



Norths' News



A Community with Expectations of Achievement and Success

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

TUESDAY	13 FEBRUARY 2018	HEALTHY SKILLS FOR LIFE FOR YEARS 1,2 & 3
FRIDAY	16 FEBRUARY 2018	PSSA TRIAL DAY
TUESDAY	20 FEBRUARY 2018	P&C MEETING – 9:30AM
WEDNESDAY	21 FEBRUARY 2018	3-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

School Phone Number 9623 1443 Fax Number 9833 1283 Office Hours 8:30am – 3:30pm
Email: stmarysnth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Website: www.stmarysnorth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

9 February 2018

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the new school year at Norths. I hope you enjoyed a wonderful holiday break with your family and made some special memories that your children can hold on to for years to come. A very warm welcome to our new students and their families. We know you will love St Marys North as much as we do.



Our students have quickly settled into their new classes and learning is well under way. A special mention must be made about our new kindergarten students. I am so impressed with the way they have all transitioned to school, their smiles simply light up their rooms!

BOOK PACKS

All students are required to have a book pack purchased for them. The book pack contains all of the necessary stationary items and books that will be required for learning throughout 2018. Notes were sent home in Week 1. Students require their book packs as soon as possible so that they have work books to record their learning in.

YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Your child's teacher is your first point of contact should you have a concern or enquiry, please contact them to arrange a time to meet if required. Generally, teachers are involved with classroom preparation at the beginning of each day so please try to avoid 'catching a teacher' prior to class in the morning as they will find it difficult to give you the time that you may require. All staff can be contacted to arrange an appointment via a note, a phone call to the office or at the classroom in the afternoon.

GATE TIMES

A reminder our gates open at 8.30am in the morning. Please ensure your child is not at school before this time as they will not have access to the playground. The gates on Debrincat Ave close at 9.15am and the Willow Rd gates shut at 9.30am. To gain entry to the school after this time you are required to buzz at the Willow Rd gate and the office staff will assist you. All gates open at 2.50pm in the afternoon.

A reminder that smoking on school grounds is strictly prohibited. There is also a 4-metre exclusion zone from the entrance gates. Please be mindful of the health of our students and community members and refrain from smoking near our school.

ATTENDANCE



The *Education Act 1990* requires you to ensure your child attends school each day that instruction is provided unless they are prevented from doing so by sickness or another acceptable reason and for you to provide an explanation for any absence. You are required to explain your child's absences within 7 days. Failure to do so will result in an unjustified absence being recorded. Attached to this newsletter you will find slips that can be used to notify the school of your child's absence and the reason.

The school day starts promptly at 9.00am each day. Last year, we had an increasing number of students that were continually arriving to school late. This impacts greatly on students academically and socially. Students who are late to class miss vital instruction that forms a part of morning routines and lessons. It can also be uncomfortable for a student to walk into class late as their classmates will be engaged in learning and they will need to interrupt the lesson to receive individual instructions. We are hopeful that 2018 will see all students arriving to school prior to 9.00am ready to start the school day on time. We thank you for your assistance in advance.

KEEP US UP TO DATE

At times, we find that our student contact records are out of date. This becomes a problem should we need to contact you about your child. If you have changed your phone number or address, please let us know as soon as possible.

At this time of the year it is also timely to ensure we have current student health care plans. It is vital that we are well informed about our students' health needs to ensure we provide a safe place for them at school. If you wish to check your child's information, please contact the front office. Some parents may be requested to provide updated information from a doctor.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

We value highly parent participation and involvement in our school. The school P&C provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to become involved and I encourage all new and existing parents to make the time to join. The first P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th February at 9.30am in the staffroom. It would be lovely to see many new faces join us. Another way to participate is to offer some time to assist in the canteen. Our school canteen is run by volunteers and without your support we find it difficult to have the canteen open and available to our students. If you think you may be able to spare some time, please let us know at the front office.



UNIFORM

Our students are very proud of their school uniforms. A uniform helps children identify as belonging to our wonderful school. Last year the P&C aided in the distribution of uniforms that were never claimed from Lost Property and from donations that were made by families when their children out grew their uniforms. Each morning a clothing rack is put outside the front office with pre-loved clothing. Please feel free to take a look for anything your child may need. Donations of uniforms are very much appreciated.

