

Senior Community Learning Newsletter

Term 3 2021

*Creating a learning community, nurturing and integrating faith and life,
in a spirit of openness.*

"It starts with a voice ..."

Acknowledgment of the Traditional custodians

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School acknowledges and pays respect to the traditional owners of these lands and waters, the Yalukit Willum Clan of the Bunurong people.

We also acknowledge and pay respect to the broader Kulin Nation.
We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Australia.

We acknowledge the loss of lands, cultures and treasures; knowing the consequences for people, communities and nations and believing we can walk together to a better future

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Terrific Term 3!

This term should be the term where we celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation for our Year 6 candidates. It is an exciting and momentous time for these students. We wish them all well and will fully support them along the journey.

We sadly said good-bye to Mia Marshall at the end of Term 2 as she went off to pastures new nearer to where she lives. Jordan Harding – Mr J to the students – has moved seamlessly into SCM, and so we welcome two new teachers to Stella Maris to fill the roles that Mr J had. Please welcome Jessica Barbieri and Marcus Kruse to the seniors, who are joining us.

Coming up in Term 3:
Three-Way Learning Conversations
The Sacrament of Confirmation
Grandparents Day
Point Cook District Athletics – selected students
Father's Day Breakfast, Mass Activities & Stall
Hobson Bay Athletics – selected students

Student leaders of 2021

Community Partnership Leaders: Zoe Smith and Sienna Solarino

Regeneration Leaders: Nicolo Cimadoro and Heidi Utomo

Wellbeing Leaders: Chelsea Dela Cruz and Isaac Dennis

Communication & Information: Riya Dutta and Maya Robinson

Arts Leaders: Jeriel Gregorio and Sarah Gongora-Rodriguez

Sport Leaders: Lenny Van Heer and Bella Alvear

Positive Psychology Prompts

1

FEEDBACK

Discuss: "What feedback did you receive at school today?"

2

WHAT WENT WELL?

Discuss: "What are three things that went well for you today? Why?"

3

EVEN BETTER IF?

Discuss: "Even better if...so that..."



ClassDojo

[Dojo](#)

If you haven't already, please sign up for **Class Dojo** as we find it a really effective communication tool between teachers and parents here in the Senior Community.

Senior Community Mentor Emails

Michelle Reid [SCR and team coach] mreid@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Marcus Kruse [SCR] mkruse@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Emily Kay [SCE] ekay@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Richard Harding [SCH] rharding@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Jordan Harding [SCJ] jharding@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Leah Seychell [SCS] lseychell@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Patrick Torpy [SCT] ptorpy@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Sharon Hynes [Wellbeing] shynes@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au Tue/Thu/Fri

Bridget Kirsch [Wellbeing] bkirsch@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au Mon/Tue/Wed

Erlina Suryadi [LSO] esuryadi@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Ischa Agrawal [LSO] iagrawal@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Jessica Barbieri [Senior Community Teacher] jbarbieri@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Makur Amour [Community Support] mamour@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au

Calling all Volunteers!

If you would like to volunteer for events or donate your expertise please contact us.




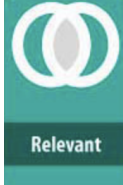

If you'd like to make a time to talk about your child's learning or to simply give some feedback, please don't hesitate to email your child's teacher to make an appointment.

Wellbeing

Let us begin by saying a **HUGE** thank you to you all for making Term 2 so positive! Our Term 2 Program Support Meetings (PSGs) were a great opportunity to meet with families and celebrate growth and plan goals for Term 3.

As a Community we are working together to develop our self directed learning including individual **SMART goals** targeting specific skills. Students will have time to work on their goals independently during Self Directed Learning as well as having time to conference with class teachers. Goal setting helps maximise learning time and ensures we are continuously making progress to reach our potential.

SMART goals

Specific <i>What do I want to accomplish? What is the purpose of the goal and how will it help me as a learner?</i>		Measurable <i>How will I know whether my goal has been reached? What do I need to do to be successful in my learning?</i>		Action Oriented <i>What are my resources? What do I need to do to achieve each goal?</i>		Relevant <i>What's the benefit of reaching this goal? How will I know I am achieving my goals?</i>		Timely <i>How will I organise my time? When will I meet my goal? How long will I spend on my goal?</i>	
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Home School Partnership

- Ask your child what is their current SMART goal, why do they want to work on their goal and how they will practice it.
- Ask your child what made them laugh or smile at school today.
- Check Smiling Minds [website](#) for some great resources to help support mindfulness and wellbeing.

CHECK IT OUT!

Discovery and Encounter

It's going to be another exciting term in Seniors with so much to unpack!

Our Discovery (Inquiry) Key Understanding is: **People use science to understand the world and solve challenges in regenerative ways.**

Our lines of inquiry which we are going to unpack are:

- Wants vs Needs: Where do your needs vs wants come from? (connections - system)
- How do consumer choices impact the planet? People, animals, nature, etc. 'True Cost' Ethical dilemmas (cause and effect)
- How can we use science to help our planet to thrive and solve challenges in regenerative ways? (change)

We will be exploring what our wants and needs are and how that may change. We will also discover what consumer choices are and how they impact the world. We will also be learning about how we can use our new knowledge to make informed decisions so that we can make a difference to ourselves, our community and the world.

