

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: 5444 6666 (YMCA)

HOLY ROSARY WEB SITE: [www.hrwhitehills.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hrwhitehills.catholic.edu.au)

## MASS TIMES

Holy Rosary – Hamelin St  
Saturday's 6pm Sunday's 10am  
Weekday Masses – Tues - Sat 9.15am  
St Francis Xavier – Strickland Rd  
Sunday – 8.30am

## CALENDAR

### DECEMBER 2023

Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	PSG Meetings
Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	Swimming Program (F-2)
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	Orientation Day Foundation - Gr 6 (CMC)
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	PSG Meetings
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	PSG Meetings
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation – Bendigo Cinema
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 2 – Bendigo Cinema
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last day of Term for Students @3.15pm</b>

### JANUARY 2024

Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	First day for Staff
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of Term 1 for students



Check out our school Facebook page to stay up to date with the latest news!  
<https://www.facebook.com/holyrosaryprimaryschoolwhitehills/>

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This Sunday we begin the season of Advent, a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. In the words of Mark's Gospel, Jesus implores us to "Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come." This passage serves as a poignant reminder within the context of our Catholic school community. It calls us to be vigilant in our faith, reminding us that our journey is one of continuous preparation and watchfulness.

As we navigate the academic year, these verses encourage us to be mindful of the presence of Christ in our daily lives. They remind us that our actions, both big and small, contribute to the larger tapestry of God's plan. In the spirit of a watchful servant, we are called to foster an environment of empathy, kindness and inclusivity, reflecting the teachings of Christ in our interactions with one another.

Mark's message is particularly resonant in our school community, urging teachers students, and parents to actively engage in the shared responsibility of nurturing a faith-filled environment. Let us embrace the call to be vigilant stewards of our collective journey, knowing that our daily actions have the power to illuminate Christ's presence in our lives and within the walls of our beloved Catholic school.

Next week we have our Orientation Day with all schools around the state. We have some changes to staff placements for next year

Foundation: Miss Jess Moloney  
Grade 1 Mr Conor Van Der Staay  
Grade 2 Mrs Juanita Howlett  
Grade 3 Ms Meg McKenzie  
Grade 4 Miss Catherine Walsh  
Grade 5 Mr Oliver Geary  
Grade 6 Miss Lauren Spence

Foundation: Mrs Shelley DeAraugo & Mrs Megan Matheson  
Grade 1 Mr Dylan Lovell  
Grade 2 Miss Samantha Doyle  
Grade 3 Miss Jasmin O'Sullivan  
Grade 4 Miss Bronte Deary  
Grade 5 Miss Gabby Smith  
Grade 6 Mr Daniel Walker

Intervention Staff: Mrs Kerry Baber, Mrs Liz Williams, Mrs Eva Rosaia, Mrs Sophie Taylor  
Visual Arts: Mrs Bethany Kerlin (Gr Prep-2), Mrs Bianca Schmidt (Gr 3&4) Mrs Jo Thurley (Gr 5&6)  
Performing Arts: Mrs Elizabeth Teed  
STEM: Mrs Bethany Kerlin (Gr Prep-2) Mrs Tracy Angove (Gr 3-6)

Health and PE: Mr Troy Coates

Learner Diversity: Mrs Mandy Antoniadis

Deputy Principal Catholic Identity: Mrs Jo Thurley

Finally a big thank you to everyone involved in our successful swimming program this week. Again the preparation can never be underestimated and I am sure the changes to routine have some tired children returning home tonight. It is an important aspect of our lives in Australia, certainly being aware of the need to be safe around water. I encourage all families to participate in external lessons to further strengthen the message of safety but to develop skills and confidence in and around water.



Paul Wilkinson  
Principal

## SCHOOL NEWS

### CATHOLIC IDENTITY

St Vinnies Christmas Hamper Drive - Donations due by Wednesday 13th December. Each grade has been assigned a specific category so we can capture a more diverse selection of items:

**Foundation:** Toiletries - soap, toilet rolls, toothpaste/brush, powder, hand sanitiser

**Grade 1:** Grains and Pasta - rice, pasta, soups, noodles

**Grade 2:** Tinned Foods - beetroot, soup, tuna, baked beans, corn, peas, pasta sauces

**Grade 3:** Holiday Treats - chocolate, lollies, sweet biscuits, Christmas cake

**Grade 4:** Savoury Items - dry biscuits, shapes, rice cakes, nuts, chips, popcorn

**Grade 5:** Condiments - jams, sauces, Vegemite, peanut butter, maple syrup,

**Grade 6:** Breakfast Cereals - Oats, Corn Flakes, Long-life milk & custard, pancake mixes

#### **FRIDAY ASSEMBLY - WHOLE SCHOOL LITURGY (FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT SUNDAY 3RD DEC - HOPE)**

