyn A English 7A
1:38 AM					
2:08 PM	Carmel English / LAST 8B	Linda English 4B	Michael Music / Entertainment 3B	Lee Commercial 2B	Open to 2:08pm 8C
3:20 PM					
WEEK B					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:20 AM	Deborah English 4A	Gillian English 3A	Andrew F Science 5B	Prithy English 2B	Andrew F Science 7A
9:32 AM	Waran Science 6B	Nicole B English / Drama 7B	Prithy English 2B	Ellen Science 1B	Andrew M Science 3B
10:44 AM					
11:14 AM	Amy-Lee PE / Computing 1B	Robyn A English 6A	Robyn A English 7B	Linda English 4B	Prithy English 2A
12:26 PM	Carla Commercial 5B	Linda English 4B	Ila Science 8A	Waran Science 5A	Nicole L HSIE / LAST 8B
1:38 AM					
2:08 PM	Carmel English / LAST 8B	Carmel English / LAST 1A	Dianne English / LAST 3B	Dianne English / LAST 6B	Open to 2:08pm 8C
3:20 PM					

As @ 27/01/2021



This fortnight @ SMSHS

Monday 8 Feb	Tuesday 9 Feb	Wednesday 10 Feb	Thursday 11 Feb	Friday 12 Feb
Werrington Zone Volleyball Gala Day Year 12 English Ext 2 – Asst 1 due	Penrith Selective High School – Prefect Afternoon Tea Year 12 Hospitality – Cluster D due			Valentine's Day Activities
Monday 15 Feb	Tuesday 16 Feb	Wednesday 17 Feb	Thursday 18 Feb	Friday 19 Feb
Year 12 Business Services 4U – Work placement Year 12 Drama – Asst 1 due	Academic Assembly Year 12 Business Services 4U – Work placement Year 12 Drama – Asst 1 due	Year 12 Business Services 4U – Work placement Year 12 Drama – Asst 1 due	Duke of Ed – Training Day #1 Year 12 Business Services 4U – Work placement Year 12 Drama – Asst 1 due Year 12 PDHPE (Accelerated students) – Asst 1 due	Year 12 Business Services 4U – Work placement Year 12 Drama – Asst 1 due Year 12 Business Services 4U – Cluster B due

Our Teams

Principal:	Sally Smithard
School Council President:	Suchita Andrews
School Captains:	Alice Chitos Chloe Nolasco
School Executive:	
- Deputy Principal (Year 11)	Danielle Ervine
- Deputy Principal (Year 12)	Leah Havord
- English	Julie Robinson
- Mathematics	Simone Pett
- Science	Lidija Radovancevic
- Commercial Studies	Salochna Reddy
- HSIE (Rel)	Rebecca Langham
- CAPA	Nicole Bonfield
- Computing	Matthew Topp
- LOTE	Luigi Serra
- TAS/PDHPE	Rebecca Powell
- Secondary Studies	Liz Hemmings
- Learning and Wellbeing	Melissa Jacka
- First Australians	Leah Havord
- Sport and Recreation	Joanne Brines
- Business Manager (Acting)	Rebecca Zinghini
- School Administrative Manager (Rel)	Kim Everett
Student Advisers:	
- Year 11, Surnames A-G	Mitchell Baker
- Year 11, Surnames H-O	Nicole Leong
- Year 11, Surnames P-Z	Jesse Vassallo
- Year 12, Surnames A-G	Nicola Preston
- Year 12, Surnames H-O	Luigi Serra
- Year 12, Surnames P-Z	Tim Weston
Student Support Officer	Caitlin Lambourne
Learning Support:	Carmel Harriden Dianne Pyne Nicole Leong Carly McPherson
Careers Adviser:	Lynette Tuckwell

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 Official Site - Facebook



St Marys Senior High School - Skoolbag App