HEALTHY SKILLS FOR LIFE

Our students will again this year be provided with lessons from the Life Skills Group. During the sessions students build awareness of their physical, social, and emotional health and wellbeing and are equipped with skills to deal with the upcoming challenges of growing up. Increased self-esteem, self-image, resilience and confidence are some of the skills that are taught through mindfulness activities. This term, years 1, 2 and 3 will have weekly lessons each Tuesday. It is beneficial if your child is dressed in appropriate clothing for these lessons, dresses can be a little difficult to do yoga poses in!

MEET THE TEACHER BREAKFAST

This week we welcomed many of our families to school to enjoy breakfast with us and meet our class teachers. It was wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces join us. Our teaching staff truly appreciate having the opportunity to meet with so many parents and pass on their thanks for taking the time to join us. A special thanks to our dedicated teachers who ensured that such an event could take place. Our KidsMatter parent representatives, Mrs Nicole Baker and Mrs Lisa Dunn, worked tirelessly organising donations from companies and shopping for all of the yummy food that was available. A huge thanks to Lydia's mum (2W), who cooked chocolate waffles for us as well. Thank you to you all, we couldn't do this without you!

I look forward to another exciting year. St Marys North PS is a vibrant learning community where we work together to ensure our students grow into well informed and respectful young people. We have so many wonderful things to look forward to, let the learning begin!

*'The capacity to learn is a **gift**; the ability to learn is a **skill**; the willingness to learn is a **choice**.'* – Brian Herbert

Mrs Parrello

Thank you to Officeworks who have donated an entire pallet of photocopying paper to our school. This will help us enormously in providing our students with valuable learning resources.



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING - PBL



St Marys North students have all returned ready to learn, showing they are Responsible, Respectful, Safe, Learners.

This week our PBL focus for PBL Good Work Awards is *All Settings - Responsible* and PBL Playground - *Wear a school hat*. Next week the Good Work focus is *All Settings - Respectful* and PBL Playground – *Responsible – walk to lines when the music starts*.

Please keep an eye out for PBL information in each Newsletter.

From the PBL Team





































OFFICE HOURS

Just a reminder that the office hours are 8:30am to 3:30pm. Money can only be taken between the hours of 8:30am to 12:30pm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please return all year 6 jacket and shirt notes with money to the office by the 23rd March 2018. Also, please return all swimming carnival notes for years 3-6 who are competent swimmers are due by Tuesday 20th February 2018.



WEEK 1			WEEK 2	All settings Responsible	Safe Wearing a school hat
 K BLUEBELL			 K BLUEBELL	EMILY RICH	SAMUEL ENRIQUEZ
 K DAISY			 K DAISY	MELODY MCMASTER	EAMON BENICO
 K COOLABAH			 K COOLABAH	REED GADD	ZOEY JONES
 1 GUMNUT			 1 GUMNUT	NOAH ARMODOROS	ERIKA BROOKS
 1 PROTEA			 1 PROTEA	MYA TOBIN	CALEB BATER
 1 BLUE GUM			 1 BLUE GUM	SAMUEL ANKUMA	ALLISON THOMPSON
 2 FRANGIPANI			 2 FRANGIPANI	BILLY BALLANTINE	RUBY HUNTER
 2 WARATAH			 2 WARATAH	LYDIA ALLANSON	SEBASTIAN AUNG
 2 GREVILLEA			 2 GREVILLEA	NATHAN BARKER	ISABELLA DE GIER
 3 LILLY PILLY			 3 LILLY PILLY	MARIA TUPOLA	BELLAH COOK
 3 ORCHID			 3 ORCHID	OCEANA KEMARA	JAI THOMPSON
 3-4 GUM BLOSSOM			 3-4 GUM BLOSSOM	CONNOR KNIBBS	OLIVIA BUSH
 4 JACARANDA			 4 JACARANDA	RUBY PANNAYE	AIDEN DUNN
 4 BANKSIA			 4 BANKSIA	EMILY BARTLETT	TYLER PRICE
 5 ACACIA			 5 ACACIA	JANARRI MORGAN	ETHAN SCHEMPP
 5 KANGAROO PAW			 5 KANGAROO PAW	BRYCE ATKINS	ISABELLA TABONE
 6 JARRAH			 6 JARRAH	ALANA ELPHICK	JULEITA HOLDEN
 6 EUCALYPTUS			 6 EUCALYPTUS	ADAM BARTLETT	KIERA DUNN



Principal's Awards



**JAMIE-LEE COLES
JACK ALDERTON**

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to the many families who have already returned books from 2017! Library borrowing for all classes starts on Monday 12 February.