The children participated in a Whole School Advent Liturgy today and we will conduct another liturgy next week too. During the ceremony the Grade 6 Catholic identity team explained the significance of each candle on the advent wreath. While earlier in the day as part of classroom prayer, the students F-6 pondered the questions 'How can I invite Jesus into my family this Christmas through forgiveness, time or words?' Every class recorded their responses and shared them with the whole school during the service. Our students' voices will be placed on display in the church as we wait for the coming of our saviour. Each week families are encouraged to join us during this time of waiting for Jesus in our liturgical calendar.

End of Year School Mass: We will be holding our final whole school Mass on Friday 15th December at 9.15 am. This mass is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for the educational journey of our Grade 6 students.

### SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

### PEACE

Light the second candle of peace.



Christ our Peace,  
Glow brightly in each moment.  
We ask your forgiveness for  
the times we have not been  
peaceful people. Guide us in  
the way of your peace.

We await your coming with  
serenity.  
Amen



Advent has a focus on light,  
not darkness. Christ will  
come again as the light of  
the world.



## PARISH NEWS

Advent 2023 – Preparing for Christmas – With The Catholic Guy Bruce Downes “You don’t become who you hope to become, you only become what you do!” You are invited to Prepare for Christmas this Advent (starting 3rd December) with a new Daily Devotional series. Each day, you will receive a short inspirational video from Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, full of inspiration, real-life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!  
Register now or for more information: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent> Email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

## CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS (2024)

The Cathedral Choir is looking to recruit new members in all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) and scholarships to the value of \$1,200 per year are available for successful applicants from Catholic schools in the Bendigo region. The famous saying: “those that sing, pray twice” is attributed to St Augustine of Hippo (c. 354-430), a famous Father of the Church who is honoured in the Cathedral’s daily Mass chapel and rear stained glass window. Promoting and supporting the choir’s membership is a powerful way to help choristers and congregations enter into the spirit and mystery of the Church’s liturgy and prayer. Auditions will be held on Sunday 17 December 2023 and on Sunday 28 January 2024 after the 11am Mass in the Cathedral Choir Room. Enquiries: [paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:paul.taylor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

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Our next Parish BBQ at Bunnings is Sunday 17th December 2023. Kevin Lane and Frank Gargiulo will be coordinating the BBQ together and we require volunteers between 8.30 am and 4.30 pm. Parishioners can contact Frank Gargiulo on 0409468690 or Kevin Lane on 0458485223.

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## TERM 4: PROGRAM SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS:

Term 4 PSG meetings will run this week through to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. You can view your allocated time via PAM. A link to access the online meeting will become visible on your PAM account on the day of your appointment.

Mandy Antoniadis (Learner Diversity Leader)



## SECONDHAND UNIFORMS

We currently have a lot of items especially rugby jumpers in our secondhand uniform area. Please come and fill a bag for gold coin donation for the next two weeks. Come and stock up for next winter.

## MARONG CUP

We were presented with our cheque from the Marong Cup last week. We would like to thank all our parents who help with running this important fundraising day each year. If you have any time on the 17<sup>th</sup> February please let Tamara McIntosh know.



Holy Rosary is pleased to partner with FoodShare, Bendigo to provide food relief for families who may need it. Food is delivered each Tuesday morning and is available for ALL of our school community to use.