Our Encounter (Religious Education) Key Understanding is **Understanding our Faith Identity regenerates us to discover who we are and the world around us, and take action.**

Our lines of Inquiry to help us unpack this are:

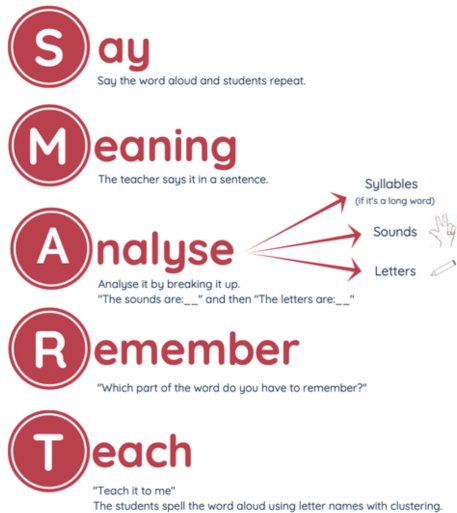
- What does it mean to be a steward of the earth?
- How do we use regenerative practices and thinking to be stewards of God's Creation?

This term in Encounter we will be learning about the connection between Science and Faith, we will explore how Science can influence Religion as well as how artwork can be created based on the connection between the two.



English.

Throughout this Term, the Senior Community will be continuing with our learning block that includes a focus on Reading Groups, and a range of dialogue opportunities within our workshops, Q&A sessions and Dialogue Groups. Students will continue to develop their self-directed learning skills as they set SMART goals, (see framework within 'Wellbeing' section above) and work toward these throughout their Self-Directed Learning sessions, using a Student Learning Plan. Our genre focus for this term will be 'To Inform' and 'To Explain', with students exploring how to read, analyze and write within these genres. Our Discovery and Encounter lines of Inquiry (listed above) will be intertwined throughout our learning in English, creating a richer, more immersive experience surrounding these topics. These lines of Inquiry will create great provocations and discussion points for you to engage in with your child at home, starting with the idea of 'wants vs needs', working through to 'making a difference'.



Our Big Writes will continue each fortnight, with students having time to plan throughout the week prior to their writing session. We encourage families to support this, by engaging in Big Talk at home. SMART Spelling will also continue this term, with students developing their vocabulary through this model.

Mathematics

In Term 3 we will be exploring: Location and Direction, Division and Multiplication, Number Awareness, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages.



Location: Students will use a grid reference system to describe locations, while also describing routes using landmarks and directional language. They will then be introduced to the Cartesian coordinate system using all four quadrants. Building on their prior knowledge of compass directions, students will be exposed to intermediate compass points to specify location or give directions (North East, North West etc.). Using their division skills, students will create scales to calculate the distance between two points on a map.

Multiplication and Division: Students will identify and describe factors and multiples of whole numbers and use them to solve problems. Learning and using efficient mental and written strategies, they will solve a range of multiplication and division problems. They will develop and extend their multiplication strategies to increase their recall of multiplication problems.

Number Awareness: During our Number Awareness unit, students will explore prime, composite, square and triangular numbers, as well as integers, decimals and negative numbers. Students will be learning to recognise, represent and order numbers to at least hundreds of thousands. They will also create sequences and patterns of numbers using integers, fractions and decimals.

Fractions: Students will compare and order common unit fractions and locate and represent them on a number line. They will also investigate strategies to solve problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions with the same denominator. Students will find equivalent fractions with the use of a fraction wall. They will compare the different sizes of fractions to one another.

Decimals and Percentages: Students will be able to recognise, make connections, continue and create patterns with fractions, decimals and whole numbers resulting from addition and subtraction. They will also be able to recognise that the place value system goes beyond the hundredths and that each place has a value that is 10 times greater than the place to its right



and one tenth of the value to its left. As well as being able to compare, order and represent decimals, students will investigate and calculate percentage discounts by 10%, 25% and 50%. Students who are able to do this will investigate other percentages with further activities.

RESOURCES

Essential Assessment is a new resource we have at Stella Maris. Students can access it at home to work on their maths skills. This program allows students to access My Numeracy activities that develop their skills at their current point of need.

They can also use Sunset Maths to practice their mathematical skills with games and activities.

The **School Code** for their Essential Assessment login is: **VIC637004**

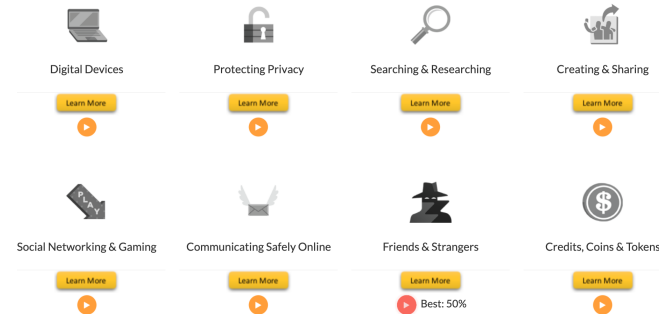
Students' logins and passwords are the same as their school logins and passwords.