Books borrowed in previous years need to be returned to the library as soon as possible please. Students with overdue books will have their borrowing restricted until those books are returned or paid for. They will only be permitted to borrow one book each week and not one of the new books.



All students in Kindergarten to Year 4 need a library bag for borrowing. Students in Years 5 & 6 do not need a bag. School library bags can be purchased from the office for \$13 or students may use any bag, such as a reusable shopping bag, fabric bag with drawstring, pillow case or strong plastic bag.

During Semester 1, Kindergarten students may borrow one fiction book each week. During Semester 2, they may also borrow one non-fiction book. From the start of the year, Years 1 & 2 may borrow up to one fiction and one non-fiction book. Years 3 & 4 may borrow up to 2 fiction and 2 non-fiction books. Years 5 & 6 may borrow up to 3 fiction and non-fiction books each week. Library books need to be taken care of and kept away from food, drinks and little brothers or sisters who might accidentally damage the books! Damaged books need to be returned so they can be repaired. Lost library books need to be paid for so that a replacement book can be ordered.

Students in every class are encouraged to borrow regularly from the library. Please remind your child to return their books every week so they can borrow. To further encourage borrowing, we have both class and individual borrowing competitions. Each week students earn a point for their class when they borrow. The winner is the class with the highest percentage of borrowers over the term and this is announced at the end of Week 9 each term. The prize is a free sausage sizzle lunch for every student in the winning class and their teacher. Students who borrow every week, also earn a Good Work Card at the end of the term. These students go into a lucky draw where one student from K-2 and one from Years 3-6 win a fabulous book prize!

Scholastic Australia book club order forms are sent home twice each term. If you would like to purchase any items, please complete the order form and return it with the payment to the office before 12 noon on the due date. The last day for orders for Issue 1 is Monday 19 February. Orders usually arrive at school 7-10 days after the closing date.

Please feel free to drop in to the library to see Miss Campbell before or after school if you have any questions.

Happy reading everyone!

Western Sydney Institute—TAFE Outreach

Introduction to Beauty

TAFE Accredited—Statement of Attainment

This fun and interesting course will introduce you to the beauty industry and teach you some basic hair & make-up techniques to use at home or to build your skills towards future job opportunities!

Date: Thursday 22nd Feb– 29th Mar 2018 (6weeks)
Time: 9.30am –12.00pm
Location: Cnr Debrincat Ave & Oleander Road, North St Marys
Cost: FREE

To book a place in this course, please call Kim on 02 9673 3908.

Limited child minding available

This course is offered in partnership—

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AUSTRALIA**

together
we stand

familiesnsw
supporting families to raise children

TAFE
Western
Sydney
Institute
Mount Shale
College

COMMUNITY
JUNCTION™



Local Art & Culture

Immerse yourself in & learn about your

TAFE Accredited—Statement of Attainment

Come along and meet new people from different cultures and try your hand at some artwork.

Bring your own stories and artefacts, share your history and learn new techniques.

This course also includes the basics of Indigenous painting and how it links to their culture & storytelling.

Time 9.30am—12.00pm
Dates Fridays 16th of February — 30th of March 2018
Location St Marys Community Precinct
Arts & Craft Studio
29 Swanston Street, St Marys 2760

Child minding available — for more information or to book your place
please contact 02 9673 2169.

**MISSION
AUSTRALIA** | together
we stand



This course is run in partnership with Mission Australia, St Marys Community Development Project Inc & TAFE Outreach—Aboriginal Unit.



St Marys

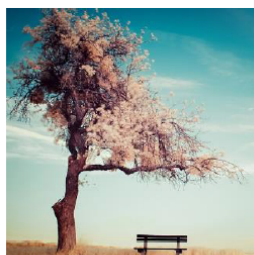


Silver Steps What's Next? Parenting Group for over 25's

Starting Mondays
12th of February 2018
9.30am – 11.30am

Is parenting sometimes hard? Have you thought, I wish I had other parents to talk to? Come along to **Silver Steps**

This group is exactly that. Together we can work through the trials and tribulations of parenting in a supportive environment. We work together through topics such as: finances, the mind, the body, the spirit and loads more



Weekly @ St Marys South Public School

MIX & MINGLE

Enjoy meeting other parents and carers, share experiences and gain new strategies and resources.