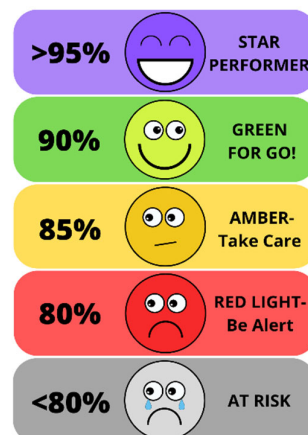
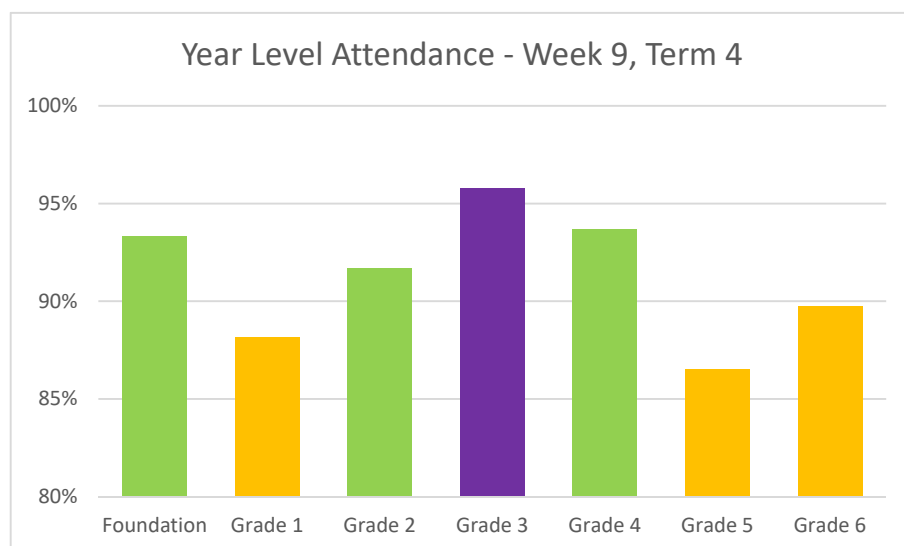
Food items often available include:

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| - Tinned Spaghetti | - Frozen items |
| - Pasta Sauce      | - Wraps        |
| - Rice             | - Milk         |
| - Vegetables       | - Bread        |



FoodShare is located in the Rosarium building, in the room directly inside of the big glass doors that you enter through.  
Bags are available to fill with what you require. There is no need to ask before taking, we welcome you to come and just take what you may need.

## ATTENDANCE



## COLOUR RUN

At assembly today we made a special presentation to our highest fundraiser at Holy Rosary, Makenzie Giri, who raised an incredible \$610. Further to this students who raised the most for each year level went into a draw to win the Monty Monster backpack. This was also drawn from a hat at assembly and the lucky winner was Matilda Beswick from Grade 1. Again we want to say a big thank you to everyone who donated. The feedback from the students indicated they had a blast running in the Colour Run. We look forward to it again next year.



## STUDENT NEWS



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Students who are celebrating their birthdays this week are Flynn de Gille, Audrey Peters, Olivia Brennan, Angus Johnstone and Summer Whyte. Happy Birthday to you and we hope you have a wonderful day.

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Students of the Week	
FJM	Mariam C
FMM	Billy R
1CV	Ryker S
1GS	Gabby G
2JH	Reuben K
2SD	Xavier P
3CW	Emmanuel W
3OG	Cooper R
4BD	Noah W
4LS	Makenzie G
5DL	Ethan C
5JO	Thomas B
6DW	Kayla B
6MG	
YMCA	Oliver M





## What are reasonable excuses for being absent?

- illness or accident
- Attending or observing religious event
- Bereavement



## How Can We Help?

At Holy Rosary, we are always here to offer any support that we can, whether it be emotional, physical, spiritual or mentally. We can assist with support relating to your child or needs your family may have at the present time. Please reach out to your child's teacher, the office staff or Jo Thurley (Deputy Principal) at any time!

### We may assist with

- Practical Help (Meals, groceries etc)
  - A Listening Ear
  - School Attendance
- General information & advice, with links to outside agencies & community support

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

### CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Have you been thinking about volunteering in our school Canteen but not sure that you have what it takes?  
Good news! You don't need any special culinary skills; just a friendly can-do attitude and a Working with Children Check!*

**Should we not have enough volunteers for the coming week by Thursday morning, we will be unable to offer our regular canteen.** If you are able to volunteer in our Canteen, please contact the school office or Lindy Vance on 0409 067 404.

## HOLY ROSARY CANTEEN

### VOLUNTEER ROSTER - TERM 4 2023

DATE	TIME	VOLUNTEERS
DECEMBER 2023		
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00am – 12.00pm	Volunteer Needed & Volunteer Needed
	10.30am – 12.00pm	Volunteer Needed
	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Volunteer Needed
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00am – 12.00pm	Volunteer Needed & Volunteer Needed
	10.30am – 12.00pm	Volunteer Needed
	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Maree