We encourage students to access **MFacts**, an online learning tool, at home. It is a strategy based approach to learning multiplication, where the learning intention is for students to fully understand the concept of multiplication, rather than just rote learning the facts. Please help your child to see that multiplication is 'groups of', such as 8 groups of 6 is 48. Students can complete practice tests and watch strategy videos. The online program has assessment activities that will be conducted during school learning time. <http://mfacts121.com/>

Digital Technology Cybersmart

With technology now a reality for teens, tweens and everything in-between, it's our responsibility to teach as well as guide our students to become cyber safe and cyber aware citizens. It is important that we continue to have an open dialogue as the data shows that children are becoming more digitally engaged than ever before.



Senior students have now had a chance to begin exploring the eSmart Digital Licence online program. They can log in to their digital licence at any time (at school during self-directed learning or at home) and learn about the appropriate ways to use technology, act online or what to do when something goes wrong digitally. They can complete any module in any order. Feel free to have a look through the modules with them if you want to see how digital safety is taught, or to pick up some tips on how to discuss digital safety with your child. Simply head to <https://www.digitallicence.com.au/>

Bring Your Own Device Program

Remote learning from home during 2020 highlighted how important access to digital technologies is for our students. Stella Maris provides a limited number of shared devices in the senior area. Families may already own a device which could be utilised for learning at school.

Why have the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program at Stella Maris?

We believe technology is a powerful tool that enhances learning and enables students to access a world beyond our walls. We feel that access to the tools and resources of a



world-wide network, and understanding how to safely and appropriately navigate and use them, are important in each student's education.

The goal of this BYOD program is to increase student access to digital tools and facilitate more access to technology-based information for all students. Many families have personally owned devices that can be used to help maximise access. When properly used, these technologies will promote educational excellence in the school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Students who choose not to participate in the trial will continue to access school-owned resources as they currently do.



What is Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)?

This simply means that families have the choice of sending privately owned devices to school with their children for use in learning at school. We recommend laptops or Chromebooks as they have proven most user friendly across different websites. We also recommend purchasing a **cheap pair of headphones** for use by your child so that they can complete their work effectively without interrupting or being interrupted by others (please ensure headphones have a cord and are not bluetooth, due to limited power points and charging opportunities). **Please name all headphones and talk to your child about storing them correctly so that they do not go missing.** Devices and headphones owned by students are not shared with others and can be used in most areas of the curriculum in the place of books.

We believe that many devices are able to service current teaching practices, meet every child's needs, or match every family's budget. Families may already own a device which could be utilised for learning at school. To be part of the program, devices must be able to join the school wifi and use the school proxy internet filtering settings. All devices will use the school's wireless network as it provides a filtered access to appropriate educational sites on the internet.

For more information, please contact Mr Torpy.

2021 Logo Competition

It Starts with a Seed...

Hi Stella Students,

As you know, we have an upcoming art show in Term 4, called 'It Starts with a Seed', and we need your help! In order for the school to advertise the art show, we need a logo to go on the posters and tickets. We need you to help us design this logo. For your logo to be chosen it must include these important details:

- ★ The words: It starts with a seed...
or the letters: I S W S (I for It, S for Starts, W for With, S for Seed)
- ★ A part of the Stella Maris logo included somewhere (a star, colours, Stella Maris or the whole logo)

Your design must be an original creation. It can be hand drawn or created using technology.

Please include a short explanation of your design to help persuade the judges (possibly on the back, on a post-it note or in an email if you are doing it digitally).

There will only be one winner in the whole school, make your logo inspiring, fascinating, eye-catching, amazing, and all those other great wow words we value here at Stella!

Success Criteria

I can include the Stella Maris logo and the title of the art show It starts with a seed... or I S W S

I can include my name and homeroom on the back of the paper

I can reflect the main idea of the art show in my design

Details

Due week 5, Term 3, Friday 13th of August (**We cannot accept late entries, no exceptions**)

Give your logo to **Mr Torpy (SCT)** or email it to **ptorpy@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au**

Competition will be drawn week 6 and announced in the newsletter

The runner up entrants will have their work displayed at the end of week 7.

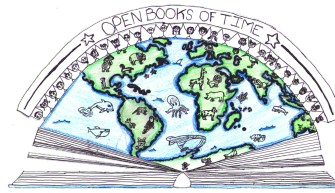
We will use the winning logo for the tickets and advertising.

Good luck!

See below for previous logo winners!



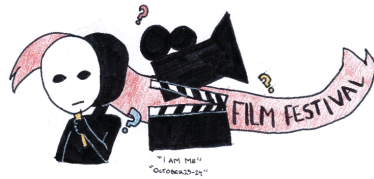
2015 Winner - Art of Possibility



2016 Winner - Open Books of Time



2017 Winner - Night of Wonder and Awe



2018 Winner - Stella Film Fest



2019 Winner - Stories Through Art



2020 Winner - Stellazon