There will be guest speaks and hear about opportunities in the area. **ALL WELCOME**

Thursdays @ North St Marys Neighbourhood Centre

Dates: TBC

For more information, please call Megan on 0296231443 or Jerry 0247243018



Duplo Club @ Nth St Mary Neighbourhood Centre, Corner of Debrincat Ave & Oleander Cres

Mondays weekly X 8 weeks Time 3:15pm -4:45pm
Starting 12th of February 2018

It's not Therapy, But it is an opportunity



This group works with children and their families, who have additional needs. Duplo club gives children the opportunity to work with other kids on their social skills. Parents will learn ways to talk with their children and increase the interaction in a supportive environment

Playgroups – During School term only



Weekly @ Bennett Road Public School Monday 12th of February 9:15am – 11:15am

Weekly @ Nth St Marys Community Junction (PlayVan) Wednesday 7th of February 9:15am – 11:15am

Fortnightly @ St Marys Public School Wednesday 21st of February 9:15am – 11:15am

Fortnightly @ Oxley Park Public School Wednesday 14th of February 9:15am – 11:15am

Weekly @ St Marys South Public School Friday 9th of February 9:15am – 11:15am



Bringing Up Great Kids

This is a free program for parents and carers caring for kids aged 0-12years.

Bringing Up Great Kids is a fun program that focuses on how parents communicate with their children, helping build stronger positive relationships.

Location Oxley Park Public School
114 Adelaide Street,
St Marys 2760

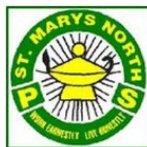
Time 9.30am—11.30am

Dates Every Tuesday for 6 weeks
20th Feb—27th Mar 2018

- Messages from the past—Explore how what we think and feel influences how we parent our kids
- Learn about how kids brains grow and work
- Understand kids communicate through their feelings and behaviour
- Look at what are the important messages we want to pass on to our kids, and how we can do this











For more information or to book you place, please call Jerry on 02 4724 3018 or Jacinta on 02 9623 1375.

****Limited Childcare Available
Bookings Essential****



A community
with expectations
of achievement
and success

Term 1 2018 Planner

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
1	29 Jan Staff Development Day	30 Jan Students Years 1-6 return to school 	31 Jan Kindergarten students start school 	1 Feb	2 Feb	3/4 Feb
2	5 Feb	6 Feb	7 Feb Meet the Teacher Breakfast 	8 Feb	9 Feb	10/11 Feb
3	12 Feb Library borrowing to start 	13 Feb Healthy Skills for Life begins for Years 1, 2 and 3 	14 Feb	15 Feb	16 Feb	17/18 Feb
4	19 Feb	20 Feb P&C Meeting 9:30am 	21 Feb 3-6 Swimming Carnival 	22 Feb	23 Feb	24/25 Feb
5	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb Graffiti Education Talk - Stage 3 	1 Mar	2 Mar District Swimming Carnival 	3/4 Mar
6	5 Mar Premier's Reading Challenge starts 	6 Mar	7 Mar	8 Mar	9 Mar	10/11 Mar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
7	12 Mar	13 Mar	14 Mar School Photographs  Photo Day	15 Mar	16 Mar	17/18 Mar
8	19 Mar	20 Mar	21 Mar Harmony Day 	22 Mar	23 Mar	24/25 Mar
9	26 Mar	27 Mar	28 Mar	29 Mar Easter Hat Parade 	30 Mar Good Friday	31 Mar/1 Apr Easter 
10	2 Apr Easter Monday	3 Apr Student Led Conferences 	4 Apr Student Led Conferences 	5 Apr Student Led Conferences 	6 Apr Student Led Conferences 	7/8 Apr
11	9 Apr	10 Apr	11 Apr	12 Apr	13 Apr Last day for students and teachers 	14/15 Apr

**School resumes for Term 2 for all students on
Tuesday 1 May 2018.**

STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATE

Please fill out the required information for your child/children for the updating of school records. It is **very important** that the school has **current information** relating to your child/children. Please notify the school if any changes occur throughout the year.

FAMILY SURNAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____

MOTHER WORK: _____ **MOTHER MOBILE:** _____

FATHER WORK: _____ **FATHER MOBILE:** _____

	STUDENTS NAMES	CLASS	ALLERGIES	MEDICAL PROBLEMS
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

DOCTORS NAME: _____ **PHONE NUMBER:** _____

MEDICARE NUMBER: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS (OTHER THAN PARENT)

NAME: _____ **RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT** _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ **MOBILE NO.:** _____

NAME: _____ **RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT** _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ **MOBILE NO.:** _____

CUSTODY DETAILS: Please contact the office with any details regarding custody to make sure our records are up to date. Please note this information will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Please complete and return to the office as soon as possible.